GENERAL

Area . . . . . . . . . . 47,549 sq. km.
Population (1-1-1928) . 1,115,094
Per sq. km. . . . . 23.5
Length of railway lines (1926) 1,175 km.

I.

Army.

A. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS.

The supreme command of the Army is vested in the Government, which exercises it through the Minister of War. In time of war the post of Commander-in-Chief will be created.

Ministry of War.

The Ministry of War includes:

(1) The Council of War. This is an advisory body whose members are the highest military commanders and members of the State Assembly. It considers all projects of laws and regulations concerning the Army and the most important questions with regard to organisation and supplies.

(2) The General Staff, which is divided into six departments (Operations, information, communications, cartography, mobilisation, training). The Chief of the Staff of the Army has under his orders the inspectors of artillery, engineers, cavalry and musketry.

(3) The administrative services for the regimental units.

(4) The supply services.

(5) The medical service.

(6) The supreme court martial.

(7) The Judge-Advocate.
B. HIGHER UNITS.

The Estonian Army in time of peace consists of:
3 infantry divisions, besides air defence and coast defence troops.

An infantry division consists of:
Staff,
Headquarters of divisional artillery,
Two infantry regiments,
Two groups of artillery.

The air defence and coast defence troops consist of:
Staff,
1 regiment of infantry,
1 division of armoured cars and tanks,
1 air regiment,
1 squadron of cavalry.

C. ARMS AND SERVICES.

(1) Infantry: 7 regiments, each consisting of 2 or 3 battalions; a battalion consists of two or three companies of riflemen and one heavy machine-gun company.

(2) Cavalry: 1 regiment and 1 independent squadron. A regiment of cavalry consists of:
1 technical section,
3 line squadrons,
1 machine-gun squadron,
1 training squadron.

(3) Artillery: Four groups of light field artillery and two groups of heavy field artillery; each group contains 3 or 4 batteries.

(4) Armoured units: One division of armoured cars and tanks, and 2 regiments of armoured trains.

(a) A division of armoured cars and tanks consists of:
1 company of light tanks,
1 heavy tanks company,
1 company of armoured cars,
1 company of motor vehicles,
1 training company,
1 technical stores company.

(b) A regiment of armoured trains consists of:
2 armoured trains.

(5) Engineers: One battalion of pioneers and 1 signals battalion.

(a) A pioneer battalion consists of:
2 companies of sappers,
1 company of railway engineers,
1 gas warfare company,
I searchlight company,
I training company.

(b) A signal battalion consists of:
3 transmission companies,
I carrier pigeon park,
I training company.

(6) Air Force: I regiment. An air regiment consists of:
I aviation group (land service), consisting of 2 flights,
I school for pilots, with a training flight,
I aviation park,
I transport section.

**SUMMARY TABLE OF UNITS AND COMMANDS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Regiments</th>
<th>Artillery groups and technical divisions</th>
<th>Battalions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infantry</td>
<td>Cavalry</td>
<td>Air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES OF THE ARMY

(1927).

Military and civil officials ............ 1,500
Under-officers ......................... 3,000
Other ranks .......................... 12,840
Total .................................. 17,340

E. RECRUITING

All citizens of the Estonian Republic are liable for military service. Military service is divided into four stages:

(a) Service in the active army;
(b) On furlough from the active army;
(c) Service in the reserve;
(d) Service in the territorial force.

Military service in the active army lasts for eighteen months, except in the navy and coast defence, in which it lasts 24 months.

In October 1927 the Government introduced a bill, prepared by the

---

1 With the introduction of the shorter period of active military service (12 months in the Army and 18 months in the Navy, coast defence and technical corps) the number of troops will be reduced by about one-third. This change will be carried out in 1928.
Ministry of War, in the State Assembly for the reduction of the period of compulsory military service. This bill fixes the period of active military service at 12 months for the Army and at 18 months for the Navy, the coast defence troops and technical corps. The new law is to come into force on October 1st, 1928.

Contingents are incorporated in the active army on two occasions in each year. The men called up for service are those who reached the age of 20 on January 1st of the current year.

The total period of service in the active army and the first reserve is five years.

Citizens who have completed their period on furlough from the active army are transferred to the reserve up to the age of 45.

The Ministry of War has power, with the assent of the Government, to summon reservists for not more than four periods of training, not exceeding six months in all (under-officers and specialists may be called up for six periods not exceeding nine months in all). Service in the territorial force lasts until the age of 55.

