GENERAL

Area . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1,969,154 sq. km.
Population (1928) . . . . . . 15,048,000
Density per sq. km. . . . . 7.6
Length of railway system (1926) 20,641 km

I.

Army.

A. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS

Under the constitution the President of the Republic is the supreme head of the Army and Navy.
The Minister of War is responsible for the organisation and administration of the Army and Navy.

I. MINISTRY OF WAR AND MARINE.

Organisation: The Central Offices, which include those of the Secretaries and Under-Secretaries with their staffs, and the Oficialia Mayor (Directorate of Army Services) which comprises the following subdivisions:

Technical Commission;
Communications Section;
Railway Section;
Wireless Service.

As well as services and offices not included in the following Departments:
Staff Department;
Infantry Department;
Cavalry Department, which controls the horse-breeding and remount services of the Army;
Artillery Department;
Naval Department;
Department of Justice;
Aviation Department, which controls the flying grounds at the most important points in the country;
Accountancy and Administration Department, responsible for the inspection of administration and for supervising the general expenditure of the Army according to requirements and budgetary resources;
Health Department, which controls the health administration service, the military hospitals and all services connected with the health of the Army.

Each Department is responsible to the Minister of War and exercises general control over the administration, operation and activities of the corps and services under it.

A law which has been approved and put into force, and the regulations which are being made under it, completely transform the military organisation of the country and provide for the formation of the following commands and administrative services which will work with the Ministry of War and under its direct orders.

I. the Staff of the Army;
II. the General Inspectorate of the Army;
III. the Directorate of War Material;
IV. the Higher Commands.

The Staff of the Army carries out studies of all problems relating to the military organisation of the country, and performs its duties as laid down in the relevant regulations.

The regimental staffs and the special staffs of the President, the Secretary and Under-Secretary of War are attached to the Staff of the Army. Their duties are laid down in their respective regulations.

The General Inspectorate of the Army carries out inspections of the troops in the manner and under the conditions laid down in the relevant regulations.

The Directorate of War Material acts as a central organ for purchases, manufacture and administration of material for the army; its duties are laid down in its regulations.

The Higher Commands include the headquarters of areas, corresponding to the territorial organisation, or of higher formations, as laid down in the respective regulations.

B. TERRITORIAL AND MILITARY AREAS

For purposes of instruction and training Mexico is divided into 36 areas (Jefaturas de Operaciones) which have been determined in accordance with the physical geography of the country and its political divisions.
C. COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY

The National Army consists of:

(a) the Active Army;
(b) the Reserves.

The National Army includes:

I. the Higher Command;
II. the arms;
III. the services;
IV. the military training establishments;
V. the special corps.

The personnel of the National Army consists of:

(i) generals,
(ii) senior officers,
(iii) officers,
(iv) under-officers,
(v) rank and file.

The personnel and equipment of the army are classified in three categories:

(i) active,
(ii) reserve,
(iii) retired or withdrawn from service.

The military personnel of the National Army is divided into the three following categories:

(1) combatant personnel;
(2) departmental troops;
(3) auxiliary troops.

The National Army possesses four lines of reserves.

The First Reserve includes:

I. Generals, senior officers, and officers who have retired from active service, without discredit, in accordance with the regulations;
II. Rank and file who have served for the period of active service contracted in their engagements.

The Second Reserve consists of men of 21 years of age, who are not in active service or in the First Reserve, and also of men transferred from the First Reserve. The normal period of service in the Second Reserve is 5 years.

The Third Reserve consists of men who have served their normal period in the Second Reserve. Service in the Third Reserve is for 5 years.

The Fourth Reserve consists of men who have served their normal period in the Third Reserve. Service in the Fourth Reserve is for 14 years.

The Second, Third and Fourth Reserves are staffed with officers of the Active Army as instructors for the cadres. In time of war the commissioned ranks are made up to establishment by generals, senior officers and other officers, as may be decided by the General Staff.

The President of the Republic may mobilise the reserves in the following circumstances:

First Reserve:

I. In case of war.
II. In case of internal disorders.
III. For manoeuvres.
IV. For embodiment with the active service effectives.

