

# Privatized military industry



PMCs are also recognized as " security contractors," even though this phrase frequently refers to people working or contracted by PMCs. Services are largely delivered for other business organizations, worldwide and non-governmental organizations, and state forces. Private military companies are from time to time grouped into the universal group of protection contractors. On the other hand, most defense contractors supply specialized hardware and perhaps also personnel to support and service that hardware, whereas PMCs supply personnel with specialized operational and tactical skills, which frequently comprise of war experience.

The 1949, Third Geneva Convention (GCIII) does not distinguish the dissimilarity between defense contractors and PMCs; it describes a class called supply contractors. If the supply contractor has been given a suitable identity card from the military forces which they escort, they are allowed to be treated as prisoners of war upon imprisonment. If, on the other hand, the contractor engages in war, he/she can be called as a mercenary by the captors under the 1997 Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions (Protocol I) Article 47. , except falling under an exclusion to this section in Article 47.

If captured contractors are found to be mercenaries, they are an illegal fighter and lose the right to captive of war status. Private military firms have three major objective. Firstly, their main sectors is to provide trained professionals so that they can work as a combator and protector, secondly, they are responsible for consultancy services to army, and thirdly, they work as backup service providers. For example, technical support, transportation and logistics.

Private security companies and security contractors are also termed as private military companies, some of them are AQMI Strategy Corp, SkyLink USA, Erinys International, Ronin Worldwide Executive Protection, LLC, Strategic Resources Corporation. In these companies, individuals are employed through a contract; we can say that private military contractors can be called defense contractors. They provide training to personnel with high tactical and operational skills along with savvy combating. Certainly, the growth of this industry would result in cost saving as a fact of competition among many companies.

The US army is regarded as one of the best armies in the world. Its professional approach and training gives an edge upon other armies. Quantity and quality of the US army are incredible having all these technologies and realities according to the most analysts. Presently, in Iraq, there are more than 30, 000 private military service providers are working including Custer Battles(US), Dyncorp (US) , MPRI (US). This increasing figure represent 10 percent of foreign military working in Iraq and nearly all of them are from America, the UK and South Africa .

What is interesting is that, the number of private military troops are more important than the British solders. However, rapidly increasing PMC companies in Iraq are raised fundamental political concerns. Despite all these things, the American government has been interested in increasing their military strength by hiring more private military soldiers. In 2005, a major bank roller president disclosed the facts that " There's consternation in the Pentagon about increasing the permanent size of the Army," Prince President of PMC Blackwater declared.

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Officials " want to add 30, 000 people, and they talked about costs of anywhere from \$3. 6 billion to \$4 billion to do that. Well, by my math, that comes out to about \$135, 000 per soldier. " He added: " We could do it certainly cheaper. " [http://www. counterpunch. org/scahill01252007. html](http://www.counterpunch.org/scahill01252007.html)

The privatization in this area has also its merits and demerits; like private military businesses may be able to deploy more rapidly and cost effectively, but on the other hand, it raises number of concerns with respect to the hiring issues and losing the country's secrets.

The major thirst of clients is often at odds with a firm's views of maximizing profits. Moreover, there may be a conflict among better paying firms and market incentive issues. To solve these issues, the humanitarian community should make some rules and regulation on behalf of military service providers and their clients and there should be an award winning contest among the best service providers. The military privatization raises more concerns in employees' selection criteria as well as the accountability.

Many members belong from apartheid regimes have found workers in this industry even though the firms are scrupulous in screening their recruits and somehow it is very difficult to watch their troops in the field. Besides this, there is no serious penalty for the violation of laws. Interestingly, workers employed by the U. N and the U. S provide international police in Haiti, many of them were found convicted in arms trade and sex , and as a matter of fact, it raised more concerns of military service providers.

Brooke Shelby Biggs(journalist) while expressing his opinion stated that " it's an awful idea. Privatizing tax collection will cost far more than hiring

additional I. R. S. agents, raise less revenue and pose obvious risks of abuse. But what's really amazing is the extent to which this plan is a retreat from modern principles of government. I used to say that conservatives want to take us back to the 1920's, but the Bush administration seemingly wants to go back to the 16th century. And privatized tax collection is only part of the great march backward. " for example - in institutionalizing the corporate-government war on the individual. Handing over public controlled, activities to companies that are only interested in their own profit. Adding to the fact that the biggest tax cheats in America are corporations. Will only serve to damage how America appropriates taxes. Despite, all above-mentioned disadvantages there are some advantages as well, According to Bateman: " There are currently thousands of private military contractors in Iraq and you were just speaking of rules of engagement in regards to Iraqi personnel and US personnel.

Could you speak to, since the private contractors are operating outside the Uniform Code of Military Justice, could you speak to what law or rules of engagement do govern their behaviour and whether there has been any study showing that it is cost-effective to have them in Iraq rather than US military personnel. Thank you. " [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Private\\_military\\_contractor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Private_military_contractor) Furthermore, their skills would improve a lot. Besides, the second best thing would be a reduced cost structure that the state would benefit from. They would have lower costs because of the fact that army professionals would be skilled at a variety of tasks.

Declaring the importance of private corporations of mercenaries in Iraq Bush declared that " Such a corps would function much like our military Reserve. It <https://assignbuster.com/privatized-military-industry-essay-samples/>

would ease the burden on the armed forces by allowing us to hire civilians with critical skills to serve on missions abroad when America needs them," Bush declared. This is precisely what the administration has already done, largely behind the backs of the American people and with little congressional input, with its revolution in military affairs. Bush and his political allies are using taxpayer dollars to run an outsourcing laboratory.

Iraq is its Frankenstein monster". [http://www. counterpunch.org/scahill01252007. html](http://www.counterpunch.org/scahill01252007.html) Besides, all these ground beaking realities privitization of military has completely changed the war trairnd of taday'world . An investigation by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists identified that " at least 90 private military companies that have operated in 110 countries worldwide. Indicative perhaps of the changing nature of war, they provide services normally carried out by a national military force, including training, intelligence, logistics, combat and security in conflict zones.

Most are headquartered in the US, Britain and South Africa, though the vast bulk of their services are performed in conflict-ridden areas of Africa. " This is an area for more study. The expansion of the privatized military industry raised number of issues such as according to PW singer article published in 2003 state that " for privatized peacekeeping, the ensuing dangers include all the problems one has in standard contracting and business outsourcing. The hired firms have incentives to overcharge, pad their personnel lists, hide failures, not perform to their peak capacity... hese are all now transferred into the security realm, where people's lives are at stake"

Conclusion Lastly, private military service providers are working for profit motives and not for the country. There is no comparison between private military forces and the national military in any respect, because national military troops are working for the nation's security rather than for money matter purposes.

Furthermore, there should be a proper law that ensures the capabilities and potentials of an individual that who may be drawn into this industry. On the other hand, probationary employment and high salaries that private military companies are offering to their employees could adversely affect the moral and interest of the official military professionals and it might result in more shortages of the official military strength.

However, there is no flaw of using the private solutions - public military ends are not necessarily a harsh thing. Nevertheless, there has something to be pondering by the government while hiring private military professionals because of the nation's security plans and further movements, and more importantly, a big investment matters in hiring them. It also seems that the bubble of private military may explode if the current wave of work in Iraq ever ends; somehow, it feels that the PMCs are unlikely to vanish any time soon.