

- 9 mm boxer primed, non-corrosive 1,000 rds, \$0.16 each
- 9 mm berdan primed, corrosive 1,000 rds, \$0.15 each
- 9 mm US Military cost bulk buy several million rds, \$0.11 each
- 5.56 mm new 50gr Ballistic Tip, 1,000 rds, \$0.37 each
- 5.56 mm reload 50gr Ballistic Tip, 1,000 rds, \$0.27 each
- 5.56 mm re-manufactured, 1,000 rds, \$0.16
- 7.62 x 39 mm, Russian Manufactured, 1,320 rds, \$0.21 each
- 7.62 x 39 mm Winchester, 20 rds, \$0.31
- 7.62 x 51 mm Winchester, 20 rds, \$0.30
- .308 in. Similar to 7.62 x 51 mm, 1,000 rds, \$0.22 each
- 7.62 x 51 mm Pakistan Ordnance Factory 100 rds, \$0.25<sup>46</sup>
- .50 cal ball, Greek, 1000 rds, \$1.25 each

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Small Arm Ammunition Tolerance

Some small arms are much more tolerant than others when it comes to firing ammunition. According to one authoritative source, the AK-47 has a long stroke piston and a relatively high weight of recoiling mass which makes it less susceptible to minor differences in propellant loads than short stroke pistons, delayed blowback or recoil operation small arms.<sup>47</sup> Ammunition difficulties may result from either minuscule propellant load differences or variations in brass hardness. According to the same source, a recent purchase of a number of 9 mm firearms of a particular model by a police force necessitated a special ammunition production run due to the sensitivities of the firearms to minute differences in standard commercial load ammunition. No military force would want an ammunition sensitive weapon for obvious reasons.<sup>48</sup>

### Smuggling -- Small Arms Versus Ammunition

It has been suggested that ammunition is an attractive target for controls because it is more difficult to smuggle -- largely because of weight and bulk problems. An AK-47 weighs approximately 4.8 kgs. An equivalent weight in 7.62 mm ammunition is approximately 200 rounds. The same ratio applies to the M-16 which at around 2.9 kgs has an equivalent weight in 5.56 mm ammunition of about 200 rounds. If one takes the cost of each item it would easily suggest that, on a pricing evaluation alone, it is far more lucrative to smuggle small arms than ammunition. The same rationale does not, however, apply to bulk. Ammunition cartons can be broken down -- if only 100 rounds of 200 rounds gets through, they are still effective. If a firearm is broken down for shipment most of its individual parts will be larger and bulkier than several

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<sup>46</sup> Ayesha Siddiqa-Agha. 10. It is assumed he is referring to the 7.62 mm rd as the reference is not clear.

<sup>47</sup> Private correspondence with author.

<sup>48</sup> The Canadian built Ross Rifle of WWI infamy had problems with cartridge variation frequently causing jamming and putting soldiers at high risk on the battlefield. The Ross Rifle was replaced by the Lee-Enfield.