

2. What security do you have or are you aware of on ammunition that is shipped internationally?
3. In your opinion, how difficult would it be for a revolutionary or guerrilla group to set up their own ammunition factory and how effective would it be?
4. Is it practical and would state ammunition users (military, etc) accept it, if a shelf life was built into ammunition cartridges? i.e. some form of timed disintegration of powder or primer.
5. Is it practical to put identifiers on cartridge casings - base, that would identify major recipients?
6. What in your view is the critical control element in the cartridge manufacture - powder, primer, casing, bullet, crimping etc. How many manufacturers of primers and powder components are there and how easy is it to obtain? Is it possible for an illegal organization to try and produce their own primers and powder, and if so how good would it be?
7. Other than Jane's and DMS Foreign Market Sales, is there a list of commercial and state ammunition producers that is global in nature and includes all producers in places like Asia, Latin America and Africa?
8. I would also appreciate any additional comments that you might believe useful on this subject either in terms of additional information or on your views (negative or positive) concerning the issue of ammunition control in the context of conflict and post-conflict problems with light weapons in developing countries.

Summary of Responses

1. All companies stated that they followed government procedures for sales and shipping. One company stated they must be registered with the State Department and individual licences are required for each individual sale. It should be noted that domestic sales and delivery in the USA by mail, for most companies, requires as a minimum a signature and statement saying the buyer is 18 or older usually supported by a valid ID such as a drivers licence.. UPS appears to be the mail delivery company of choice. When UPS was contacted they said all deliveries were done by certified hazardous material shippers and that they do not ship hazardous materials internationally. In Canada, at least in the province of Ontario, it was noted that an ammunition buyer must provide name, birth date, photo ID which is recorded along with the date and time of the purchase - a signature is required.
2. Some opinions were ventured regarding the potential security problems with container shipping and the suggestion that secure all ammo ships would be far too expensive a proposition. Free trade, increased container traffic and fewer not more customs officials mean only a small percentage of containers are inspected and then only the front portion. Ammunition being a low value product (\$2,000 for 10,000 rounds), the risk of discovery is not catastrophic. Another