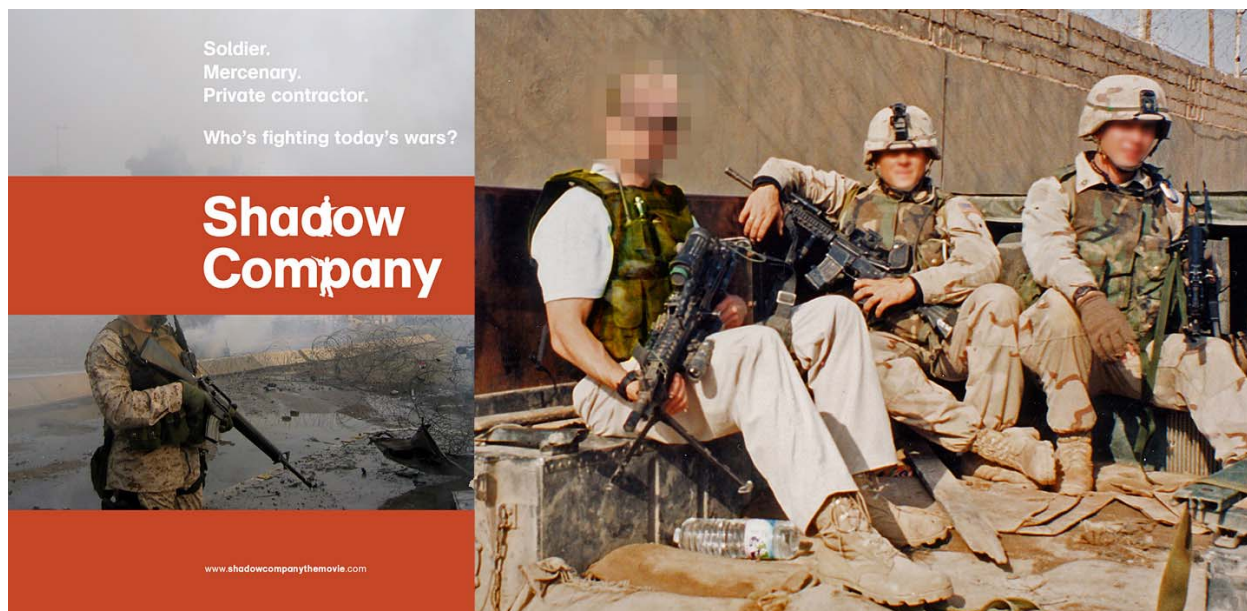


**CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS AND PURPOSE FILMS INVITE YOU TO A SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW OF “SHADOW COMPANY”**



**Tuesday, June 27th, 2006**

Doors open **6:30pm**

Screening **7pm**

Discussion **8:45pm**

Location: **E-street Cinema**, 555 11th Street NW (entrance on E street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>)

Free admission

RSVP Required.

**WHY THIS FILM MUST BE SEEN**

In the spring of 2004, four civilian contractors employed by Blackwater USA were brutally murdered in Fallujah and the world began to ask itself who these men were. When the city was destroyed as payback, most of the Islamic world branded armed contractors as thinly disguised mercenaries.

According to Robert Young Pelton's upcoming book "Licensed To Kill – Hired Guns in the War on Terror" there are now over **70,000** armed men working as security contractors in Iraq.

A shocking number.

As the US begins to draw down troops, private security companies will provide much of the muscle and steel in Iraq. Are these new hired guns an anomaly or the future of warfare? Should the US expand the use of private contractors as proxy forces or reign them in before they trigger more Fallujahs?

Where did these men come from? How are they used? Are they mercenaries or security guards? Is America well served by outsourcing security and creating a new class of "Ronin"?

**Only one film dares tackle this problem head on:**

**SHADOW COMPANY**, by Nick Bicanic and Jason Bourque, is the groundbreaking feature-length documentary that reveals the origins and destinations of these modern-day guns for hire.

The only documentary that takes you inside this world.

