



Security Policy and Operations (Sec Pol Ops)
Ministry of Defence Head Office,
Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Telephone:

XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXX

16 August 2012

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. Thank you for your correspondence dated 13th June 2012, which has been considered to be requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. We have combined all five of your requests (FOI References: 13-06-2012-171527-016, 13-06-2012-171229-015, 13-06-2012-170926-014, 13-06-2012-170353-013, 13-06-2012-171527-016) into one response contained herein.

1. How many individual private security contractors (i.e. workers) have been/are employed by the UK Government overseas. Please provide an annual breakdown from 2002 until 2012.

If there is any confusion or difficulty in providing the requested information, or the information requested would exceed the stated limits, please contact me immediately to discuss amendments.

2. With the proposed military spending review in mind, how much does the UK Government anticipate spending on private security companies for overseas contracts in the next 10 years? If possible, please provide an annual breakdown from 2012.

3. How many private security contractors does the Government believe will be employed on UK Government contracts overseas in the next 10 years? Please provide a breakdown for each year.

If there is any confusion or difficulty in providing the requested information, or the information requested would exceed the stated limits, please contact me immediately to discuss amendments.

4. How many deaths of private security contractors have there been while carrying out contracts on behalf of the UK Government overseas? Please give an annual figure for each year.

5. How many serious injuries of private security contractors have there been while carrying out contracts on behalf of the UK Government overseas? Please give an annual figure for each year. (By serious injury, we mean a contractor unable to continue operationally on the contract)

6. How many times have supply convoys involving private security contractors come under attack since 2002 in both Iraq and Afghanistan? Please provide a breakdown for each year.

If there is any confusion or difficulty in providing the requested information, or the information requested would exceed the stated limits, please contact me immediately to discuss amendments.

7. How much has the UK Government spent as a total on Private Security Companies (PSCs) overseas? (Please include all spending, including MOD, DFID, FCO etc.)

8. Please provide details of UK Government overseas contracts awarded to all PSCs for each year since 2002. Please include a breakdown of the company; dates awarded, contract value, location of where contract is to be carried out.

9. Please provide details on all current overseas contracts involving the following companies:

- a. G4S**
- b. Aegis**
- c. Control Risks Group**
- d. Edinburgh International**

(This would include the value of the contract, location of operation, how many private contractors employed, nature of work)

Response

We can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds some of the information related to your request.

Q1, Q7 and Q8. We can confirm that we hold information in scope of your request.

The attached detail and table is summarised from the contracts concerned.

Contractor	Date Awarded	Country Details	Cost
Armor Group	2007	Basrah	£1,113,000
Armor Group	2006/07	Kabul	£21,000

In Iraq, one PSC (Armor Group) was awarded a contract by the MOD for approximately 2 months in 2007, to guard 2 vacant compounds within Basra Palace. This contract was worth approximately £1,113,000. The number of PSC personnel employed is not held by the Ministry of Defence.

One PSC (Armor Group) was awarded a contract by the MOD to provide security for the UK Defence Advisers' accommodation in Kabul, Afghanistan for 3 months in 2006/07. This contract was worth approximately £21,000. The information on the number of PSC personnel employed is not held by the Ministry of Defence

Q2-6 and Q9. We can confirm that we hold no information relating to your request.

However, for your information, there were no reported casualties to either contract awarded to the Armor Group (i.e. in 2007 to guard 2 vacant compounds within Basra Palace, and in 2006/07 to provide security for the UK Defence Advisers' accommodation in Kabul, Afghanistan).

We have no overseas contracts with G4S, Aegis Control Risks Group or Edinburgh International.

However, information relating to your request may also be available from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development. They can be contacted as follows:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Information Rights Team
Information Management Group
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Old Admiralty Building
Room SG120 London
SW1A 2PA

E-mail: dp-foi.img@fco.gov.uk

Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7008 1114

Telephone Number: +44 (0) 20 7008 0123

Department for International Development

Public Enquiry Point,
Abercrombie House,
Eaglesham Road,
East Kilbride,
G75 8EA

Email Address: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk

Telephone Number: 0845 300 4100

Fax: (01355) 843632

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your requests, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

4. If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Security Policy & Operations,
Ministry of Defence
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB