

Minister of Justice estimates the cost of universal registration alone at \$85 million -- other sources suggest it could well be much more. As well, the Canadian populace can by-and-large be expected to cooperate in the venture. Therefore, when recommendations are made that a particular state or group of states must tighten regulations on light weapons, it behooves the world community to consider providing expert assistance and financial support, particularly to less developed states.

Partially in response to the Firearms Smuggling Working Group recommendations, a Firearms Unit of the Criminal Intelligence Services of Canada (CISC) was established to concentrate exclusively on firearms smuggling, trafficking and other firearms offences occurring in Canada. The unit is composed of RCMP and Customs intelligence analysts. This unit's tasks are to:

- collect criminal intelligence on the illegal movement of firearms;
- analyze and correlate the gathered intelligence;
- identify organizations and individuals involved in the illegal movement of firearms;
- establish possible links between organizations and/or individuals involved in the illegal movement of firearms;
- identify methods and trends associated with illegal movements of firearms;
- disseminate intelligence to appropriate enforcement agencies;
- promote cooperative working relationships between enforcement agencies at all levels;
- keep records of intelligence gathered on the illegal activities of firearm dealers; and
- sponsor joint force meetings to share criminal intelligence.⁶²

There are 14 manufacturers in Canada that can produce restricted and non-restricted firearms and only five that are licenced to manufacture, import or export prohibited weapons or components. As of 1994, authorized dealers in Canada for firearms and ammunition numbered 8,616 in accordance with the number of permits issued. A total of 11 permits were refused or revoked -- some of these may have been ones issued on a temporary basis to cover gun shows or exhibitions.⁶³ While these statistics may seem irrelevant to the context of this study, they demonstrate two points. First, Canada appears to have excellent knowledge and control over firearms production. Second, it serves to illustrate the problem

⁶²Canadian response contained in United Nations. *UN Survey on Firearm Regulation: Guidelines and Questionnaire*. May 1996, 47

⁶³ Canada. Department of Justice. *Review of Firearms Registration*. TR1994-9e (Unedited) Research, Statistics and Evaluation Directorate, Nov 1994