See a trailer at - [www.shadowcompanythemovie.com](http://www.shadowcompanythemovie.com)

***THE RULES OF WAR HAVE CHANGED.***

*This is a unique opportunity to view a film about an industry that changes the way wars are fought. Edward Zwick (director of "Last Samurai", "Legends of the Fall" and the upcoming "Blood Diamond") called this film "The best documentary he has ever seen."*

*Critically acclaimed at the highest levels of Washington and Hollywood, "Shadow Company" presents the players, the facts and the opinions in a way that allows the audience to make up its own mind about a politically charged and complex subject*

*The film explores the moral and ethical issues "private military" solutions create for Western governments and the United Nations and addresses the risks of allowing profit-motivated corporations into the business of war.*

Please join us for a provocative panel discussion and Q&A session immediately following the film.

*Moderated by:*

**Anna Soellner**, Center for American Progress

*Featured Panelists:*

**Rep. Jan Schakowsky**, (D-IL)

**Nick Bicanic**, Director/Producer, *Shadow Company*

**Mark Lonsdale**, Director of US operations, Hart Group Security

**Peter Singer**, National Security Fellow, Brookings Institute

**Lawrence Korb**, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress

#### **Biographies:**

**U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky** represents the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, and serves in the House as a Chief Deputy Democratic Whip and ranking member on the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection. Rep. Schakowsky previously served on the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, where she dealt with private military contracting issues. This year, Rep. Schakowsky successfully passed an amendment to the FY07 Defense Authorization Act that would significantly increase oversight over private military contractors operating in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Nick Bicanic**, a co-founder of Purpose Films - [www.purposefilms.com](http://www.purposefilms.com), Nick comes to the Film and Television industry with 8 years of experience in the world of New Media. In the late 1990's, Nick abandoned PhD studies in Chemistry at the University of Cambridge to found and run a multimedia design and strategy company in London. After steering the company successfully through wild changes in the Internet marketplace (and writing numerous newspaper articles and books on the industry in the process) the company was sold and Nick took this opportunity to freely explore ways of fusing his two main interests – storytelling and technology. *Shadow Company* is his first feature length project.

**Mark Lonsdale** is presently the Director of US Operations for Hart Group Security, a world leader in the private security industry. He is an internationally recognized advisor on tactical training for all forms of special operations. Prior to joining Hart Group Mark founded the training organisation STTU and began developing advanced mission-specific training programs. In addition to having personally trained several hundred police and military operators, Mark has taught instructor level programs for Federal Agencies and the US Military; run advanced Raid programs for the DEA and NTF; and supplied Sniper and CQB training to US Marines prior to deployment in the Gulf Crisis. Recently Mark has been working as a military advisor in the Afghan theatre of operations and is actively involved in pre deployment training of US military intelligence personnel and coalition Special Operations Forces.

**Peter Warren Singer** is the National Security Fellow at the Brookings Institution and Director of the

Brookings Project on U.S. Policy Towards the Islamic World. Dr. Singer is considered the world's leading expert on the private military industry. His book *Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry* (Cornell University Press) was the first to explore the industry and was named best book of the year by the American Political Science Association, among the top five international affairs books of the year by the Gelber Prize, and a Top Ten Summer Read by Businessweek. Singer continues to serve as a resource on the private military issue to the U.S. Congress, U.S. Department of Defense-Joint Staff, CIA, European Union, and, most recently, played a role in the Abu Ghraib prison abuse investigation.

**Lawrence Korb** is a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and a Senior Adviser to the Center for Defense Information. Prior to joining the Center, he was a Senior Fellow and Director of National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. From July 1998 to October 2002, he was Council Vice President, Director of Studies, and holder of the Maurice Greenberg Chair. Prior to joining the Council, Mr. Korb served as Director of the Center for Public Policy Education and Senior Fellow in the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institution, Dean of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, and Vice President of Corporate Operations at the Raytheon Company.

Over the past decade, Mr. Korb has made over 1,000 appearances as a commentator on such shows as *The Today Show*, *The Early Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Face the Nation*, *This Week with David Brinkley*, *MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour*, *News Hour with Jim Lehrer*, *Nightline*, *60 Minutes*, *Larry King Live*, *The O'Reilly Factor*, and *Crossfire*. His more than 100 op-ed pieces have appeared in such major newspapers as the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Christian Science Monitor*.

Available on DVD worldwide from [www.shadowcompanythemovie.com](http://www.shadowcompanythemovie.com) on June 27 2006