BRAZIL

GENERAL

Area: 8,524,776 sq. km.
Population (1920 census): 30,635,600;
per sq. km.: 3.59.
Length of land frontiers: 12,000 km.
Coast-line: 9,200 km.
Length of railways (1923): 29,925 km.

I.

Army.

A. CONSTITUTION OF THE ARMY

The Brazilian Army is divided into two main organisations:

(a) *The first-line army*, consisting of the *active* or *regular* army,
the first-line reserve and auxiliary troops;
(b) *The second-line army*.

The objects of the *first-line army*, which is intended to train men
for service with the *field armies*, are, in co-operation with the navy,
the defence of the country and the maintenance of the laws and federal
republican form of government established by the Constitution.

*The active or regular army*, which is stationed in all parts of the country,
forms a school for the military training of young men recruited by drawing
lots among the annual contingents. The units of the active army
constitute centres for the spread of national culture and a means
of strengthening the bonds of national solidarity between the various
federated States, which enjoy wide constitutional autonomy.

*The first-line reserve*, to which all men under 30 years of age who
have undergone military training belong, supplies the effectives for the
mobilisation of the active army.

*The auxiliary troops* consist of contingents from the gendarmeries
of the various Federal States and of the Federal District.

The object of the *second-line army* is to supply reinforcements for
the first line, more particularly units for the lines of communication,
fortress garrisons and men for the subsidiary services of the combatant
forces.

Military training is compulsory for all citizens between 21 and
30 years of age, in the first-line army and reserve training centres (rifle
clubs, secondary and higher educational establishments, athletic asso-
ciations, etc.).
Service in the second-line army is compulsory between 30 and 44 years of age. In war time, men under 21 or over 44 may be called up for service with the second-line army.

**B. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS**

In accordance with Article 48 of the Constitution, the President of the Republic is Commander-in-Chief of the land and sea forces; in peace time he carries out this function through the Minister of War and in war time may appoint an individual to discharge the duties of the supreme command.

The various duties of the War Office are allocated to different offices directly subordinate to the Minister of War, with the Secretariat of State as their central organ. These consist of:

- The Central Department.
- The Department for Military Personnel.
- The Army General Staff.
- The Director of Engineer Services.
- The Director of Ordinance.
- The Medical Director.
- The Director of Army Finance.
- The Director of Army Intendance.
- The headquarters of the military districts and areas.
- The Judge-Advocate-General’s Department.
- The Promotion Commission.

The Secretariat of State consists of the Department of the Minister and the Department for Current Affairs.

**THE ARMY GENERAL STAFF.**

*The Army General Staff* is responsible for directing the General Staff services and working out arrangements for the preparation for war. It is responsible for directing army training.

The Chief of the General Staff is a divisional general with seniority over all other generals of the same rank. He is responsible for proposing to the Minister all measures not specified in the regulations which the war and improvements in military industries may show to be necessary for the defence of the country, suggesting all measures for the improvement of the General Staff service, studying the reports submitted by the inspectors of the various arms and officers commanding higher units, examining the training curricula of the schools, directing army manoeuvres, laying down general directions for the schemes of mobilisation, co-ordinating the work of the various sections.

The Chief of the Army General Staff is assisted by two deputy chiefs, each at the head of a department. The two deputy chiefs are brigadier-generals. The General Staff also includes an independent section and certain auxiliary services.
The First Department is divided into two sections: "intelligence" and "operations". The Intelligence section is sub-divided into two sub-sections: one for the North and South American armies and the other for the armies of Europe and Asia.

The Second Department is also divided into two sections: "mobilisation" and "transport and statistics".

The Independent Section is responsible for military, historical and geographical researches; it also publishes the General Staff Bulletin.

The following are also subordinate to the General Staff: the Army Geographical Service, the Commission for the General Survey of Brazil, the Military Photographic and Printing Section.

Administration of Military Law.

Military law is administered by the Military Courts in the twelve judicial circuits into which the country is divided and by the Supreme Military Court for the whole country.