Second Reserve:
I. In case of war.
II. For minor manoeuvres.

D. HIGHER FORMATIONS

The District Commands (*Jefaturas de operaciones*) organise the higher formations in time of war.

E. ARMS AND SERVICES

(1) Infantry. — 60 battalions and 2 companies of garrison infantry. The unit of this arm is the battalion, which consists of three companies and one machine-gun company.

(2) Cavalry. — 90 regiments and 2 independent squadrons. The unit is the regiment, which consists of three squadrons and one machine-gun section.

(3) Artillery:
   
   (a) Field Artillery. — 3 regiments. The unit is the regiment, which consists of two groups of two batteries each, armed with 75 mm. guns.
   
   (b) Mountain Artillery. — 1 regiment, which consists of two groups of two batteries each, armed with 70 mm. guns.

(4) Engineers. — There is an engineer battalion with 3 companies and a corps of artillery engineers.

(5) Aviation. — The technical and administrative unit is the group, which consists of three flights with three machines each.

(6) Special Corps. — Two regiments of the Presidential Guard with 3 squadrons each, two independent battalions of the Presidential Guard with 3 companies each and one machine-gun battery, National Pensioners Corps, permanent companies of the federal territories and military bands.

(7) Services. — The supply of arms, munitions, clothing and equipment is provided for by the Department of Army Manufactures and Supplies, which is not under the Ministry of War and which is responsible for the manufacture of arms, cartridges, powder, articles of clothing and equipment, the national arsenal and the ammunition and explosives factory. The stores of arms and ammunition, clothing and equipment are under the War Ministry. The health,
administrative and legal services are provided for by the hospitals, infirmaries, supply depots and courts-martial established in Mexico.

The Department of Army Manufactures and Supplies consists of the following branches:

- Directorate
- Accountancy
- Central Technical Section
- Staff Section
- Store depots
- Supplies
- Archives
- Intendance
- Transport

Factories:
- National arms factory
- National cartridges factory
- National powder factory
- National laboratory of artillery ammunition and explosives
- National artillery factory
- National establishment of tannery and appended workshops
- National factory of clothing and equipment
- National medical and chemical laboratory

F. RECRUITING SYSTEM

The rank and file are recruited by voluntary enlistment. Volunteers, between the ages of 18 and 35, undertake to serve in the Active Army for three years.

Under-officers and corporals are promoted from the rank and file, under conditions laid down by the regulations.

The officers are recruited for the most part from the different military schools and have to undergo several periods of instruction at the schools of applied and advanced training.

G. CADRES

The cadres of officers and N. C. O.'s consist of men who have passed their examinations in the military schools, as laid down in the general scheme for military education.

The ranks of the personnel in the general cadres of the army are as follows:

**Generals**
- General commanding a division
- General commanding a brigade
- Brigadier-General

**Field-Officers**
- Colonel
- Lieut.-Colonel
- Major
Officers:
- Captain (first class).
- Captain (second class).
- Lieutenant.
- Second Lieutenant.

Under-Officers and Rank and File:
- Sergeant (first class).
- Sergeant (second class).
- Corporal.
- Private.

Promotion.

From the rank of corporal up to colonel promotions may only take place within the same arm, or the same service.

From the rank of brigadier-general up to general commanding a division this condition is not insisted on for officers of combatant arms.

Corporals who are recommended for promotion to first-class sergeants must enter the under-officers’ school and take the courses laid down; they are promoted after passing their examination.

Officers are promoted to the next higher rank after three years’ service in their appointment. Two conditions are indispensable to qualify for promotion: viz., they must have passed creditably through the courses of study laid down in the general scheme of military education, and must have served in their present rank for at least one year.

Field-officers may be promoted to the next higher rank after four years’ service in their appointment. The officers recommended must in all cases have served for at least 18 months in their present rank.

Brigadier-generals and generals commanding brigades are promoted to the next higher rank after five years’ service in their appointment.

The “Information Courses” provided in the general scheme for military education afford these officers an opportunity for scientific study.

Where officers are equally qualified for promotion, the selection is made by the Higher Command.

Age-limits.

