

1 Weekend, 2 Major Drone Incidents, 2 Countries, 2 Heads of State

On Saturday, news erupted of an alleged attack on Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro during an official speech given during a Military parade in Caracas. News Reports state that the civilian drones were carrying around 1kg of C4 explosives, with one exploding mid-air and another crashing and detonating into a nearby apartment building. Luckily no deaths have been reported, however 7 soldiers were harmed during the incident.

On Monday afternoon (Paris time), following the Venezuelan drone incident, French newsrooms announced that President Emmanuel Macron was the next on the list of heads of State victim to illegal drone activity. During his stay in the Presidential holiday residence with wife Brigitte in Brégançon, a small drone flew over the property. No harm caused and no explosives in view, but the intentions of this flyover remain unknown and investigations have been launched.

These 2 important incidents highlight how easy it is to obtain and use a drone to penetrate sensitive airspace. Unfortunately, these events are not the first to come to light and are far from being the last. Airports, prisons, private properties, military, ports, oil rigs, festivals... now more than ever, it is time to start thinking seriously about protecting sensitive sites and events from above, as groups with ill-intentions start to understand how useful (and dangerous) this technology can be.

A hierarchy of solutions can be deployed, from a traditional "look-out" guard post to a complex, expensive multi-layered system. At CerbAir, French leader in anti-drone solutions, we focus on the detection, characterization and neutralization of the threat as early as possible, before the drone gets too close to do any harm.

Our solutions use Radiofrequency (RF) as the core detection technology to analyze the signals between a pilot and its drone (uplink) and the drone to its pilot (down link) from over 2km away. RF is the only detection technology today that can pinpoint the location of the pilot, snuffing out the danger at the source. In regard to neutralization, CerbAir provides electronic countermeasures to law enforcement and military forces who have obtained the correct authorizations within their country. Stopping the drone by activating its emergency procedure.

For the Political event in Venezuela, for example, 1 or several mobile solutions (easy to setup and affordable) could be deployed in different risk zones simultaneously if necessary. All it requires is the temporary installation of a pneumatic mast or a pre-equipped vehicle, guaranteeing a certain level of discretion.

If we take the example of the French Presidential holiday residence, a mobile solution can also be used during the several weeks of the year when the house is occupied, or, an installed fixed solution can monitor 24/7 any suspicious drone activity all year long and recording forensic evidence of detected drones to find patterns and valuable forerunning weak signals announcing a more serious offence.

Our portable solution for law enforcement and military can also be an option with 1km range and neutralization up to 600m, allowing for a sufficient distance of security at all times.

CerbAir technology is scalable and affordable to adapt to all types of clients, sites and levels of risk. We provide security teams with the information required to correctly assess the situation and react accordingly.

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