C. MILITARY AREAS

Brazil is divided into seven districts and two military areas, each consisting of one or more of the Federal States.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Areas</th>
<th>Headquarters</th>
<th>States included in district or area</th>
<th>Corresponding higher units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>Federal District, States of</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro and Espírito Santo.</td>
<td>1st Infantry Division, coast defence artillery troops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>São Paulo</td>
<td>States of São Paulo and</td>
<td>Goyaz.</td>
<td>2nd Infantry Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Porto Alegre</td>
<td>State of Rio Grande do Sul.</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Infantry Division, 3 cavalry divisions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Juiz de Fora</td>
<td>State of Minas Geraes.</td>
<td></td>
<td>4th Infantry Division.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>São Salvador</td>
<td>States of Bahia, Sergipe</td>
<td>and Alagoas.</td>
<td>Troops of the 5th Infantry Division (not organised.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Recife</td>
<td>States of Pernambuco, Parahyba, Rio Grande do Norte and Ceara.</td>
<td>1 mixed brigade</td>
<td>Detachments from the 5th Infantry Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Belem</td>
<td>States of Piauí, Maranhão, Para, Amazonas and territory of Acre.</td>
<td>1 mixed brigade</td>
<td>Detachments from the 5th Infantry Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Campo Grande</td>
<td>State of Matto Grosso.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Curitiba</td>
<td>States of Paraná and Santa Catharina.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Federal troops of the first and second lines in each district or area are subordinate to the officer commanding the division or detachment stationed in the district or area. The latter is responsible for recruiting in his district area.
The Army is composed as follows:

(i) 5 Infantry Divisions, of which only 4 are organised.

The composition of an infantry division is as follows:

General Headquarters: The Divisional General Commanding, the Divisional Staff, the Chiefs of Services and their assistants, escort to G.O.C.

Troops: Infantry: 2 brigades of 2 regiments each, 1 of which may be a regiment of 3 light infantry battalions.

Artillery: 1 brigade of 2 mounted artillery regiments, 1 heavy artillery regiment and 1 mountain artillery group.

Cavalry: 1 regiment.

Engineers: 1 battalion.

Air Force: 1 observation flight.

The personnel and departments of the various services.

(ii) 3 Cavalry Divisions.

The composition of a Cavalry Division is as follows:

General Headquarters: The Brigadier-General Commanding, the Divisional Staff, the Chiefs of Services and their assistants, escort to G.O.C.

Troops: Cavalry: 2 brigades of 2 regiments each.

Artillery: 2 horse artillery groups.

Infantry: 1 mounted infantry battalion.

Air Force: 1 observation flight.

The personnel and departments of the various services.

(iii) 1 Mixed Brigade with the following composition:

General Headquarters: The Brigadier-General Commanding, the Brigade Staff, the Chiefs of Services and their assistants, escort to G.O.C.

Troops: 3 light infantry battalions.

2 independent cavalry regiments.

1 mixed artillery regiment.

1 engineer battalion.

1 mixed flight.

The personnel and departments of the various services.

(iv) 1 Coast Defence Artillery District (on the coast of the 1st Area), consisting of:

General Headquarters: The Brigadier-General Commanding, the Headquarters Staff and Chiefs of Services.

Troops: 2 groups of 3 batteries each.

8 independent batteries.

E. COMPOSITION OF THE VARIOUS ARMS

The following are the units in the different arms of the active army:

1 The troops of the 5th Infantry Division are divided among the 5th, 6th and 7th Districts and the 2nd Area.
Infantry: 13 regiments of 3 battalions each.  
29 light infantry battalions.  
3 mounted infantry battalions.  
2 army establishments guard companies.

In addition to the three battalions, each regiment also has a machine-gun company. Battalions are organised in four companies. At present only the regiments in the 1st Division have three battalions.

Cavalry: 15 independent cavalry regiments of 4 squadrons each.  
5 divisional cavalry regiments.

Artillery: (a) Field artillery:  
10 mounted artillery regiments consisting of 3 groups of 3 batteries each.  
5 heavy artillery regiments of 3 groups.  
5 heavy artillery regiments of 4 groups.  
1 mixed artillery regiment (1 mounted group, 1 horse group and 1 mountain group).  
5 mountain artillery groups of 2 batteries.  
6 horse artillery groups of 2 batteries.

(b) Coast defence artillery:  
2 groups of 3 batteries.  
3 groups of 2 batteries.  
8 independent batteries.

Engineers: 6 battalions: 5 of 3 companies each and 1 of 4 companies.  
1 railway battalion.  
1 railway company.  
1 aviation company (flying school).  
3 signals squadrons.

Special troops: the units of which consist of officers from all arms:  
12 air force flights.  
1 tank company.

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1 According to the Military Year-Book (Almanak Militar) of the Brazilian War Office for 1924, three light infantry battalions, the third battalions of ten infantry regiments and an Army establishments guard company are organised as skeleton units without effectives; three mounted infantry battalions and the general headquarters of two brigades have not yet been organised. The fourth companies of the various battalions are only organised in war-time upon general mobilisation.

2 According to the above-mentioned Brazilian Military Year-Book, four remount depots, one divisional headquarters and two brigade headquarters have still to be organised.

3 According to the 1924 Military Year-Book, the following have not yet been embodied: one mounted artillery regiment, three heavy artillery regiments of four groups, three horse artillery groups, three mountain artillery groups, the third groups of the mounted artillery regiments, the second and third groups of the heavy artillery regiments and the three brigade headquarters.

