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VERONICA JORDAN/U.S. Army

A soldier flies a small drone at the range during the inaugural Unmanned Advanced Lethality Course at Fort Rucker, Ala., on Aug. 18.

## Crash course in drones

### Army unveils new classes amid push for force with combat tech savvy

BY LYDIA GORDON  
*Stars and Stripes*

Army efforts to field soldiers as adept as adversaries at using drones in combat are taking a detour from the field into the classroom in an effort to standardize operations training on the game-changing aircraft.

The inaugural group of 28 in the Unmanned Advanced Lethality Course at Fort Rucker, Ala., has been taking instruction this month to hone a variety of abilities.

"This course is a catch-up," Capt. Rachel Martin said in an Army statement Monday. "We're behind globally, and this is our aggressive attempt to close that gap."

The course director, Martin built the program from the ground up in just 90 days before its launch at the Army's Aviation Center of Excellence.

The soldiers in the three-week course will start by using commercial off-the-shelf drones and simulation software to develop their skills in

flying first-person view drones. After 20 to 25 hours of simulator time, they will transition to live flight exercises.

The students will also learn how to make and fix drone components using 3D printing. The course aims to build a centralized repository of print files for them to take back to their units, according to the statement.

"Eventually, we want students to build and

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## Trump says Chicago may need crime crackdown

BY DAN LAMOTHE  
*The Washington Post*

The Pentagon has for weeks been planning a military deployment to Chicago as President Donald Trump says he wants to crack down on crime, homelessness and undocumented immigration, in a model that could later be used in other major cities, officials familiar with the matter said.

The planning, which has not been previously disclosed, involves several options, including mobilizing at least a few thousand members of the National Guard as soon as September to what is the third most populous city in the United States.

The mission, if approved, would have parallels to the polarizing and legally contested operation that Trump ordered in Los Angeles in June, when he deployed 4,000 members of the California National Guard and 700 active-duty Marines despite the protests of state and local leaders. The use of thousands of active-duty troops in Chicago also has been discussed but is considered less likely at this time, said two officials who, like others interviewed, spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

The Chicago effort would further expand Trump's use of military force domestically, even when state and local authorities call the idea unwelcome and unwarranted. Administration officials have defended such deployments, arguing that they are tak-

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**Hegseth allows Guard troops in DC to carry weapons  
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