ECUADOR

GENERAL

Area . . . . . . . . . . 307,243 sq. kilom.
Inhabitants (1923) . . . 2,000,000
Per sq. kilom. . . . . 6.5

I.

Army.

A. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS.

The supreme military authority is in the hands of the President of the Republic.

1. The Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation.

The Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation administers the land, sea and air forces of the country.

It consists of the following departments and sections:

Department of the Minister.
Department of the Under-Secretary of State for War.
Personnel section (for officers and rank and file).
Administration.
Accounts.
Remounts.
General army training.
Military justice.

2. General Staff.

By agreement with the Minister of War the General Staff is entrusted with the technical preparation of the army for war. It consists of:

General Staff Department.
Operations and Intelligence Section.
Training Section.
3. Inspectorate-General of the Army.

The Inspectorate-General of the Army is under the Ministry of War and exercises administrative, economic and technical control over the army.

B. MILITARY AREAS.

The Republic is divided into 7 military areas which are under the authority of the General Staff and the Ministry of War. Each area contains one army division.

C. COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.

In peace time the Regular Army is composed of:

15 infantry battalions.
3 battalions of sappers and engineers.
3 cavalry regiments and
3 artillery regiments.

Each infantry battalion has a machine-gun company attached to it.

The army of Ecuador has also an Air Force, with a certain number of flights.

D. RECRUITING SYSTEM.

Military service is compulsory; all citizens are liable to serve for three years.

The only exceptions which the law allows are in cases of physical unfitness or mental disease.

The Military Service Law, which was recently promulgated, is at present applied only in part.

Officers are recruited from among volunteers who have completed their studies at the military school.

E. MILITARY SCHOOL.

The most advanced centre of technical studies is the Higher War School. There is also a military school for officers, a school for non-commissioned officers and schools for the different arms (artillery, infantry, cavalry, etc.).
An aviation school has been established and has been placed under the administrative direction of senior officers of the Army, the technical direction being in the hands of Italian officers. This school possesses special aerodromes at Quito and Guayaquil.

F. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES.

The total number in the non-commissioned ranks is 5,000; the number of officers is about 500.

II.

Navy.

LIST OF UNITS

Gunboats:


2. *Cotopaxi* (1884) 300 tons. 135 x 21 x 9 feet. 2 small guns.

III.

Budget of National Defence.

The budget of the Army, Navy, Air Force and disablement relief fund slightly exceeds 6 million sucre, not including the special budgetary credits assigned for national defence.

Sources.

Organic Military Law of Ecuador.
General Budget for 1925.
Official Register.
Law annuals.