ESTONIA

GENERAL

Area .............. 47,559 sq. km.
Population (1-1-1929) ... 1,117,000
Density per sq. km. .... 23.5
Length of railway system (III. 1929) 1,241 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 National Defence. The latter acts as Commander-in-chief of the Army in time of peace. In time of war a Commander-in-chief is appointed.

Ministry of National Defence.

The Ministry of National Defence 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, administration and service questions, 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 supply services.

4) The medical service.

5) The supreme court martial.

6) The Judge-Advocate.

7) The legal adviser to the Ministry of National Defence.

B. MILITARY TERRITORIAL AREAS.

For purposes of command, Estonia is divided into three districts, each corresponding to one division of infantry. The divisions consist
of various units, according to the requirements of training, mobilisation and facilities for billeting. The headquarters of the Navy and Anti-Aircraft Defence constitute extraterritorial units, apart from the divisional districts.

C. ARMS AND SERVICES.

(1) **Infantry**: 2 regiments, each consisting of 3 infantry battalions; a battalion consists of three companies of riflemen and one heavy machine-gun company. 12 independent battalions, each consisting of 3 companies.

(2) **Cavalry**: 1 regiment. A regiment of cavalry consists of:
   - 1 technical section,
   - 4 line squadrons,
   - 1 machine-gun squadron.

(3) **Artillery**: 5 groups of field artillery; each group contains 3 or 4 batteries.

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

   (a) A regiment of armoured cars and tanks consists of:
      - 1 company of light tanks,
      - 1 heavy tanks section,
      - 2 companies of armoured cars,
      - 1 company of motor vehicles,
      - 1 training company,
      - 1 technical stores company.

   (b) A regiment of armoured trains consists of:
      - 2 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,
      - 1 searchlight company,
      - 1 training company.

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

(6) **Air Force**: 1 regiment. An air regiment consists of:

   - 1 aviation group, consisting of 2 flights,
   - 1 school for pilots, with a training flight,
   - 1 aviation park,
   - 1 transport section.
D. SUMMARY TABLE OF UNITS AND COMMANDS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Regiments</th>
<th>Artillery groups</th>
<th>Battalions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infantry</td>
<td>Field artillery</td>
<td>Infantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cavalry</td>
<td></td>
<td>Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Air</td>
<td></td>
<td>Signal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Armoured trains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 12 months, except in the navy and coast defence, in which it lasts 18 months. 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 National Defence 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 (N.C.O.s 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 (3 companies of infantry, 1 battery); school for N.C.O.s (2 companies of infantry, 1 battery); 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 National Defence, 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.

I. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES OF THE ARMY

(1929).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Military and civil officials</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.C.O.s</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ranks</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II.

Navy.

LIST OF UNITS

(1928 and 1929).

**Destroyers:**

1. **Lennuk (1916)**
   - 1,800 tons. Dimensions: $34\frac{1}{2} \times 31\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{2}{3}$ feet.
   - **Guns**: 5 4-inch, 9 torpedo-tubes (18-inch).

2. **Wambola (1917)**
   - 1,585 tons. Dimensions: $31\frac{3}{4} \times 30\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{2}{3}$ feet.
   - **Guns**: 4 4-inch, 9 torpedo-tubes (18-inch).

**Torpedo-boat:**

**Sulev (1917)**

- 243 tons. **Guns**: 2 3.4-inch, 2 torpedo-tubes (17.7-inch).

**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>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous vessels</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,790</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,418</strong></td>
<td><strong>180</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total of Naval personnel:
- Sea service: 614
- Shore service: 930

Depreciated tonnage (on January 1st, 1930), 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>1926-27</th>
<th>1927-28</th>
<th>1928-29</th>
<th>1929-30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed Accounts</td>
<td>Estimates</td>
<td>Closed Accounts</td>
<td>Estimates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary expenditure</td>
<td>1,562.4</td>
<td>1,722.4</td>
<td>17,444.2</td>
<td>16,989.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary</td>
<td>335.0</td>
<td>159.7</td>
<td>1,900.5</td>
<td>1,421.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,897.4</td>
<td>1,882.1</td>
<td>19,344.7</td>
<td>18,410.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Closed accounts not available.
2 In terms of the new unit, the Kroon (= 100 Emks) created in April 1927, legally introduced on January 1st, 1928.
The following table shows the main items of ordinary and extraordinary defence expenditure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ordinary expenditure:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>563.4</td>
<td>631.6</td>
<td>6,588.1</td>
<td>7,060.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barracks</td>
<td>138.6</td>
<td>143.1</td>
<td>978.7</td>
<td>899.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair of buildings</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>380.1</td>
<td>307.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War material</td>
<td>796.6</td>
<td>870.5</td>
<td>9,073.7</td>
<td>8,288.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>423.6</td>
<td>433.9</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total ordinary expenditure</strong></td>
<td>1,562.4</td>
<td>1,722.4</td>
<td>17,444.2</td>
<td>16,989.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extraordinary expenditure:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War material</td>
<td>189.9</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>1,006.2</td>
<td>715.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of buildings</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>742.8</td>
<td>618.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast defence</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>53.8</td>
<td>32.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical warfare material</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total extraordinary expenditure</strong></td>
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