



## Focus on *Group 4 Securicor*

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# U.S. ARMY BASE SECURITY CONTRACT COMES UNDER FIRE

***Group 4 Securicor's U.S. Subsidiary Wackenhut Holds Controversial Contract with U.S. Department of Defense to Guard U.S. Army Installations***

The Associated Press published a story on Sept. 6 reporting on the allegations surrounding Wackenhut's security performance at 18 U.S. Army bases. As a subcontractor, Wackenhut's share of the contract is worth up to an estimated \$221 (USD) million over its 5-year lifetime.

The article coincided with the public release of a report by Service Employees International Union, "Homeland Insecurity: How Wackenhut and an Alaskan Native Corporation May Be Compromising Homeland Security at U.S. Army Bases."

**Frightening security lapses** including inadequate screening of employees, poor weapons management, inadequate training and inadequate supplies are detailed in the report based on interviews with 15 guards employed by Alutiiq-Wackenhut.

**Calls for immediate hearings** by the House and Senate Armed Services Committees on security performance at U.S. Army installations and for the Department of Defense to award security contracts on the basis of competition, are among report recommendations. Legislation has already passed the House that requires this

contract to be put to bid in 2006—a full two years ahead of schedule.

"The union criticism coincides with increased scrutiny of Alaska Native corporations, such as Alutiiq, by unions, Congress and public watchdogs on government waste..."

"The Government Accountability Office and the House Committee on Government Reform are conducting separate investigations into the contracts to see whether American taxpayers are benefiting" according to the *Anchorage Daily Press* coverage of the report.

The report has been widely distributed to the media and to members of U.S. Congress and government investigators looking into the controversial contracting process.

*The Guardian Unlimited, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and New York Newsday* were among more than 50 international news publications and websites publishing the Associated Press story.

The report is available at [www.EyeOnWackenhut.org](http://www.EyeOnWackenhut.org) or [www.ANCWatch.org](http://www.ANCWatch.org).