

marketeers.²⁵ Klare's examples of the IRA and drug cartels certainly indicate that only well-financed organizations can indulge in the black market. It appears, however, that both authors may be making suppositions because so little is known about the black market. It is an area that merits more study.²⁶ Theft, another form of illicit transfer, in the context of Klare's analysis, stems mostly from state sources such as police and military armouries. Exchanges between insurgent and criminal organizations is the final diffusion source. Here examples would be the Colombian drug cartels and insurgent groups, as well as insurgent groups and drug and precious stone cartels in South-East Asia.

Demand

Intrastate conflict brought on by the political, economic and social conditions within a country often feeds the hostilities of ethnic, religious, language and extreme ideology, particularly where democratic institutions are lacking or are unable to address the issues. Political conflict in turn can initiate violence which can create a demand for a variety of light weapons, or where they are already available in large numbers, increase the level and intensity of hostilities exacerbating the situation even more. Often in conjunction with political violence, and occasionally even in its absence, criminal activity can threaten the domestic security of a state. Both political and criminal violence may in turn effect the security and safety of a states citizens and those of neighbouring states.

Violent political situations and uncontrolled criminal activities can fuel an even greater demand by the security forces of a state for more or better light weapons to combat the problem. In turn, where security forces are unable or unwilling to provide protection to the citizens of the state then 'law abiding citizens' will also demand light weapons, essentially personal weapons in order to provide their own protection. Violence escalates, fed by the failure to redress grievances, real or perceived. Even if a solution is reached through negotiation, containment or violence/counter violence, the instruments of violence remain to arm another conflict.

Almost all the literature on light weapons proliferation acknowledges that the underlying issue of violence is demand not supply. According to Naylor, in the context of the black market on light weapons:

"...the single most important thing stoking the market from the demand side is the prevailing maldistribution of income, wealth and ecological capital....and growing disparities in all three categories. Until these are fairly and frankly

²⁵Aaron Karp, "Arming Ethnic Conflict." *Arms Control Today*. September 1993, .8-13.

²⁶R.T. Naylor "The Structure and Operation of the Modern Arms Black Market." In *Lethal Commerce: The Global trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons*. (Serial No. 502), 1995, 47-57