

PLA Organizational Structure for UAVs

Joint Staff Department	Intelligence Bureau, Information and Communications Bureau (信息通信局) (former 2nd (Intelligence) Department and Informatization Department)	Various long-range reconnaissance and communications UAVs were apparently assigned to these departments (<u>Yuntongmeng</u> , March 18). [8]
PLA Army	Eastern Theater Command	The 1st Group Army (陆军第 1 集团军) has one or more UAV battalions (无人机营), as well as several UAV companies (无人机连) (<i>PLA Daily</i> , May 5, 2015). The 12th Group Army (陆军第 12 集团军) has a battalion-level UAV flight group [<i>dadui</i>] (无人机大队) (<i>PLA Daily</i> , April 12)
	Southern Theater Command	The 42nd Group Army (陆军第 42 集团军) has a UAV battalion (<u>China Military Online</u> , August 15, 2014). The 41st Group Army (第41集团) has at least one UAV team. (<u>China Military Online</u> , June 15, 2013) There were also one or more UAV teams in the former Guangzhou MR (<i>PLA Daily</i> , March 14, 2007; <i>PLA Daily</i> , November 2, 2007; <i>PLA Daily</i> , January 13, 2014).
	Western Theater Command	The 47th Group Army (陆军第47集团) has at least one UAV team (<i>PLA Daily</i> , March 31).
	Northern Theater Command	The 39th Group Army (陆军第39集团) has at least one UAV team. (<i>PLA Daily</i> , May 31, 2015)
PLA Navy	Eastern Theater Command	The Eastern Theater Command's East Sea Fleet's Naval Aviation has one UAV regiment (无人机团) and also a UAV reconnaissance flight group (<i>People's Daily</i> , December 27, 2015). [9] This regiment has deployed the HY-01/BZK-005 MALE UAV, which has been sent on reconnaissance missions in the East China Sea, near the Senkaku Islands, since approximately September 2013. As of 2015, there were at least three BZK-005 UAVs stationed off the coast of the East China Sea according to an analysis of the satellite imagery. [11]
PLA Air Force		The PLAAF reportedly has multiple UAV regiments and other units at various levels, which have reportedly been equipped with the GJ-1 and/or BZK-005 UAVs (<u>中国青年网</u> , September 2, 2015). It is likely that the PLAAF is equipped with advanced UAVs across all five theater commands. In the near future, the PLAAF could have at least five "UAV flying regiments" (无人机飞行团), each armed with at least a hundred attack UAVs, likely the "Attack-1" type UCAV (攻击-1 型无人攻击), according to less authoritative reporting (<u>科罗廖夫</u> , April 7)

	Eastern Theater Command	There is potentially a combat UAV brigade (作战无人机旅) in this theater command, based on reports from Russian experts repeated in Chinese media. (Sina , February 28, 2014; 米尔网 , April 28, 2015)
	Southern Theater Command	There is potentially a combat UAV brigade (作战无人机旅) in this theater command, based on reports from Russian experts repeated in Chinese media. (Sina , February 28, 2014; 米尔网 , April 28, 2015)
	Northern Theater Command	There are at least several UAV units [<i>budui</i>] and subunits [<i>fendui</i>] (无人机部队/分队) in this theater command (China Military Online , April 7; China Military Online , April 21; PLA Daily , May 4)
	Central Theater Command	Since the PLAAF units who operated the GJ-1 UAV in Peace Mission 2014 were from the former Beijing Military Region, it is likely that there are UAV units at multiple levels within this theater command as well (China Military Online , November 4, 2014; Xinhua , November 13, 2014)
<i>PLA Rocket Force</i>		<p>Although there are fewer references to dedicated UAV units within the PLARF, a number of UAVs have been deployed within this service (e.g., Sina, February 2, 2015):</p> <p>Indications exist that a missile brigade formerly subordinate to the former Nanjing MR and possibly equipped with UAVs has been incorporated into the PLARF's Base 52 in Anhui Province, where they can cover the East China Sea and Taiwan.</p> <p>There are also indications that a missile brigade that was formerly subordinate to the former Guangzhou MR and possibly equipped with UAVs has also been incorporated into the PLARF's Base 53 in Yunnan Province, which could cover a variety of potential targets, including locations in India and Southeast Asia.</p> <p>[12]</p>