This book analyses the structure and motive forces that shape the global arms transfer and production system. The author distinguishes three tiers of arms producers, defined by such factors as defence production base, military research and development capabilities and dependence upon arms exports. These factors interact with underlying political, economic and military motivations to drive states to produce and export arms, and provide the force which directs the international trade in arms. The author discusses the United States and the Soviet Union, the European arms suppliers and the emerging arms producers of the developing world. Although it concentrates on the contemporary period, the book covers a wide historical span, from the development of military technologies in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries to twentieth-century revolutions in weaponry. By focusing on the processes of technological innovation and diffusion, the author shows the evolutionary nature of the spread of military technologies, and situates the current arms transfer system in a broad historical context.
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ARMS AND THE STATE: PATTERNS OF MILITARY PRODUCTION AND TRADE

KEITH KRAUSE
Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva
To my parents
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project began as a doctoral dissertation. The final product bears little resemblance to the original conception, however, and for that I have to thank many teachers, friends and colleagues along the way who influenced my thinking on the discipline of International Relations and the proper place of any study of arms transfers within it. I began, as do many initiates to International Relations, with a practical and political interest in the control of the arms trade, and I reflected all the worst biases of our discipline: a narrow focus on current events, great power relations and foreign policy outputs. My intellectual evolution towards a recognition of the need for a more historical and systemic understanding of the underlying forces of change and evolution at work in the modern international system was the consequence of working in an environment in which the importance of the historical dimension of any question was taken as a given. The results of this evolution are reflected in this book.

Initial stimulus was provided by the late Professor Hedley Bull, who exercised a subtle, yet profound, influence on my thinking about this topic and about International Relations. Professor Adam Roberts supervised the original doctoral dissertation, and together with Lawrence Freedman, Wilfred Knapp and the anonymous reviewers of Cambridge University Press, pointed the way forward to the final typescript. Along the way, many other colleagues commented on my ideas as they were presented in various forums.

I am grateful for the professional assistance and courtesies offered by Agnès Allebeck, Ian Anthony, Judith Frey, Dan Gallick and Herbert Wulf. The manuscript benefited tremendously from the diligent and dedicated work of my research assistant, Ken Boutin. Tom Quiggin also provided material for some of the tables, and Kirsten Semple word-processed several chapters and tables to perfection. Michael Bryans, Andrew Ross, Michael Slack and Wanda Taylor read and commented upon portions of the typescript. Finally, research support over the past three years was provided by the Faculty
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

of Arts and the Centre for International and Strategic Studies at York University, and by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Responsibility for errors of fact or judgement is, of course, ultimately mine alone.