

Private Military Companies in Australia's Areas of Interest

19 August 2008

Brindabella Forum Centre, Canberra

Summary

PMCs around the world perform a wide range of functions, from major operations that command thousands of armed operatives, to small and limited missions that provide 'hostile regions training', 'risk management' and bodyguarding for companies and governments.

Beyond this there are still a myriad of tasks which are taken on by companies operating under the banner of PMCs. Despite this there are generally two main areas of employment for the PMCs government contracts and as service providers to corporations.

The last seven years has seen a substantial increase in the use of private military companies (PMCs) around the world to provide security training, logistics support and armed security.

They are increasingly interacting with the Australian Defence Force, Australian businesses and non-government organisations (NGOs).

The agenda is no longer about the merits of PMCs. It is now about how does the Australian Government, ADF, Government Agencies and Australian businesses and NGOs effectively work with PMCs strategically and operationally, and how to best protect the interests of all parties.

Key speakers

- Doug Brooks, President, International Peace Operations Association
- Andy Bearpark, Chief Executive Officer, British Association of Private Security Companies (video Forum from London)
- Bob Hunter, OAM
- Pia Riley, Australian Red Cross
- Tim Robertson DSM Bsc, Endeavour Group

Forum Aims

This Forum aims to:

- Contribute to the development of the defence white paper and national security strategy by identifying the role and implications of PMCs
- Identify the extent to which outsourcing of traditional military and government tasks has occurred to PMCs and the degree of dependence on PMC services for global security
- Identify the trends of PMC growth with implications for the structure and training of conventional armed forces
- Identify trends in the use of PMCs by industry, NGOs and government agencies
- Define the legal framework and regulation of Australian-related PMCs operating in foreign countries
- Identify the key initiatives and players in enhancing standards and regulations relevant to PMCs

Supporting organisations

Convening organisation



Convening organisation



International Peace
Operations Association

www.privatemilitarycompanies.org.au

Program

9:10	Associate Professor Ian Wing, Charles Sturt University Forum Facilitator		
9:20	Welcome Trevor Thomas, Australian Defence Business Review, Co-Forum Convenor		
9:25	The role and value of Contingency Contractors - The global view Doug Brooks,* President, International Peace Operations Association		
10:00	The role and value of PMCs - Observations from East Timor and Iraq Associate Professor Ian Wing, Charles Sturt University		
10:30	Break		
11:00	The role and value of PMCs - The view of a Contingency Contractor Bob Hunter, OAM		
11:30	The role and value of PMCs - A humanitarian organisation's view Pia Riley, Australian Red Cross		
12:00	Lunch		
12:50	Workshop 1: Implications for ADF Chair: Athol Yates, Australian Homeland Security Research Centre Questions to address: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are PMCs a true capability extender, and how can their availability, capability and reliability be factored into planning? • Within planning scenarios, under what circumstances would the ADF rely on PMCs? • How could PMC capabilities be factored into strategic and operational planning? </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should Defence planning guidance and Australian Military Strategy reflect the PMCs? • What are the recruitment and retention implications of PMCs? • How do PMCs impact on the uniqueness of the military profession and what does this mean for recruitment and retention? </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are PMCs a true capability extender, and how can their availability, capability and reliability be factored into planning? • Within planning scenarios, under what circumstances would the ADF rely on PMCs? • How could PMC capabilities be factored into strategic and operational planning? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should Defence planning guidance and Australian Military Strategy reflect the PMCs? • What are the recruitment and retention implications of PMCs? • How do PMCs impact on the uniqueness of the military profession and what does this mean for recruitment and retention?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are PMCs a true capability extender, and how can their availability, capability and reliability be factored into planning? • Within planning scenarios, under what circumstances would the ADF rely on PMCs? • How could PMC capabilities be factored into strategic and operational planning? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should Defence planning guidance and Australian Military Strategy reflect the PMCs? • What are the recruitment and retention implications of PMCs? • How do PMCs impact on the uniqueness of the military profession and what does this mean for recruitment and retention? 		
2:20	Break		
2:40	Workshop 2: Legal, ethical and regulatory issues Chair: Major Simon Lee, Barrister and Reserve Legal Officer, Australian Army Legal Corps <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the world-wide challenges for legal and regulatory challenges facing Australian use of PMCs? • What are the applicable international laws? </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the options for further regulation? • How can Australia advance enhancement of PMCs via domestic, bilateral and multi-lateral mechanisms? </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the world-wide challenges for legal and regulatory challenges facing Australian use of PMCs? • What are the applicable international laws? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the options for further regulation? • How can Australia advance enhancement of PMCs via domestic, bilateral and multi-lateral mechanisms?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the world-wide challenges for legal and regulatory challenges facing Australian use of PMCs? • What are the applicable international laws? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the options for further regulation? • How can Australia advance enhancement of PMCs via domestic, bilateral and multi-lateral mechanisms? 		
4:00	Chair: Brian Kelly, CEO, ATMAAC International		
4:05	Marketing vs Reality: Engaging contingency contractors in the 21st Century globalised security environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridging the gap between what is misinformation and marketing and the reality of the employment of contingency contractors • Practical tools to deal with the complexity and difficulty of engaging contingency contractors responsibly in order to meet national interests Tim Robertson DSM Bsc, Endeavour Group		
4:30	British and international developments in standards and regulation of PMCs, including best practice codes of practice and sanctions Andy Bearpark, Chief Executive Officer, British Association of Private Security Companies (video Forum from London)		
5:00	Panel Discussion		
5:30	Close and Networking Drinks		

