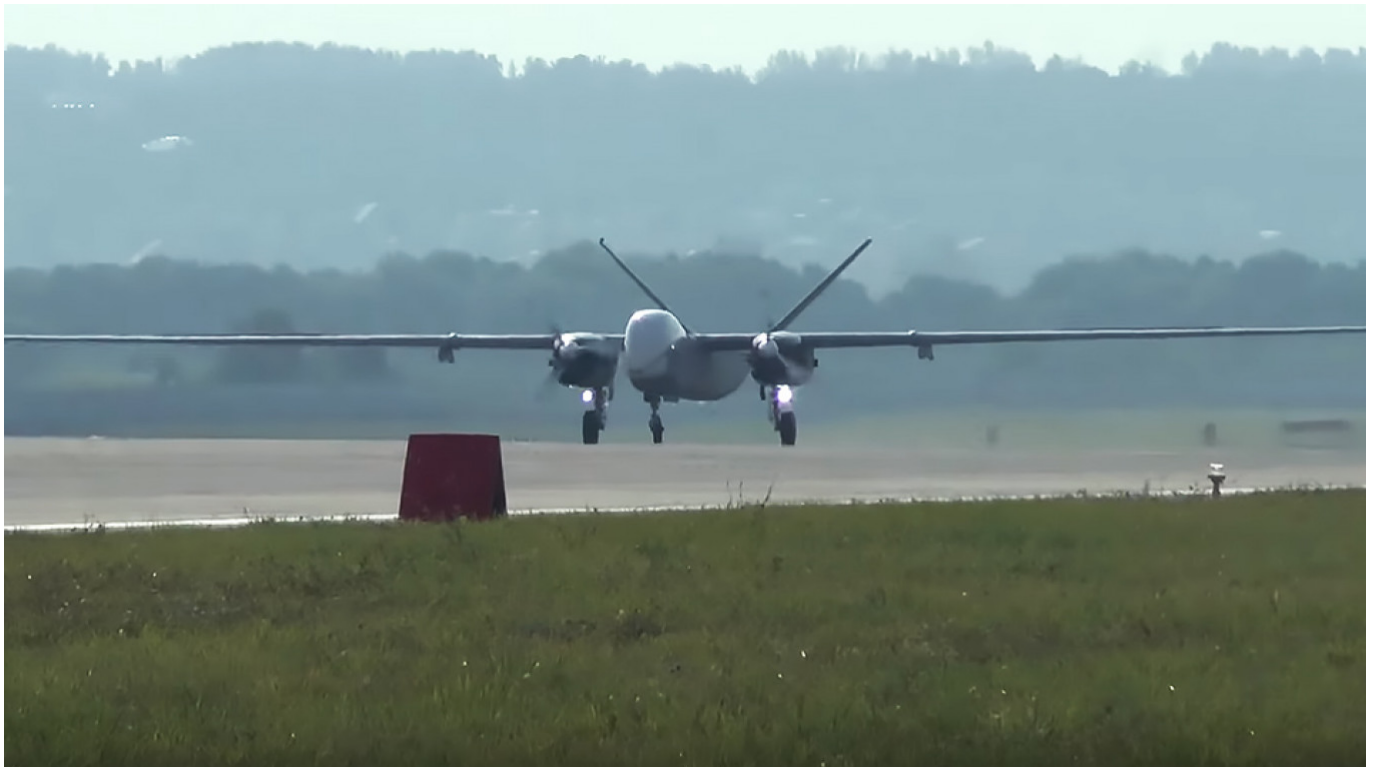


Russia's Recon Drone Takes Off as Military Touts 24-Hour Flight Time

August 20, 2019



Defense Ministry

The Russian military has unveiled footage of a reconnaissance drone, which it claims can fly for over 24 hours, performing its first flight.

Previous reporting has [suggested](#) that Russia's long-endurance armed drone project had been [beset](#) by cost overruns and delays.

Embed:

Russia's Altius-U boasts an "entire spectrum of reconnaissance tasks using optical, radio and radar means" in addition to its flight time of more than 24 hours, the Defense Ministry [said](#) on Tuesday.

The Altius-U's first test flight lasted 32 minutes at an altitude of up to 800 meters, the Defense Ministry said.

The minute-long video shows the Altius-U taking off from a runway, cruising over urban terrain and landing.

The Defense Ministry says the unmanned vehicle weighs 6 metric tons.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/08/20/russias-recon-drone-takes-off-as-military-touts-24-hour-flight-time-a66946>