LITHUANIA

GENERAL

Area ............ 56,000 sq. km.
Population (1.1.1931) ......... 2,367,000
Density per sq. km. ............. 42.3
Length of railway system (1929) .. 1,671 km.

I.

Army.

A. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS

The President of the Republic is the supreme head of the army. In time of war he appoints a Commander-in-Chief of the Army. The Minister of National Defence exercises command over the army in time of peace; he has under his orders the Chief of the General Staff.

1. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The Ministry of National Defence includes:

The Minister's Cabinet;
Department of Military Justice;
General Staff of the Army;
General Directorates of supplies (intendance, armaments, technical equipment, etc.).

2. GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMY.

The Chief of the General Staff is technical adviser to the Minister, and is responsible for the preparation of the military forces for war.
He has under his orders two Deputy-Chiefs of the General Staff and the Inspectorates of Arms and Services.

The General Staff includes:

1st Section: mobilisation, organisation and material;
2nd Section: intelligence;
3rd Section: military operations, military training;
4th Section: transport, supplies and evacuations.

Army Topographical Service;
Personnel Section;
Press and General Training Section (with its Annexes: Archives and Central Library).

The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sections are under the first Deputy-Chief of the General Staff; the Topographical Section of the army is also under his orders. The remaining Sections are under the second Deputy-Chief of the General Staff.

The following are directly under the Chief of the General Staff:

The commanders of military areas;
The general inspectorates of arms and services;
Military aviation;
The Central Military School and the Practical Training Schools.


The General Inspector of the Infantry and Artillery;

» » » » Cavalry;
» » » » Technical Troops (engineers, signals);
» » » » Medical Service;
» » » » Veterinary Service.


Two councils of national defence have been created: the Higher Council and the Lower Council; the first works intermittently under the President of the Republic, who is its Chairman; the second is an advisory organ of the Minister of Defence who presides over its meetings.

B. Territorial Military Areas

The country is divided into three territorial areas for the Active Army.

Each territorial military area is under a general officer who commands, with a few exceptions (technical troops, etc.), all the active army troops stationed within that area.
On the proclamation of “danger of war” the troops of the Auxiliary Force within the area in question also come under his orders.
System of mobilisation: mainly territorial.

C. COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY IN TIME OF PEACE

The Lithuanian army consists of:

(1) Higher formations:

3 infantry divisions, each of which includes:
   1 Headquarters;
   2-3 regiments of infantry, of 2 or 3 battalions, each containing
      3 rifle companies and 1 machine-gun company;
   1 regiment of field artillery, consisting of 3 groups;
   1 divisional squadron (lower establishment);
   1 infantry battery;
   1 horse transport corps (lower establishment).

(2) Army cavalry:

1 brigade of cavalry consisting of:
   Brigade commander (cavalry inspector);
   1 Headquarters;
   2 regular cavalry regiments, of 4 squadrons each, 1 machine-
      gun squadron, 1 technical squadron and 1 training squadron.

(3) Army artillery:

1 artillery regiment of 3 groups;
1 section of anti-aircraft artillery.

(4) Technical troops:

Commander of technical troops (inspector);
1 Headquarters of technical troops;
1 engineer battalion (including 1 bridging company);
1 signal battalion;
1 railway engineer company;
1 tank company;
1 motor machine-gun group;
1 armoured train.

(5) Military air-services:

1 Headquarters;
6 flights (reconnaissance, bomber, chaser);
1 training flight.

(6) Army transport corps:

1 Headquarters;
1 horse-transport column;
1 motor-transport column.
D. RECRUITING SYSTEM

The regular Lithuanian forces comprise the Regular Army and the Auxiliary Force (Lietuvos Šaulių Sajunga).

The Regular Army consists of:

(a) the Active Army (regulars, and one and a-half contingents of conscripts);
(b) the Reserve of the Active Army (men who have performed their period of active service);
(c) Territorial Reserve;
(d) Reserve of Recruits (men in excess of the annual contingent of conscripts).

The periods of compulsory service in the Regular Army are divided as follows:

1. thirteen years and a-half in the Active Army and its Reserve (including period when available without mobilisation);
2. ten years in the Territorial Reserve.

The charges imposed on citizens belonging to units of the regular auxiliary force are governed by special laws distinct from those applying to the Regular Army.

The Auxiliary Force consists of:

(a) First-line forces;
(b) The second levy of the services in rear of the army.

