PREFACE

There have been a number of studies on arms transfers in the recent years. The SIPRI Year Books and ACDA studies have been concerned with computing the value and number of arms transfers, rather than with its dynamics. SIPRI, Arms Trade with the Third World, 1971, is a comprehensive study of all the donors, their policies and the demands of the recipients. It categorizes the supply pattern as industrial, hegemonic and restrictive. In another study, Ilan Peleg has modified the model to describe the pattern as arms race, arms walk and arms crawl, depending upon the supply pattern - quantity supplied, degree of sophistication and the rhythm.¹

In the MIT project on the arms transfer, the emphasis has continued to be on the increases in the number and demands of the recipients, while the motives underlying the supplier's policies have been overlooked.

The focus of this thesis is on the motivations underlying the supply of weapons and its implications both for the donors and the recipients. The study is divided into two sections. The Introduction deals with the concept of arms trade and aid, and the dynamics of the arms transfer phenomenon.

In Part I, Chapter I covers the history of arms trade since the 14th century with a detailed discussion on arms trade in the inter-war period. The term "Third World", is used interchangeably with "developing countries". The focus has been with the Third World countries in the post-war period. Chapter II discusses the requirements, demands and arms acquisitions of these countries. Chapter III and IV deal with the US and the Soviet policy of arms transfer. Their foreign policies are linked to their politico-strategic considerations and arms aid forms an important means of achieving their national objectives. Chapter V is an overall study of the pattern of arms transfer, its economic implications, and some socio-economic consequences of the arms race.

Part II focuses on the case study of the Indian sub-continent. Although the sub-continent includes Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal and Ceylon, we are only concerned with the case-study of India and Pakistan. The basic focus has been on their arms acquisitions and the effect of defence spending on their economy. India and Pakistan have fought three wars in three decades, primarily on the question of border dispute. Here, we have discussed the security threats of India and its need to meet the threats both at external and internal levels. India is also an example of a Third
world country which is desirous of achieving self-reliance and independence in the field of arms production. Pakistan, by contrast, is an example of a developing country which is dependent upon outside powers for its defence.

Thus, the case study is used to illustrate the role of arms transfer to the developing countries and its impact on the recipients.

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