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British mercenary firm with Pentagon contracts exposed in civilian shooting incident in Iraq. [Post [294190490](#)]

Category: News & Opinion (General) **Topic:** Crime & Corruption

Synopsis: Phoenix, Anteon, and Sytex, should be investigated by U.S. authorities for their interrogation opera

Source: [WayneMadsenReport](#)
Published: November 29, 2005 **Author:** Wayne Madsen

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British mercenary firm with Pentagon contracts exposed in civilian shooting incident in Iraq

A [souvenir video](#) has surfaced on the Internet showing private security contractors working for Aegis Defense Services "Victory" Group firing indiscriminately at Iraqi civilian motorists in Baghdad. The video was reportedly taken by an Aegis employee and posted on a web site run by an ex-Aegis employee. The video has since been removed from the site. The video contains four clips showing Aegis mercenaries firing at civilian automobiles. The video's soundtrack includes Elvis Presley's "Train I Ride." Aegis is run by former British Scots Guard officer Lt. Col. Tim Spicer, an international mercenary who has been involved in UN sanctions busting in Sierra Leone and Bougainville invasion planning in Papua New Guinea. Spicer's firm, Aegis, was awarded a \$293 million security contract in Iraq. Spicer's men also stand accused of shooting teenager Peter McBride in the back in Belfast in 1992. That has prompted a number of members of the Irish Caucus in the Congress to demand the Pentagon withdraw its contract to Aegis. The Pentagon has rejected such action.



Pentagon Iraq contractor head Tim Spicer under arrest in 1997 in Papua New Guinea following failed Bougainville invasion and resulting coup d'etat.

Aegis maintains its head office in London's Picadilly. It is also reported to have an office on K Street in Washington, DC.

The Pentagon has had a longstanding relationship with Spicer. The Pentagon's love affair with mercenary firms began in the 1990s when they were viewed with favor for their military activities, including sanctions busting, in Africa. Under the Clinton administration, mercenary firms blossomed.

Under George W. Bush, they have flourished. On June 24, 1997, the Defense Intelligence Agency sponsored a seminar titled "The Privatization of National Security Functions in Sub-Saharan Africa." This conference ushered in the present cooperation between mercenaries, oil companies, diamond and other mineral companies, U.S. intelligence agencies, the military, and non-government organizations (NGOs), including the always suspect Human Rights Watch, an NGO that often obscures and obfuscates important facts, as it did with the causality of the Rwandan genocide and as it is currently doing with regard to offering an incomplete list of CIA prisoner aircraft in Europe.

WMR has obtained the attendee list for the 1997 Pentagon mercenary seminar.

1997 DIO Africa Symposium Attendees

Capt James T. Abernathy, Jr USA	Defense Intelligence Agency
COL Francisco Antonio	Embassy of the Republic of Angola
Dr. Pauline Baker	Georgetown University
Capt. Dave Barkdull, USAF	Defense Intelligence Agency
Mr. Eeben Barlow	Executive Outcomes
Dr. Walter Barrows	Defense Intelligence Agency
Mr. Anne-Willem Bijleveld	UNHCR
Mr. Benny Bray	SIERRA RUTILE AMERICA
Maj Greg Brown, USA	Defense Intelligence Agency
Mr. Mike Brown	Defense Intelligence Agency
Ms. Cathy Byrne	Central Intelligence Agency
BG Gilbert Chileshe	Embassy of the Republic of Zambia
Mr. John Christiansen	Department of State
Mr. Bill Christopher	Bureau of Population, Refugee, and Migration
Ambassador Herman Cohen	Cohen & Woods International
Mr. Chris Darlington	National Intelligence Council
LCDR Diallo Mamadou Alimou	Embassy of the Republic of Guinea
Ms. Amanda Dory	OSD/ISA-Africa
Mr. Jeff Drumtra	US Committee for Refugees
Mr. Bill Eaton	Defense Intelligence Agency
Mr. Joseph Flanz	Defense Intelligence Agency
Dr. William J. Foltz	National Intelligence Council
Dr. Sy Frenkel	Defense Intelligence Agency
Mr. Arvind Ganesan	Human Rights Watch
Mr. Michael Grunberg	SANDLINE International
Mr. Charles Gurney	Department of State
Mr. James Hansen	Defense Intelligence Agency
Ms. Lori Hendricks	OSD/ISA-Africa
Dr. Jeffrey Herbst	Princeton University
Mr. Bill Hix	World Vision

Mr. Francisco Quinones
LtCol Doug Raaberg
Mr. Ray Rhodes
Mr. Charles Rogers
Mr. Mahamed Said
LTC Dean Schults
Dr. Barry M. Schutz
Mr. Jay Sloan
Maj. Clark Smith, USA
Mr. Charles Snyder
LTG Harry E. Soyster, USA (Ret)
Mr. Tim Spicer
Dr. William Stoakley
SSG Jay Strojnowski, USA
Mr. Christian Thom
Mr. Jason Thom
Mr. William Thom
Mr. Rick Tyler
Mr. Nic Van Den Bergh
Mr. Matthew Van Konynenburg
MAJ Kevin Walsh
Mr. Rick Waters
Mr. Stephen Weigert
Dr. Claude Welch
Mr. Reginald West
Ms. Theresa Whelan
Mr. James L. Woods
LTC Donald Zimmer

Georgetown University
Middle East-Africa Div, JCS J5
Exxon Ventures Corp.
World Vision International
Defense Intelligence Agency
3rd Special Forces Group
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Department of State
MPRI
SANDLINE International
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Shepherd College
James Madison University
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Executive Outcomes
U.S. Marine Corps Intelligence Center
U.S. Army Intelligence
Georgetown University
Department of State
SUNY, Buffalo
Central Intelligence Agency
OSD/ISA-Africa
Cohen & Woods International
Defense Intelligence Agency

Spicer attended along with two colleagues from Sandline International (for which Spicer served as CEO), a mercenary firm that had already been implicated in illegal Sierra Leone and Papua New Guinea operations.

Mercenary firms, which in neo-con "Newspeak" are referred to as "Private Military Contractors," "Private Security Contractors (PSCs), and Personal Security Details/Detachments (PSDs), are viewed by informed observers as the future military forces that will continue to protect US business interests in Iraq after the planned withdrawal of a large number of U.S. troops next year. These companies are not governed by any military regulations or international legal constraints. According to informed sources within the security contractor community, three U.S. firms, Phoenix, Anteon, and Sytex, should be looked at closely by U.S. authorities for their interrogation operations in Iraq. Sytex is currently advertising for interrogators for the US Central Command's Area of Responsibility (AOR), which includes Iraq and Afghanistan. Military interrogators who were charged with sexually humiliating prisoners at Guantanamo and Iraq are now working for firms like Anteon and Phoenix Consulting Group

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Click here for more direct link to video: [LINK](#). There are four sequences shot through the rear window of a moving vehicle while someone fires long bursts with an automatic weapon at cars traveling on the highway. These shootings appear to be random.

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