The periods of compulsory service performed by citizens of the Republic are seen in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>17-21 1/2 years</th>
<th>21 1/2-23 years</th>
<th>23-25 years</th>
<th>25-35 years</th>
<th>35-45 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Army</td>
<td>Young men have to undergo compulsory pre-military training (actually carried out in the secondary and special schools).</td>
<td>Active army</td>
<td>Available without mobilisation</td>
<td>Reserve of the active army</td>
<td>Territorial reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reserve of recruits consisting of conscripts in excess of the numbers which may be embodied annually.</td>
<td>21 1/2-35 years</td>
<td>Reserve of recruits. First category</td>
<td>35-45 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary Force</td>
<td>17-45 years</td>
<td>above 45 years</td>
<td>2nd levy for services in rear of the army</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The duration of active service, which, in 1929, was eighteen months in the infantry and two years in other arms, has now been fixed for all the arms alike at 18 months. All male Lithuanian citizens are liable to compulsory military service. Conscripts are embodied in the active army at the age of 21 1/2. Enrolment takes place twice a year: on May 1st and November 1st. The law makes provision in special cases for exemption, postponement of service, etc.

Periods of training are provided for the reserve of the active army, the territorial reserve, the reserve of recruits and for the so-called “first-line” Auxiliary Force. The reserve of the active army has to perform three periods of training, the first consisting of 6 weeks, and the second and third of 4 weeks. The territorial reserve has a single period of training of 4 weeks. The reserve of recruits has 3 periods, consisting respectively of 3 months, 6 weeks and 4 weeks.

The training of the Auxiliary Force comes under the direction of the Chief of the General Staff.

E. CADRES

The lower ranks of the cadres are recruited from active service and re-engaged men, possessing a fair general education, who have passed the final examination after a course in the regimental schools. Officers are recruited from the Central Military School (infantry, artillery and cavalry sections), where the course of study lasts two or three years.

Conscripts or voluntarily enlisted men who have passed the leaving examination of a secondary school preparing candidates for the University may be commissioned as second lieutenants after two years’ study. Officers complete their education in the various practical training schools, in which the length of courses varies according to the arm (infantry, cavalry: one year; artillery, engineers, aviation: three years).

There are, further, one or more refresher courses for superior officers, organised at irregular intervals, and also preparatory courses for promotion to a higher rank, etc.

Second lieutenants in the reserve are recruited from the Cadet School (a sub-division of the Central Military School). Conscripts possessing the necessary education perform a year's study (instead of 10 months' service) at the end of which they may be promoted to the rank of second-lieutenant in the reserve. This subdivision of the Military School only trains the second lieutenants of the infantry reserve; the reserve officers of other arms are trained with the troops of the respective arms.
F. AUXILIARY FORCE
(Lietuvos Šaulių Sajunga).

(1) General observations.

The Auxiliary Force is organised in combatant units known as "first line", and in units adapted for the services in rear of the army in war time. The first-line combatant units are organised in peace time in mixed detachments, including troops of all arms (excepting aviation and artillery).

The conscripts of each annual contingent, in excess of the number which may be embodied in the active army, are posted according to prescribed rules to the combatant units of the auxiliary force.

Combatant troops of the Auxiliary Force, after performing a first period of training, are furnished, free of charge, with their personal armament and equipment.

As a rule, the men retain their personal armament and equipment so long as they are liable to combatant service. They are bound to maintain them in good condition.

(2) Principles of organisation.

Except during the prescribed periods of training, the members of the Lietuvos Šaulių Sajunga are allowed to remain in their homes, subject, however to certain obligations.

The obligations of Lithuanian citizens both in regard to compulsory active service and to service in the Lietuvos Šaulių Sajunga are precisely defined in special regulations.

The Auxiliary Force is organised territorially, and by districts. On January 1st, 1930, the first line contained about 52,000 combatant troops.

(3) Duties.

(a) In peace time: national organisation with a view to the patriotic education of citizens in civic duty, honesty, and duty to their country: Physical training of the country's youth; Military preparation, concurrently with that of combatant personnel in the active army, with a view to the defence of the country.

(b) In time of war: identical with those of the regular army.

G. BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES
1931.

| Officers | 1,351 |
| N. C. O.s. | 3,438 |
| Rank and file (including corporals) | 13,050 |
| Horses | 2,634 |

Note. — These effectives have been reduced under the reorganised system of recruiting.
II.

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

A. NOTES ON BUDGET PROCEDURE.

1. The financial year coincides with the calendar year. The budget must be drawn up in time to be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies in October.

2. The budget is divided into ordinary and extraordinary receipts and expenditure. The budget of extraordinary expenditure includes expenditure on construction work, supplies of army material, etc.

3. The budget is a gross budget.

B. BUDGET EXPENDITURE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1929</th>
<th>1930</th>
<th>1931</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closed Accounts &amp; Estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence expenditure</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>49.4</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>56.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index numbers of:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail prices: Cost of living</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Average, January and February 1931.