ALBANIA

GENERAL

Area .................................................. 28,389 sq. km.
Population (1927) .................................... 833,618
Density per sq. km. ............................... 29.4
Length of railway system (under construction) 39 km.

I.

Army.

A. ORGANISATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY

The armed forces of Albania are composed of the army proper and the gendarmerie.

The army consists of:

- The national defence command;
- The land army (which also comprises the frontier guard, acting as revenue police);
- The air force (at present in course of organisation).

The national defence command is composed of a General Staff, a director-general’s department and a General Intendance Bureau.

The land army is composed as follows:

- The Royal Guard;
- 12 Infantry battalions (of which only 10 are permanently organised);
- 1 Section of armoured and armed motors;
- 22 Batteries of artillery (12 of 65 mm., 6 of 75 mm., 2 of 105 mm. and 2 of 149 mm. guns);
- 9 Engineer companies (consisting of 4 field engineer companies, 1 liaison company, 1 wireless company, 1 photo-electrical company, 1 air-line company and 1 bridging company).

The frontier guard is composed of 4 battalions.

The gendarmerie comprises 1 general command and 4 battalions.
Military Schools and Various Institutes and Establishments.

Royal School (for the recruiting of officers of the active army);
School for supernumerary cadet officers;
Schools for the advanced training of officers;
Training centre for the Frontier Guard;
4 hospitals;
4 special companies;
1 motor repair workshop;
1 court-martial.

B. RECRUITING SYSTEM

Every Albanian citizen, without exception, is obliged to serve with the colours.
Men become liable for military service on attaining the age of nineteen.

Military service includes:

(a) Active service with the colours for eighteen months;
(b) Service in the first-line reserve (on leave) till the age of forty-five;
(c) Service in the second-line reserve, terminating at the age of fifty.

C. MATERIAL IN SERVICE IN THE UNITS

Rifles or carbines .................................................. 10,696
Revolvers .......................................................... 1,104
Machine-guns ......................................................... 204
Guns less than 120 millimetres calibre ..................... 56
Guns of 120 mm. or over ........................................... 8
Tanks and armoured motor-cars ................................. 6

D. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES (1929-30)

Officers .............................................................. 650
Other ranks ........................................................ 10,800
Gendarmerie:
Officers .............................................................. 131
Gendarmes ........................................................... 3,000
Total ................................................................. 14,581
II.

Navy.

1 Flotilla of light units;
4 Port commands;
5 Naval bureaux.

The permanent organisation of the Navy is under consideration.