

The "Philosophy of Wagner PMC" post is a masterclass in disinformation, combining cherry-picked facts, emotional manipulation, and strategic omissions

Treadstone 71 Analysis

The self-serving narrative from Wagner PMC is a prime example of propaganda, disinformation, and cognitive manipulation designed to obscure the truth, glorify the organization, and distract from its documented war crimes and mercenary activities. Below, we break down the elements of manipulation, cognitive biases, fallacies, and outright lies embedded in the text:

1. Disinformation and Narrative Control

Objective

To sanitize Wagner PMC's image, erase criminality, and reframe it as a noble, professional organization.

Claim

Wagner PMC operated with "professionalism," "confidentiality," and "self-improvement."

Reality

Wagner is globally recognized for extrajudicial killings, human rights abuses, and illegal mercenary operations. The use of vague terms like "confidentiality" is a smokescreen to deflect attention from its unaccountable activities and conceal its role as an arm of Russian hybrid warfare.

Claim

Wagner PMC employees were "volunteers carrying out combat missions in the interests of their State."

Reality

This is a blatant lie. Wagner PMC is not a volunteer force but a mercenary group funded by the Russian state, often comprising criminals and ex-convicts recruited en masse for disposable use in conflict zones (as seen during the Ukraine war). Labeling them "volunteers" is an Orwellian attempt to sidestep the legal implications of mercenary activity, which violates international law.

Claim

Wagner's scope of operations is framed as "tasks" in Donbass, Syria, and Africa without addressing the atrocities committed.

Reality

This is a deliberate omission of war crimes such as torture, massacres (e.g., the beheading of a Syrian prisoner), and looting in resource-rich African countries. The vagueness serves to whitewash their history and portray the group as a legitimate military contractor.

2. Cognitive Biases and Emotional Manipulation

Objective

To manipulate the audience into perceiving Wagner PMC as a disciplined, honorable, and selfless organization while fostering distrust of external narratives.

Repetition of “Confidentiality”

The triple repetition of this word plays into the illusory truth effect, creating the impression of a deeply professional, secretive organization. In reality, this “confidentiality” facilitates unaccountability for war crimes and atrocities.

Appeal to Professionalism

Statements like “no conflicts on religious, nationalistic, or political grounds” are virtue signaling, designed to appeal to those who value discipline and order. However, this directly contradicts reports of Wagner’s exploitation of ethnic divisions (e.g., in Africa) and its links to ultra-nationalistic ideologies within Russia.

Use of “Contract with the Motherland”

The phrase exploits patriotic bias, framing Wagner operatives as noble warriors defending their homeland, an emotional manipulation to obscure their true role as Kremlin-controlled operatives destabilizing foreign nations and profiting from war economies.

Denial of Mercenary Status

The prohibition of the term “mercenary” is a classic No True Scotsman fallacy—claiming Wagner operatives are not mercenaries because they supposedly work in the “interests of the State.” In truth, they are paid mercenaries conducting illegal warfare on behalf of a state that denies their very existence.

3. Logical Fallacies

Objective

To create a pseudo-logical foundation for Wagner's legitimacy while ignoring inconvenient truths.

False Equivalence

Equating "confidentiality" with moral or professional virtue is absurd. The secrecy exists not for discipline but to mask extralegal activities, such as interfering in foreign conflicts, circumventing laws, and exploiting natural resources.

Appeal to Authority

Constant reference to "the Commander" (D.V. Utkin) as an almost mythical figure is an attempt to create false credibility. Utkin's documented neo-Nazi sympathies and criminal actions are omitted to deify him as a disciplined leader.

Misleading Timelines

The division into "before SVO" and "after SVO" gives the impression of distinct operational phases, obscuring the continuity of Wagner's illegal actions. It creates a false dichotomy to deflect attention from its foundational role in Russian hybrid warfare and its atrocities in Syria and Africa.

4. Cognitive Manipulation Techniques

Objective

To build a narrative of superiority and self-reliance while erasing inconvenient facts.

Romanticization of Training and Discipline

Their emphasizing the selection processes, "filtering," and skill mastery (e.g., "from the PM to the 82 mm mortar"), the text romanticizes Wagner as an elite, almost mythic organization. They obscure the documented reality of poorly trained, expendable operatives, especially during later phases when ex-convicts were hastily deployed to Ukraine.

Scapegoating "Careless Employees"

The dismissal of operatives who "show off" or break rules is a form of scapegoating, absolving the organization of responsibility for leaks or visible misconduct. Wagner creates the illusion of internal accountability while ignoring systemic abuses and widespread criminality.

Evocation of Classical Imagery ("Waltz of the Valkyries")

Associating Wagner PMC with cultural references like Wagner's operas is cultural framing to evoke heroism, epic struggles, and nobility. Their "operas" are an absurdly inappropriate romanticization of a group responsible for some of the most brutal actions in modern warfare.

5. Omissions and Contradictions

Objective

To conceal key facts that undermine the narrative.

