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DEPT:PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

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COURSE TITLE:THE MILITARY AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Identify the reasons for the rising investments in unmanned vehicles and autonomous systems for military purposes

What is the implication of the growing sophistication in unmanned military technologies for future warfare?

How has the rising sophistication and multi-system functions of unmanned vehicles and autonomous systems impact on the will to fight of soldiers?

Is human still relevant in technologically driven warfares? Highlight the relevance of man in future warfare.

Write an essay/summary of not more than 500 words on your findings.

An unmanned vehicle or uncrewed vehicle is a vehicle without a person on board. Uncrewed vehicles can either be remote controlled or remote guided vehicles, or they can be autonomous vehicles which are capable of sensing their environment and navigating on their own. In addition it's known as unmanned robotic and autonomous system which consist of devices or machines, whether on land, air or sea, that are equipped with necessary data processing and telemetry units, sensors and automatic control units, which enable the performance of missions without human intervention.

There are different types of unmanned vehicles which are listed below :

Remote control vehicle,Unmanned ground vehicle (UGV), Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), unmanned aircraft commonly known as a "drone",

Unmanned combat aerial vehicle, Medium-altitude long-endurance unmanned aerial vehicle, Miniature UAV.

A working remote controlled car was reported in the October 1921 issue of RCA's World Wide Wireless magazine. The car was unmanned and controlled wirelessly via radio; it was thought the technology could someday be adapted to tanks. In the 1930s, the USSR developed Teletanks, a machine gun-armed tank remotely controlled by radio from another tank. These were used in the Winter War (1939-1940) against Finland and at the start of the Eastern Front after Germany invaded the USSR in 1941.

The first major mobile robot development effort named Shakey was created during the 1960s as a research study for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Shakey was a wheeled platform that had a TV camera, sensors, and a computer to help guide its navigational tasks of picking up wooden blocks and placing them in certain areas based on commands. DARPA subsequently developed a series of autonomous and semi-autonomous ground robots, often in conjunction with the U.S. Army.

One of the reasons for the rising investments in unmanned vehicles and autonomous systems for military purposes was the need to replace human soldiers to reduce the rate of life loss in wars. It will also boost combat efficiency and effectiveness. And also to achieve the purpose of long wave infrared (LWIR) sensors with extended field of view that is capable of providing high-definition video to enhance situational awareness in the unmanned systems.

The implication of the growing sophistication in unmanned military technologies for future warfare is that men will no longer be needed to fight wars against each other. It will be machines against machines fighting wars and launching attacks. Another implication is that attacks can be launched at long distances due to standard sophistication and endurance of these machines

The relevance of man in future warfare is certain because they will have a form of control in the unmanned vehicles. it's going to be manned and unmanned teaming together. Through this the loss of lives in war will reduce while the destruction of unmanned vehicles will rise.