**Doug Brooks' participation at this event has been made possible by the support of the Australian Security Industry Association Ltd (ASIAL). Media requests should be directed to Belinda Harris (Belinda@asial.com.au or 02 8425 4315). Doug Brooks will be speaking at Security 2008, website: www.asial.com.au*

Registration Form

Fax: 02 6161 5144

Private Military Companies Forum

19 August 2008, Brindabella Forum Centre, Canberra

Register online at www.privatemilitarycompanies.org.au/registration.html

ABN 37 098 930 119

Contact details

Title _____

Surname _____

Given Name _____

Preferred name on name badge _____

Job Title _____

Telephone (Business) _____

Fax (Business) _____

Telephone (Mob) _____

Email _____

Organisation _____

Postal Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Special Requirements

Dietary/Other: _____

Networking Drinks

Yes, I will attend the Networking Drinks on 19 August 2008

Payment Details

My payment is \$ _____

EFT - Please send me a tax invoice and I will pay by EFT

Cheque - Attach a cheque made payable to AHSRC and post to
PO Box 295, Curtin, ACT, 2605

Credit card

AMEX VISA MasterCard Diners

Name _____

Card Number _____

Card Expiry Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

Registration Fee (inclusive of GST)

\$480 - 19 August**

Notes

** Fee subsidy considered on application

Cancellation policy

If you cancel your registration before 25 July 2008, you will receive a refund of your registration fee minus a \$150 administration fee. If you cancel your registration after 26 July 2008, you will not be eligible for a refund, however a substitute delegate may take your place.

Conditions of acceptance

The listed speakers, topics, times and exhibitors were correct at the time of printing but due to unforeseen circumstances, the organisers reserve the right to delete or alter items in the program.

Entry to the event

Entry to the event is at the discretion of the organisers, and only appropriate personnel will be admitted to the events.

Tax Invoice

A formal tax invoice will be sent on registration stating the amount due or paid. EFT details are on the invoice.

Accommodation

Delegates are required to arrange their own accommodation.

Accommodation options are available on our website
www.privatemilitarycompanies.org.au/venue.html

Registration Inquiries

Mimi Mekdarasouk
Event Coordinator
Australian Homeland Security Research Centre
PO Box 295
Curtin ACT 2605
Ph: 02 6161 5143
Fax: 02 6161 5144