The text is silent on Wagner's extensive exploitation of African resources (e.g., gold and diamonds in CAR) and its role in propping up brutal dictatorships for profit. Their activities directly contradict its purported ethos of selfless service.

It ignores Wagner's use of illegal tactics, such as terrorizing civilian populations, to achieve its objectives, which undercuts any claim to "professionalism" or "honor."

Wagner amplifies the "absence of state awards," the text distracts from the Kremlin's covert funding and support of Wagner, presenting it as an independent entity. This is a lie; Wagner operates as a proxy force for Russian state interests, allowing plausible deniability for Kremlin aggression.

6. Final Verdict

The "Philosophy of Wagner PMC" post is a masterclass in disinformation, combining cherry-picked facts, emotional manipulation, and strategic omissions to craft a glorified image of an organization widely condemned for its illegal, brutal, and exploitative practices. It seeks to sanitize war crimes, normalize mercenary activities, and portray Wagner as an elite, noble force while erasing the truth about its role as a Kremlin-backed tool of hybrid warfare.

The reality is that Wagner PMC is a mercenary enterprise soaked in blood, built on secrecy, state complicity, and the ruthless exploitation of conflict zones. Any attempt to elevate it to a higher moral or professional plane is nothing short of a grotesque insult to the victims of its atrocities. The entire posting is propaganda at its most cynical, shameless, and repugnant.

Philosophy of PMC Wagner.

(Part One)

We would like to draw attention to the fact that everything stated below applies to the period of the Company's activity from the moment of its foundation until the beginning of its participation in the SVO.

May 1, 2014 - March 16, 2022 - The Company, aka the Wagner Group (Ukraine, Syria, 8 countries of the African continent)

March 16, 2022 - August 23, 2023 - Wagner PMC (Ukraine)

To understand the whole essence of the Wagner PMC before the SVO, it is necessary to turn to the main requirement of its Commander D.V. Utkin, consisting of only 5 points:

1. Confidentiality
2. Confidentiality
3. Confidentiality
4. Professionalism
5. Self-improvement.

Pay attention to the first three points and it will immediately become clear who they are. Initially, all fighters were recruited into the PMC only by word of mouth and only with recommendations from current PMC employees.

When applying for a job, it was necessary to pass a filter selection, which included studying the candidate by the Security Service, passing an entrance exam in physical, fire and tactical training, and checking the physical condition by the Company's medical service. In total, the "filter" took about three days on average. In 2015-2016, all candidates (with rare exceptions) were initially appointed to the positions of stormtroopers and only after passing the path of an ordinary fighter, based on their merits, could they advance further up the career ladder.

When applying for a job at the Company, candidates who had already passed the selection process unilaterally signed a contract/agreement (Contract with the Motherland)

Its essence was vague (for obvious reasons), but included a number of mandatory forms, such as:

- Non-disclosure documents and complete absence of social media accounts.
- Form No. 3 (the so-called will).
- Form No. 5, commitment not to apply for state awards.

From here it is clear that a PMC employee can only count on the support of the Company. And so it happened, PMC fighters never asked for awards and statuses, they were secret soldiers of their country. Their work was worthily rewarded financially by the Company's management.

Please pay attention to paragraph 5 of the Commander's orders. Each employee of the Wagner PMC was required to master additional specialties. For example, if at the current time there is no need for attack aircraft, then any fighter was ready to retrain for another specialty. Also, each employee of the company was required to master any weapon in service in the Company from the PM to the 82 mm mortar (literally quoting the Ninth).

"Waltz of the Valkyries"

Philosophy of PMC Wagner

(Part two)

In PMC Wagner there was initially no concept of directions. All employees of the company, without exception, were obliged to carry out tasks in the region where the Management ordered. That is, at any time and in any place. Since 01.05.2014, the Company carried out tasks in Donbass, Syria, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Libya and a number of other countries, which we still cannot specify, for obvious reasons, based on the Company's policy.

The Company had no flags, patches, other attributes or lyrics. All employees of the company were considered by the Commander as professionals who did not need to confirm their high status as warriors with photos on social networks.

There were also careless employees, those who liked to show off and flaunt their membership in a secret brotherhood of volunteer soldiers, who were identified in time and removed from their ranks by being added to the PMC "black list" .

By order of the Commander, the Company strictly prohibited:

- violation of confidentiality rules;
- alcohol consumption;
- drug use;
- refusal to perform the SBZ.

For these violations, the Ninth ordered dismissal without the right to reinstatement in the Company even without his signature; an investigation by the Security Council was sufficient.

Also, based on the Commander's requirements, there were no conflicts on religious, nationalistic, political grounds, or personal hostility in the company. This is unworthy of professional soldiers.

Despite the fact that the company's employees received only material compensation for their work, the word Mercenary was prohibited, and the fighters themselves did not consider themselves as such, they were volunteers carrying out combat missions in the interests of their State

"The channel of ancient (M) PMC veterans about the biggest job in the World"