F. CADRES.

The officers of the Army receive their training in the United Military Schools, which include the following schools: Staff College, Military School (2 companies of infantry, 1 battery of artillery, 1 section of engineers and 1 naval section); Courses for Cadet Officers of the Reserve; School for under officers (1 battalion of infantry, 1 battery of artillery); Physical training course; Course for majors.

G. CIVIC GUARD.

The duties of the civic guard are: to help the legal authorities of Estonia in preserving order under the Constitution, also to defend the Constitutional Government, to give help in public calamities, to encourage a patriotic and national feeling, and to assist in the physical development of the people.

The civic guard is composed of citizens who are admitted according to the statutes of the guard; women form organisations with a special view to helping the guard.

The civic guard is subordinated in time of peace to the Minister of War, in time of war to the Commander-in-Chief. It consists of 29,000 men and 8,000 women.

The activities of the civic guard are actually directed by the Chief of the civic guard. The guard is composed of territorial units (regiments, representing either a town or a province); with regard to operative functions, it is organised in complete analogy to military units (companies, battalions, etc.).

H. THE FRONTIER GUARD.

The frontier guard has the following duties: (1) to defend the frontier either unassisted or with the assistance of troops; (2) to prevent illegal passing of the frontier; and (3) to prevent illegal traffic of goods across the frontier.

The frontier guard is under the direction of a special Chief. The total number of men is at present 1,500.
II.

Navy.

LIST OF UNITS (1927).

Destroyers:
1. *Lennuk* (1916) 1,800 tons. Dimensions: $351 \times 31\frac{1}{4} \times 13$ feet. *Guns*: 5 4-inch, 9 torpedo-tubes (18-inch).
2. *Wambola* (1917) 1,585 tons. Dimensions: $315 \times 30\frac{1}{2} \times 13$ feet. *Guns*: 4 4-inch, 9 torpedo-tubes (18-inch).

Torpedo-boat:

Miscellaneous:
7 units (gunboats, minelayers, etc.).

**Summary Table of Naval Units.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total tonnage</th>
<th>Depreciated tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Destroyers and torpedo-boats</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,628</td>
<td>454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous vessels</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,790</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5,418</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Depreciated tonnage (on January 1st, 1928) is calculated as follows:
(1) For battleships, battle cruisers, coast-defence ships, monitors, aircraft-carriers and miscellaneous vessels, 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.

III.

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

A. Notes on Budget Procedure.

(1) Until the end of 1925 the financial year coincided with the calendar year, but after an intervening period of three months (January to March 1926) it was changed and now covers the period from April 1st to March 31st.

(2) The budget consists of two parts: (a) ordinary revenue and expenditure; (b) extraordinary revenue and expenditure, the latter being subdivided into expenditure shown under various Ministries and expenditure of the operation fund for loans to municipalities, undertakings, etc. The extraordinary expenditure shown under various Ministries also comprises military expenditure.

(3) The budget is drawn up according to the principles of a gross budgetary system.
### B. Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

#### Summary of Defence Expenditure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1924 Closed Accounts</th>
<th>1925 Closed Accounts</th>
<th>1926-27 Closed Accounts</th>
<th>1927-28 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary expenditure</td>
<td>1,269.9</td>
<td>1,469.3</td>
<td>1,562.4</td>
<td>1,722.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary expenditure</td>
<td>166.9</td>
<td>369.-</td>
<td>335.-</td>
<td>159.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,436.8</td>
<td>1,838.3</td>
<td>1,897.4</td>
<td>1,882.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following table shows the main items of ordinary and extraordinary defence expenditure, according to the estimates for 1927-28 and the closed accounts for 1926-27.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1926-27</th>
<th>1927-28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ordinary expenditure:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>563.4</td>
<td>631.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barracks</td>
<td>138.6</td>
<td>143.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair of buildings</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War material</td>
<td>796.6</td>
<td>870.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>47.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ordinary expenditure</td>
<td>1,562.4</td>
<td>1,722.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Extraordinary expenditure:** |         |         |
| War material               | 189.9   | 94.8    |
| Construction of buildings  | 87.8    | 51.6    |
| Coast defence              | 15.2    | 8.4     |
| Chemical warfare material  | 14.1    | 4.2     |
| Miscellaneous expenses    | 28.-    | -.7     |
| Total extraordinary expenditure | 335.-   | 159.7   |

**Total Defence Expenditure**

| 1,897.4 | 1,882.4 |