

# Looking for a job?

*Do you have skills in the fields of...Engineering? Public Relations? Information Technology? Accounting? Finance? Then you might qualify to work for a Merchant of Death!*

**But...Before you think of working for one of these companies, consider this: taking a job with a Merchant of Death means working for a corporation that engages in war profiteering. It means supporting companies that use their influence to promote war and then profit from the bloodshed.**

## Some Merchants of Death--

**The Rendon Group**, a major PR corporation, was contracted by the government to spin the Iraq war and make it sellable. In October 2005, Rendon was awarded a \$6.4 million contract by the U.S. government for one year of "public relations" work in Iraq.

**Titan Corporation** is one of the main private security corporations – people we used to call "mercenaries" – and has been awarded tens of millions of dollars in military contracts, as have other mercenaries including Custer Battles, CACI, Triple Canopy, etc.

**Bechtel** built failed nuclear plants, botched the 3-Mile Island nuclear cleanup and yet was granted a no-bid \$3 billion contract to "reconstruct" Iraq.

**Lockheed-Martin** was granted over \$20 billion in weapons contracts. After earning \$13 million for eight months as CEO of Lockheed-Martin, Lance Coffman was given a termination package in cash and benefits totalling approximately \$70 million. The death gratuity for military personnel killed in action is less than one percent of Coffman's "termination" package.

**Halliburton** sends employees to work in Iraq under their foreign subsidiaries. Thus, employees working in Iraq are not entitled to workers' compensation benefits under Texas law and are denied coverage if they become injured or killed.

The death toll for Americans since the invasion began is approaching 3,000. The death toll for Iraqi civilians since the invasion began is over 100,000. Most of these deaths have been caused by U.S. bombing of women and children (October 2004, *The Lancet*).

## Questions to Ask Your Potential Employer--

**What kind of contracts does your company take?** If your potential employer has defense or weapons contracts, that company is exploiting the proliferation of war and violence for money – trading *your* blood for their profit.

**Do your employees work in war zones? What kind of protection are they given?** Taking a job with a Merchant of Death may mean that you end up working in a war zone without proper protection. Private contractors send employees to war zones but often neglect to ensure their safety.

**Do you or any of your subsidiaries promote war by producing weapons, equipment or technology that serve a military purpose?** For example, it may seem that Lockheed-Martin and Boeing just make airplanes. However, these companies are also two of the biggest weapons manufacturers in the world. Know who you are working for and what kind of world you will be contributing to before accepting any position.

**Does your company have a potential interest in war making? Are you profiting from war?** Even if your potential employer doesn't have an obvious interest in making war, they may still stand to profit. Some public relations firms have big contracts with the Department of Defense; for them, selling war means making money.

**What impact do you have on the communities and environment where you operate?** If your potential employer has work outside of the U.S., be sure you know how they treat the people, resources and environment of the countries where they operate.

**Ask yourself what alternative employment opportunities exist in your field.** You're a skilled professional and there are lots of opportunities out there for you. Sure, you might make a little more working for a Merchant of Death, but what are the hidden costs of taking a job at a company that trades lives for money? Weigh your conscience against your paycheck; you can help make the world a more just and peaceful place. At the very least, you won't be contributing to more violence and death.

*What is the real cost of war profiteering and who is paying the price?*



Al Jazeera



Bill Haber AP



www.ntua.gr



Bill Haber AP

## What else should I know?

Visit [www.warresisters.org](http://www.warresisters.org) for more information on corporations that promote and profit from war – and what you can do about it.

**War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012**  
**Phone (212) 228-0450 [amc@warresisters.org](mailto:amc@warresisters.org)**  
**[www.warresisters.org/smod](http://www.warresisters.org/smod)**

