

HOSTAGES INC.

FACTUAL



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Hired guns and kidnapers. The new industry in Iraq.

SYNOPSIS

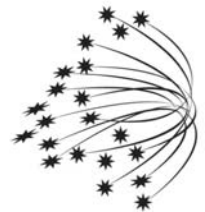
In the chaotic aftermath of Saddam's regime, the only growth industry filling the vacuum is hostage taking. *HOSTAGES INC.* examines every dimension of this new "business": the political or financial motives of the kidnapers, the horrific experience of the victims, the pitfalls of agreeing to demands.

Paul Workman a foreign correspondent, based in Paris and a former Middle East correspondent, covered both wars with Iraq.

Paul Workman takes us up close in a terrifying chapter in Iraq's history where "guns for hire" can make as much as \$1,000 a day. He takes part in a training exercise in which he is the target.

One man who knows the industry is Canon Andrew White, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Representative to the Middle East. He has been involved in efforts to free about half of the 170 foreigners taken hostage in Iraq. According to White the initial kidnapping is not carried out by the major terrorist organizations but "people who are often purely in it for financial gain." Then the trading begins.

Workman also looks at that other side of the business, the private army of people and companies hired to prevent their clients from being taken hostage or worse.



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