4 The three signals squadrons and the mounted field engineers company belonging to one of the battalions have not yet been organised. Two battalions are merely skeleton units.
F. EFFECTIVES OF THE REGULAR ARMY

Officers:

The following is the establishment of officers in the various arms, the army medical corps and the services:

- Divisional generals: 8
- Brigadier-generals: 26
- Colonels: 112
- Lieutenant-colonels: 166
- Majors: 323
- Captains: 1,141
- Lieutenants: 1,839
- Second lieutenants: 1,247

Total: 4,862

N.C.O.s and Men.

The peace effectives for other ranks are fixed annually according to the budgetary resources.

The 1924 budget effectives are: N.C.O.s and men, 40,393.

G. CADRES

(i) N.C.O.s.

The non-commissioned cadres consist of N.C.O.s and corporals or brigadiers. The following are the ranks of N.C.O.s: warrant officers (sergents adjudants) and first, second and third sergeants.

Appointment to non-commissioned rank is made as follows: Corporals or brigadiers are selected by competitive examination from men of the rank and file who are fit for service with the field army. Promotion to sergeant is by competitive examination among corporals or brigadiers in each unit. Candidates who qualify are appointed third sergeant. Third sergeants in the infantry may also be appointed from the Sergeants' School for that arm.

Promotion among N.C.O.s from the rank of third sergeant up to and including that of warrant officer is also by competitive examination among candidates holding the rank immediately junior.

(ii) Officers.

The establishment of officers is divided into three main categories: combatant officers, medical officers and officers in the various services.

The combatant officers in the various arms are commissioned from the Military Academy at Realengo (Federal District). On leaving the Academy, pupils are appointed officer-cadets and are posted to the various

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1 The senior divisional-general has the rank of marshal. The duties incumbent upon this rank are not carried out effectively except in war time.
units. Officer-cadets are promoted second-lieutenant in accordance with the place obtained by them in the Military Academy final examinations.

Medical officers include doctors, chemists, and veterinary surgeons. Doctors and chemists are commissioned by competitive examination among civilian doctors and chemists who have obtained the degree of a medical faculty. Veterinary officers are appointed from the Veterinary School.

The officers in the services are allocated to one of the following three corps: army intendance, administration and accountancy.

The army intendance officers are supplied from the Higher Intendance School. Entrance to the school is by competitive examination reserved for combatant army officers or officers in one of the services.

Administrative officers and accountants are drawn from two special schools. Entrance to these schools is by competitive examination, which may be taken by sergeants belonging to army units. The foregoing officers cannot be promoted above the rank of captain.

Officers on the Army General Staff are drawn from officers in the various arms who have taken the staff college course. After serving five years on the General Staff, these officers revert to their unit, with which they must serve for not less than a year.

H. ARMY ESTABLISHMENTS

The army establishments include training establishments and technical establishments.

I. TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The Realengo Military Academy, Rio de Janeiro, is intended for the training of officers of the various arms. The period of studies is three years. The first two years are employed in general military training and the last in specialised training for each arm. Candidates for entrance to the Academy must be in possession of the higher educational certificate, have performed six months’ service in an army unit and have passed a competitive examination in mathematics. Pupils from the military schools are admitted ipso facto to the Military Academy.

Training at the Staff School, Rio de Janeiro, is divided into two courses: (1) the staff course in the strict sense of the term, lasting three years; officers with the rank of lieutenant and captain who are candidates for the General Staff may enter by competitive examination: (2) a refresher course lasting one year for field officers and, in exceptional cases, captains.

The object of the Officers’ Advanced School is to complete the training of lieutenants and captains by means of the lessons learned in the Great War. A special course is given for each arm. The courses last one year.
The Military Flying School, Rio de Janeiro, gives the necessary training to air pilots, observers, mechanics and expert artificers. It has a flying unit company attached to it.

The Higher Schools of Intendance and Administration, which work in collaboration at Rio de Janeiro, have for their object the training of army intendance, administrative and accountancy officers.

The Army Veterinary School, Rio de Janeiro, gives courses lasting three years, consisting of the requisite theoretical and technical training for army veterinary personnel. The School also gives a course for farriers.

The Infantry Sergeants' School is attended by corporals, men and civilians who have passed a competitive examination. The course lasts six months.

The Army Medical Corps Practical School, Rio de Janeiro, enables officers of the Medical Corps to complete their professional military training.

The Military Schools, of which there are four, at Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, Barbacena and Fortaleza da Ceara, are intended to give secondary education to boys who propose to enter the military or naval academies. The courses given in these schools last six years. Education is given free to orphans who are the sons of soldiers.

The object of the Army Musketry Commission, which is under the direction of a senior infantry officer, is to direct, organise on uniform lines and superintend the military training given in the rifle clubs, secondary and higher educational establishments and other institutions for training reservists. The commission acts as intermediary between the above-mentioned institutions and the army.

2. TECHNICAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The following are the principal technical establishments:
The War Arsenals, Rio de Janeiro and Porto Alegre;
The Cartridge and Military Pyrotechnical Factory, Rio de Janeiro;
The Black Powder Factory, Estrella (State of Rio de Janeiro);
The Chemical Powders and Explosives Factory, Piquete (State of São Paulo).

I. RECRUITING SYSTEM

I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

Every Brazilian is liable to military service for the defence of the country and its constitution in conformity with the Federal laws. The requisite effectives are recruited by voluntary enlistment, without bonus and, if this does not supply the required number, by compulsory service based on the drawing of lots.

Although compulsory service was introduced under the Federal Constitution of 1891, no regulations in this respect were issued prior
to the law of January 4th, 1908. The latter law again was not put into effect until 1916, when lots were drawn for the contingent for the following year. The law of January 4th, 1908, then underwent certain amendments, which do not, however, affect its substance; the regulations established under it were supplemented in 1920.

Every citizen must apply for inscription in the rolls in the first ten months, or, in the case of men living in the first district, in the first four months of the year in which he completes twenty years of age. He may also apply for inscription upon reaching seventeen years. The annual contingent for incorporation consists of all young men over twenty years of age inscribed in the rolls who are selected by lot. Should the number of the latter be insufficient, lots are drawn again amongst the contingent which was not called up from the preceding year.

Compulsory service in the active army lasts one year in all arms. Volunteers may enlist for one or two years. As has been said above, all citizens between 21 and 30 years of age are liable to be called up for service in the first-line army, and all those between 30 and 44 years of age in the second-line army.

Service in the gendarmeries of the Federal District and States of the Union is reckoned as army service.

2. Men debarred from Service.

The following are debarred from service in the army: (a) before incorporation: men sentenced to forfeiture of civil rights; men sentenced for crimes against the independence or territorial integrity of the country; men sentenced to a degrading penalty; (b) after incorporation: men coming under one of the foregoing headings; men sentenced to more than two years’ imprisonment; deserters who have completed their sentence.

3. Exemptions.

The following are exempted from military service in peace and war: men passed physically unfit; men appealing on religious grounds, subject, however, to approval by the Minister of War. In the latter case, a man granted exemption loses all rights and privileges as a Brazilian citizen.

The following are exempted from service in the active army in peace-time:

(a) Only sons of widows, unmarried mothers, wives divorced from or deserted by their husbands who are the sole support of their families;
(b) Sons of disabled fathers supported by them;
(c) Husbands of disabled women;
(d) Eldest brothers of families without father or mother who support a minor brother, sister or disabled grandfather or grandmother unable to support themselves.
## Navy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Ship</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total Tonnage</th>
<th>Depreciated Tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battleships and battle cruisers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38,500</td>
<td>12,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast defence ships and monitors</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12,510</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft carriers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruisers and light cruisers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9,800</td>
<td>3,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroyers and torpedo-boats</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>8,400</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarines</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous craft</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,960</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>62,570</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,570</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personnel:  
- Officers: 1,152  
- Other ranks: 11,923

1 Depreciated tonnage (on January 1st, 1924) is calculated as follows:

1. For battleships, battle cruisers, coast-defence ships, monitors, aircraft-carriers and miscellaneous craft, a reduction in original tonnage at the rate of 1/20 per annum from date of completion.
2. For cruisers and light cruisers, a reduction of 1/17 per annum from date of completion.
3. For torpedo craft and submarines, a reduction of 1/12 per annum from date of completion.

2 Under the heading Miscellaneous craft, only sloops, gunboats, river gunboats and despatch vessels are shown.

### Sources.

Communications from the Government.

- Mensagem do Presidente da Republica de 3 de Maio de 1924. (Message from the President of the Republic of May 3rd, 1924.)
- Decreto No. 15.093 de 3 de novembro de 1921. (Decree No. 15,093 of November 3rd, 1921.)
- Decreto No. 14.450 de 30 de Outubro de 1920. (Decree No. 14,450 of October 30th, 1920.)
- Decreto No. 15.235 de 31 de Dezembro de 1921, sobre a organizagão do exercito. (Decree No. 15,235 of December 31st, 1921 (Organisation of the Army).)
- Almanak militar do Ministerio da Guerra para 1924. (Military Year-Book 1924.)
- Decretos No. 15.229; 15.230; 15.235, de 31 de Dezembro de 1921, sobre o efectivo dos officiais das diferentes armas. (Decrees Nos. 15,229, 15,230, 15,235 of December 31st, 1921 (Establishment of Officers in the Various Arms).)
- Constituição Federal (1891). (Federal Constitution (1891).)
- Report of the Navy Minister, May 1924.