

CENTRE FOR JOINT WARFARE STUDIES



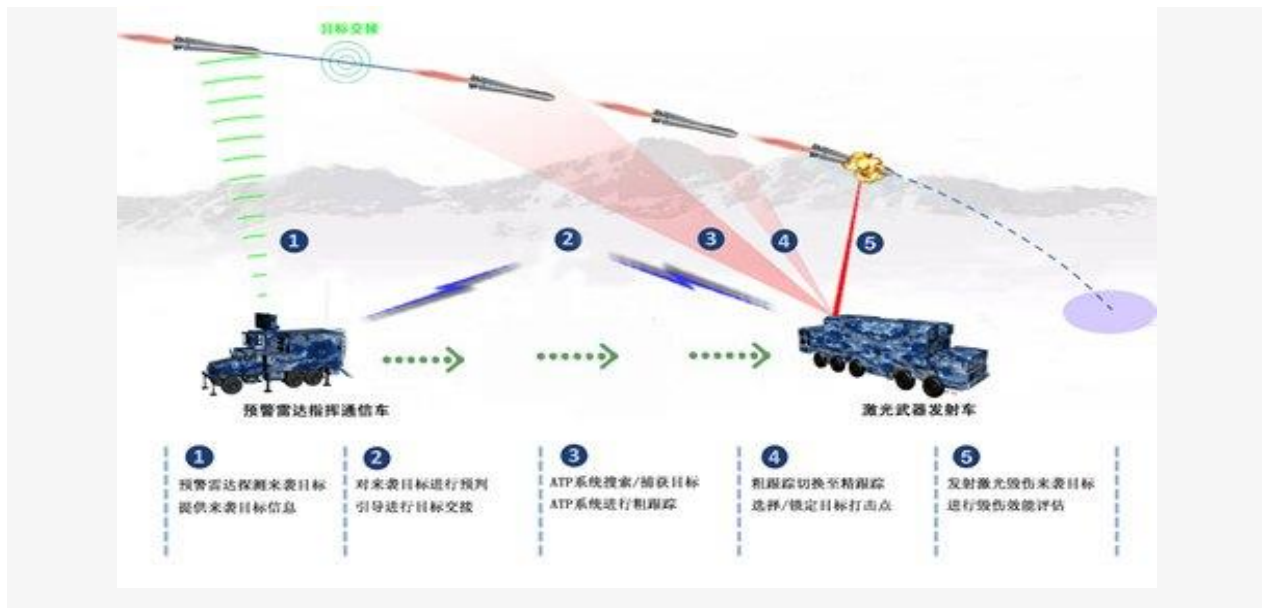
CENJOWS

DIRECTED ENERGY WEAPONS – CHINESE LW-30

LW-30 Laser Defense Weapon System



1. The LW-30 laser defense weapon system can intercept unmanned aerial vehicles, guided bombs and mortars. Photo: Courtesy of CASIC.



Pictured is the laser defense weapon system operational flow chart. Photo: Courtesy of CASIC

2. The vehicle-based laser weapon, called LW-30 laser defense weapon system, was unveiled by the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC), one of China's largest missile manufacturers at Air show China 2018.

3. The LW-30 laser defense weapon system could use a directional-emission high-energy laser to quickly intercept many kinds of aerial targets, such as photoelectric guidance equipment, drones, guided bombs, and mortars. The system consists of a radar command communication vehicle, at least one laser gun-carrying vehicle and one logistical support vehicle. The system can be flexibly deployed in key areas based on specific scenarios and demands.

4. It can complete independent operations or multiple network strikes, and can be integrated into traditional air defense weapon systems. Specifically, it can cooperate with traditional weapons such as the close-in weapon system and air-defense missiles.

5. The system aims to detect and strike low, slow and small (LSS) targets, which refers to those that fly below one kilometer, at speeds around 200 kilometers per hour and have a radar cross-section smaller than one squaremeter.

6. It can detect drones and contain enemies' tactical reconnaissance and strike aerial terror attacks. Terrorists usually use LSS targets to carry explosives and radioactive substances.

7. The system could be deployed on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and South China Sea islands. Analysts said the research progress and technical status of the system are very mature, and it may soon enter into military service.

8. Together with the laser weapon system, China South Industries Group Corporation also unveiled another laser weapon during the air show called the "light-vehicle laser demining and detonation system." The system can destroy explosive

devices such as mines through high-power laser irradiation at a long distance, avoiding casualties caused by manual bomb disposal.

(<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1126939.shtml>; and <https://www.businessinsider.in/State-owned-media-is-pitching-Chinas-latest-hypersonic-missiles-and-laser-weapons-to-the-global-arms-market/articleshow/67345035.cms>)