

SHADOW COMPANY SCREENING + DISCUSSION PANEL

Shadow Company is a feature length documentary which offers a unique insight into the secret world of modern-day mercenaries. It provides a balanced look at the work of private military companies (PMCs) around the world.

The rules of war have changed.

It is time for everyone to find out who these private military companies, what they are doing and why.

The film recently swept the Canadian Film/TV awards – winning 4 Leo awards for Best Documentary, Best Directing, Best Writing and Best Editing, and continues to garner attention in TV, Radio and Print – the subject of private military companies never strays too far from the public eye.

As a part of the theatrical opening of Shadow Company in NYC (July 6th to July 12th 7pm daily at the Anthology Film Archives 32 2nd Avenue, between First and Second Street) there will be a special event on July 8th when the screening will be followed by a discussion panel.

The film's director Nick Bicanic became curious about PMCs after a good friend from University emailed him to say he was becoming a mercenary. Shadow Company explores the moral and ethical issues private military solutions create for PMC employees, for the Western governments who foot the bill for their salaries, and for everyday citizens like you. The filmmakers traveled the globe to expose all sides of the issue, interviewing PMC staff, owners and lobbyists, former mercenaries, academics, journalists and top authors.

With the democratic promise to pull all US troops out of Iraq by 2008, the resulting power vacuum will be either filled by more civil unrest, or even more responsibility will be pushed towards the private sector. This film is required viewing to better understand the nuances involved in privatizing warfare.

Multiple screenings of this film at film festivals, college campuses and other theatrical venues have never failed to inspire an meaningful and in-depth discussion panel. The experts we have assembled include former executives of one the better known American PMCs currently in existence (Blackwater USA) as well as a number of experts who can lend valuable insight to this important topic.

"Takes a thorough and balanced look at the use of private security forces in Iraq and raises serious policy questions,"
U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA)

"In addition to being extremely well-executed, I thought its even-handed tone was particularly sophisticated - encouraging an audience to consider the complexity of the issue, rather than the more exploitative depictions with which the subject is usually treated"
Edward Zwick - Director of Blood Diamond, Glory, Legends of the Fall

"Great job. Covers a controversial issue in an evenhanded fashion."
Colonel Thomas X. Hammes, USMC (retired)

"The best documentary I have ever seen."
George Strombolopoulos, CBC TV

"A must-see film for anyone who is concerned about our military and our security being privatized"
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)

"Fantastic - educational and entertaining."
Morgan Spurlock, Director of "Super Size Me"

"An excellent and engaging primer. Solid box office potential."
Hollywood Reporter

For more information or to see a trailer for the film, please log onto www.shadowcompany.com

DATES:	TIMES:
July 8th Sunday	7pm screening + discussion
TICKETS:	LOCATION:
\$15 includes Q&A panel with filmmakers and guests	Anthology Film Archives, 32 2 nd Avenue, 32 2nd Avenue, New York, NY 10003

The speakers at the discussion panel will include

Erica Razook – Legal Fellow in the Business and Human Rights Program at Amnesty International USA

Alan Bell – President of Globe Risk Holdings

Pratap Chatterjee – Executive Director of CorpWatch, author of "Iraq Inc"

Chris Taylor – Former VP for Strategic Initiatives at Blackwater USA

Nick Bicanic – Director/Producer/Writer of "Shadow Company"

Biographies

Erica Razook

Erica Razook is Legal Fellow in the Business and Human Rights Program at Amnesty International USA, where she has researched and analyzed laws, regulations, proposed bills and other mechanisms for holding private military and security contractors accountable for human rights violations and criminal acts committed on foreign soil. Prior to her work as a human rights lawyer, Erica was a business consultant with Arthur Andersen.

Alan Bell

Alan W. Bell is the president of Globe Risk Holdings Inc., and an expert in international counter-terrorism. His career includes more than 22 years of specialized military experience related to global security issues/ Mr. Bell spent over 20 years in the British Armed Forces, including a distinguished record with the British Special Air Service (SAS), the world's most elite armed forces unit. His duties included protecting the British Royal family and former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He has also trained close protection teams, counter-terrorist teams, and Special Forces units worldwide.

Globe Risk Holdings Inc. specializes in integrating crisis management and security programs, which are designed to prevent, minimize, and pro-actively prepare individuals and companies for crisis/security related risks.

Since forming Globe Risk Holdings Inc. Mr. Bell personally directs the delivery of all corporate level services.

He prepares and develops crisis management plans and provides security consulting to a broad base of clients including major crown corporations and agencies, governments, natural resource and exploration companies, insurance companies, telecommunication firms, food manufacturers, television networks, and chemical companies. He also counsels clients in Threat, Risk, Vulnerability Assessments, and business recovery, commercial, residential and personal risk assessments, VIP/executive protection, industrial dispute management, counter-terrorism programs, and specialized training.

Globe Risk Holdings Inc. has supplied security support to business operations in such diverse areas as Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Algeria, Ivory Coast, Sudan, The Republic of the Congo, DRC, Angola, Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Thailand, Philippines, Greece, Europe, Russia, U.S. and Canada.

Pratap Chatterjee

Pratap Chatterjee is the Executive Director of CorpWatch and an investigative journalist and producer, who has traveled to Iraq 4 times in the last three years alone with plentiful interaction with private military contractors and the companies they work for.

He is the author of "Iraq Inc.: A Profitable Occupation" (Seven Stories Press, 2004) and "The Earth Brokers" (Routledge Press, 1994). He has many years of experience working in radio, print and digital media, winning many awards for his work in Afghanistan including the best business story award from the National Newspaper Association (US). He has also appeared as a commentator on numerous radio and television shows ranging from BBC World Service, CNN International, Democracy Now!, Fox and MSNBC.

Chris Taylor

Chris Taylor was most recently the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives at Blackwater USA, a professional security, training, peace support, and stabilization operations firm, where he was responsible for developing and leading strategic initiatives and alliances, building new business, and assisting in the development and implementation of corporate strategy in the Middle East, Asia, Central Asia, Africa, and South America. He was also responsible for the sales and marketing efforts for all business units and acted as the primary media and public relations point of contact for Blackwater.

Chris spent 14 years in the U. S. Marine Corps as an enlisted infantryman and Force Recon Marine. As a Marine, he held both operational and policy leadership positions. After earning his undergraduate degree while on active-

duty, Chris left the Marine Corps in 1999 to attend graduate school at The College of William & Mary, and earned an MBA in 2002.

Chris is the founding Chairman of the International Peace Operations Association, a member of the World Affairs Council and has attended Harvard University's Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Nick Bicanic

A co-founder of Purpose Films - 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.