Officers and other ranks are compulsorily retired when they are no longer fit to perform their duties, or when they have served for the periods laid down by the law and have attained the following ages:

I. 45 years in the case of privates, corporals and N.C.O.s.
II. 50 years in the case of officers.
III. 60 years in the case of field-officers (Jefes).
IV. 65 years in the case of brigadier-generals.
V. 68 years in the case of generals commanding brigades.
VI. 70 years in the case of generals commanding divisions.
## H. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES (1929)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secretariat of War and Marine</th>
<th>Generals</th>
<th>Colonels</th>
<th>Lieutenants</th>
<th>Majors</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Lieutenants and 2nd Lieutenants</th>
<th>Total Number of Officers</th>
<th>N.C.O.s</th>
<th>Other Ranks</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff 1.</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>1,385</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>2,119</td>
<td>3,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infantry 1,2</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>1,475</td>
<td>2,877</td>
<td>5,242</td>
<td>2,166</td>
<td>26,173</td>
<td>33,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavalry</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>2,108</td>
<td>4,251</td>
<td>7,887</td>
<td>2,679</td>
<td>27,189</td>
<td>37,755</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>1,520</td>
<td>2,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total                          | 573     | 498      | 812         | 1,529  | 4,289    | 8,020                         | 15,729                   | 5,952   | 58,066      | 81,547      |
| Miscellaneous 2                | -       | -        | -           | -      | -        | -                             | -                        | -       | -           | -           |

**Grand Total**

| Total                          | 573     | 498      | 812         | 1,529  | 4,289    | 8,020                         | 15,729                   | 5,952   | 58,066      | 81,547      |

1. The staff includes the National Pensioners Corps and the Presidential Guard.
2. Approximate figure.
3. Department of Justice, Medical Corps, Military College and Accountancy and Administration Department.
4. Excluding 225 medical attendants.

## II. Navy.

### LIST OF UNITS (1928 and 1929)

- **Coast-defence ship (1898)**: 1
- **Gunboats (1891 and 1903)**: 2
- **Transport**: 1
- **Patrol vessels**: 8

### SUMMARY OF NAVAL UNITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Depreciated tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coast-Defence Vessel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,162</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous 2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,520</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5,682</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. 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.

* Under the heading "Miscellaneous Vessels", only sloops, gunboats and river gunboats are shown.
III.

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

A. NOTES ON BUDGET PROCEDURE.

1. The budget year coincides with the calendar year.
2. The budget is gross.
3. Expenditure on national defence is shown under the Secretariat of War and the Navy and the Department of Factories and Military Supplies. The latter also contains some civil expenditure.
4. Expenditure is divided into expenditure on salaries and other expenditure, the latter being subdivided into ordinary and extraordinary expenditure, to which are added, in some cases, so-called incidental and additional expenses.

B. BUDGET EXPENDITURE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

I. Summary of Defence Expenditure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>1927</th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1929</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretariat of War and the Navy</td>
<td>78,900</td>
<td>75,050</td>
<td>83,116</td>
<td>84,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Factories and Military Supplies</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>14,936</td>
<td>13,092</td>
<td>13,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>94,900</td>
<td>89,986</td>
<td>96,208</td>
<td>97,748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. — The figures in the table above do not include appropriations for military and naval pensions, which are shown in the budget under the item Public Debt. They were estimated to amount to 4,000,000 pesos for 1927. Figures for 1928 and 1929 are not available.

II. Analysis of Defence Expenditure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>1927</th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1929</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure on salaries: Central offices, general staff and other departments</td>
<td>13,825</td>
<td>19,371</td>
<td>15,601</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infantry</td>
<td>25,864</td>
<td>2,357</td>
<td>26,921</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavalry</td>
<td>1,334</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>2,232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery</td>
<td>63,476</td>
<td>9,022</td>
<td>10,640</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>2,552</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>4,489</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenditure on salaries</td>
<td>78,900</td>
<td>75,050</td>
<td>83,116</td>
<td>84,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary and permanent expenditure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary expenditure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>78,900</td>
<td>75,050</td>
<td>83,116</td>
<td>84,308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not available.