

# The Big Money World of Mercenaries and Private Security

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Theme: [History](#), [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

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## **Private Security Beginnings:**

*13th Century B.C.: Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses the II hires Nubians (popularly known as Medjai), Libyans, Syrians, and Sherdens (from Sardinia) to compliment his own military and security forces.*

*400 A.D. During the Byzantine empire, emperors contracted foreigners for their personal security, forming the Varangion Guard.*

*1748: Harry Fielding, in the UK, proposed the founding of a permanent well paid professional security force.*

*1850s: Allan Pinkerton (a former Chicago police detective) created the Pinkerton Agency, his own private security agency.*

# HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL

## THE BIG-MONEY WORLD OF PRIVATE SECURITY

### PRIVATE SECURITY BEGINNINGS

<b>3RD CENTURY B.C.</b>  Roman soldiers Marcus Sertius, Libanus, and Sabinus at Antioch.	<b>400 A.D.</b>  During the Byzantine Empire, emperors created the Tagmata guard.	<b>1766</b>  Robert Peel's Peelian Creed created the first well-paid, professional police force.	<b>1850</b>  Alfred Russel Wallace's theories on Darwin's theory of evolution led to the first private detective agency.
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### IN AN INCREASINGLY VIOLENT WORLD...

**526,000** people die each year from armed violence.

That's one death every minute from gun violence.

**7 in 10** people living in conflict or terrorist settings are killed each year.

#### THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACES IN THE WORLD



Iraq, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Jamaica, Syria

### WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE HAS CREATED A PRIVATE SECURITY BOOM

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE IRAQ WAR, THERE WERE 35,000 PRIVATE SECURITY CONTRACTORS



6,000 from the US, UK, South Africa, and Europe; 12,000 from third-world countries; 15,000 native Iraqis; and 2,000 others.

### PRIVATE SECURITY IS BIG BUSINESS

IN THE US, PRIVATE SECURITY WORKERS OUTNUMBER POLICE BY MORE THAN **2 to 1**

That's 2 million people working at 90,000+ private agencies.

### TODAY...

The US is the top country for private security work.

And worldwide, more than **\$174 BILLION** was spent on private security services. By 2015, that number is projected to reach **\$210 BILLION**.

**35%** of the world's private security market is centered here.

### FUELING THE DEMAND FOR PRIVATE SECURITY IS:

<b>NEED TO PROTECT ASSETS</b>	<b>LACK OF FAITH IN PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>INCREASED URBANIZATION</b>	<b>FEAR OF CRIME AND TERRORISM</b>
<b>AND IN THE PERSONAL SECURITY SECTOR:</b>	<b>FOREIGN INVESTMENT</b>	<b>OVERLOADING OF PUBLIC SERVICES</b>	<b>ECONOMIC RECOVERY</b>

### SO WHAT DO PRIVATE SECURITY WORKERS DO, ANYWAY?

- GUARD BUSINESS EXECUTIVES, CELEBRITIES, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND OTHERS
- GIVE CONSULTING AND TRAINING SERVICES
- CONDUCT THREAT ASSESSMENTS
- PROVIDE THREAT MANAGEMENT SERVICES
- PERFORM INVESTIGATIONS
- OFFER LEGAL SUPPORT
- EXECUTE BACKGROUND CHECKS
- MANAGE INFORMATION SECURITY

### AND ON THE SEA

MORE THAN 35,000 SHIPS MUST PASS THROUGH HIGH-RISK ZONES WHERE THE AVERAGE RANSOM PAID TO PIRATES IS \$5.5 MILLION AND THE COST OF A MULTINATIONAL NAVAL PRESENCE IS \$400 MILLION.

PERHAPS THAT'S WHY THERE ARE MORE THAN 100 MARITIME PRIVATE SECURITY FIRMS.

THE NUMBER OF SHIPS THAT HAVE BEEN HARBORED WITH SECURITY GUARDIANS: 1000

### THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL MERCENARY ARMIES

<b>G4S</b> • EMPLOYS 625,000 • OPERATES IN 125+ COUNTRIES • 2ND LARGEST EMPLOYER IN WORLD (B- WALMART)	 • 1,200 EMPLOYEES • STRONG PRESENCE IN IRAQ	<b>BRINYS</b> • MORE THAN 1,500 EMPLOYEES	<b>DynCorp INTERNATIONAL</b> • MORE THAN 5,000 EMPLOYEES
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### SO YOU WANT TO WORK IN PRIVATE SECURITY? HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Private security guards can make \$400 to \$500 per day, and sometimes more!

