

## PART B

### SCHOLARLY STUDIES

#### PART B.1 ITEMS AVAILABLE IN 1993

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

Despite recent attention to the arms trade, very little attention has been paid to the phenomenon of weapons transfers to sub-state groups. These transfers, involving mostly small arms and light weapons, have become the most destabilizing types of transfers in the post Cold War era.

Karp is critical of the model used by many analysts and policy makers which treats transfers to sub-state groups as "...a miniature version of the traditional state-to-state transfers of major weaponry, focusing on arming police and gendarmerie" (p. 8). By contrast, he argues that to understand this trade, researchers must first appreciate the severity of the threat. While there are no reliable statistics on the trade of light weapons, all general indicators suggest that the problem is increasing. Moreover, many of these weapons are not traded, but stolen, and are not subject to national counting procedures.

Karp also discounts the myth that the black market is a major source of arms for insurgent groups. This trade is too expensive for most sub-state groups, and this market is too risky for individual black marketeers. The major supplier of weapons to sub-state groups is a sponsor state (e.g., the Vietcong supported by the North Vietnamese).

He concludes that arms control will only be effective if diplomatic, political and economic instruments are combined to create regional conflict resolution. In the meantime, several approaches are available to work towards that goal:

- 1) control the black market;
- 2) create more export controls to deal with weapons used by sub-state groups (e.g., land mines);
- 3) focus on state sponsorship of insurgent groups to eliminate this common source of support.

**302.** Kartha, Tara. "Spread of Arms and Instability." *Strategic Analysis*. Vol. XVI, No. 18, November 1993, pp. 1033-1050.

Kartha explores the arms trade in Pakistan and its link with drug trafficking. The North West Frontier Province (NWFP) has only a loose respect for Pakistani law, and it is here that arms bazaars offer almost every kind of light weapon for sale. As arms became more available, they were used more often, prompting a renewed demand. The resulting spiral of violence has risen to the point where guns are now an accepted part of the culture.

The reaction of the state to curb this growing problem is analysed. Unfortunately, since state policing efforts have smaller budgets than do drug and weapons traffickers, control efforts have been largely symbolic. In 1992 the Pakistani army was called upon to restore order in the NWFP, with only modest results. Kartha points to the growing link between drug and weapons traffickers on the one hand, and political officials on the other. The whole area is poised to sink further into a gun-controlled culture: "The increasingly unstable situation in the country is tailor-made for fundamentalist/ revolutionary groups, which generally thrive on lawlessness and a criminalized polity" (p. 1047).

Kartha concludes that there is a definite link between the massive availability of arms and the destabilization of Pakistani society. This link has resulted in a worsening of existing ethnic and social tensions. She advises Pakistani officials to address the underlying forces which prompt Pakistani citizens to arms themselves, but concedes that such a process will be extremely difficult.