

American Mercenaries Torturing Saudi Elites Rounded Up by Crown Prince, Blackwater Is Allegedly involved?

By [Daily Mail](#)

Global Research, November 23, 2017

[Daily Mail](#)

The following report appeared in the Daily Mail, November 22nd, 2017

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" Saudi princes and billionaire businessmen arrested in a power grab earlier this month are being strung up by their feet and beaten by American private security contractors, a source in the country tells DailyMail.com.

The group of the country's most powerful figures were arrested in a crackdown ordered by Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman three weeks ago as he ordered the detention of at least 11 fellow princes and hundreds of businessmen and government officials over claims of corruption.

Just last month, the Crown Prince vowed to restore 'moderate, open Islam' in the kingdom and relaxed a number of its ultra-conservative rules, including lifting a ban on women driving.

DailyMail.com can disclose that the arrests have been followed by 'interrogations' which a source said were being carried out by 'American mercenaries' brought in to work for the 32-year-old crown prince, who is now the kingdom's most powerful figure."

EXCLUSIVE: 'American mercenaries are torturing' Saudi elite rounded up by new crown prince - and billionaire Prince Alwaleed was hung upside down 'just to send a message'

- **Source in Saudi Arabia says American private security contractors are carrying out 'interrogations' on princes and billionaires arrested in crackdown**
- **Detained members of Saudi elite have been hung by their feet and beaten by interrogates, source says**
- **Among those hung upside down are Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, an investor worth at least \$7 billion who is being held at Riyadh's Ritz Carlton**
- **Arrests were ordered three weeks ago by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman**
- **Source claims mercenaries are from 'Blackwater', a claim also made by Lebanese president**
- **But its successor firm denies it has any operations in Saudi Arabia whatsoever and says its staff abide by U.S. law**
- **Americans who commit torture abroad can be jailed for up to 20 years**

By [RYAN PARRY, WEST COAST CORRESPONDENT FOR DAILYMAIL.COM](#) and [JOSH BOSWELL FOR DAILYMAIL.COM](#)

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'Blackwater' has been named by DailyMail.com's source as the firm involved, and the claim of its presence in [Saudi Arabia](#) has also been made on Arabic social media, and by Lebanon's president.

The firm's successor, Academi, strongly denies even being in Saudi Arabia and says it does not engage in torture, which it is illegal for any U.S. citizen to commit anywhere in the world.

The Saudi crown prince, according to the source, has also confiscated more than \$194 billion from the bank accounts and seized assets of those arrested.

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