- OBTAIN MILITARY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE.
- LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.
- GET INTO GREAT SHAPE.
- BUILD YOUR RESUME.
- GATHER ALL OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION BEFORE APPLYING.

SOURCES: <http://www.federatedigitalnews.com/the-history-of-private-security>  
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this graphic is brought to you by **SecurityDegreeHub.com**

### **In an Increasingly Violent World:**

526,000: number of people killed by armed violence every year

Every minute: 1 person dies of armed violence

87.8: percentage of people killed annually in non conflict settings

12.2: percentage killed in conflict settings

1 in 10: number of people killed in conflict, or terroristic settings a year

The most dangerous places in the world (global average, 7.9 persons killed per 100,000 people):

- Syria: 3,750: Average number of violent deaths per month. More than 140,000 people have been killed in the past two years, including 7,000 children.
- El Salvador: 61.9 people killed per 100,000 every year
- Iraq: 59.4/100,000 (but on the rise)
- Jamaica: 58.1/100,000
- Afghanistan: 14.3 deaths per 1,000

4,000: Number of homicides in Caracas, Venezuela in 2012

### **The Rise of Private Security Services in Modern Times:**

#### **2005: At the Height of the Iraqi War:**

- 20,000: number of non-Iraqi security contractors Of these, 5-6,000 were British, American, South African, Russian or European; another 12,000 are from Third World countries, such as Fiji, Colombia, Sri Lanka, and India.
- 15,000 Iraqi security contractors Most were hired mainly by the British security firm Erinys to guard Iraq's oil infrastructure.

#### **Today:**

#1: U.S. is the number top user of private contract security services in the world

\$174+ billion: amount spent on security services, worldwide, 2010

35: percentage of worldwide security services market is in U.S., 2014

17: percentage growth anticipated by 2015

\$210 billion: amount projected worldwide demand of security services, in 2015

#### **Fueling demand of personal security:**

- Increased urbanization
- Need to protect assets
- Lack of faith in public safety
- Fear of crime and terrorism

#### **Fueling the growth of the personal security industry:**

- Foreign investment
- Economic recover
- Overloading of public services

## **In the U.S.:**

Private Security

2 million: number of private security personnel

90,000: number of private security organizations

Vs. Law Enforcement

765,000: employed law enforcement personnel

17,985: number of state and local law enforcement agencies

80: percentage of private security personnel employment from 1980-2010

Less than 1: percentage of applicants hired by elite security firms.

## **What private security firms do:**

Personal protection of:

- Business executives
- Celebrities
- Government officials
- Consulting and Training
- Threat assessment
- Threat management
- Investigation
- Legal support
- Background checks
- Information security

## **On the Sea: Private Maritime Security vs. Piracy**

- \$400 million: Annual cost of multinational naval presence
- 0: number of ships hijacked with private security aboard
- 140: number of maritime private security firms now operational
- 35,000: number of cargo ships that must pass through high risk zones
- \$5.5 million: average ransom paid to pirates

Personal protection: about 50 % of private security services requested is for personal security

Guards for private security firms can make between \$400 and \$600 per day.

Guards employed by Blackwater, a high-profile American company that guarded Ambassador Paul Bremer in Iraq, were paid up to \$1000 a day.

## **The world's most powerful mercenary armies:**

- G4S: employs 625,000
- Presence in more than 125 countries
- 2nd largest employer in the world (after WalMart)
- Unity Resources Group: 1,200 employees
- Strong presence in Iraq
- Erinys: more than 15,000 (unofficial)
- Asia Security Group, employs 600. Formerly owned by Karzai, president of Afghanistan.
- Dyncorp: staff in excess of 5,000.

## How to Prepare for Mercenary Employment

### Step 1 - Obtain military or law enforcement related experience.

- Previous experience working in the special forces of the army, USMC, navy, or air force if seeking the higher paying security-related jobs.
- Most private security companies will be looking for a minimum of 3-5 years of relevant experience on one's resume.

### Step 2 - Obtain proficiency in a foreign language.

- Develop a skill set in another commonly spoken language such as French, German, Arabic, Russian, or Spanish will make you more attractive to future employers.

### Step 3 - Get into great physical shape.

- Many of the private security firms will require a physical fitness test be passed before making a new employee permanent.

### Step 4 - Build your resume.

- Focus on job skills, qualifications, and experience that directly relate to the mercenary job(s) that you are interested in filling.

### Step 5 - Gather required documentation.

- Most American private security firms require a valid U.S. driver's license, tourist passport, the DD-214 provided on separation from the military service.

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