A. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MILITARY SYSTEM OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The military system of the Union was completely changed in 1925. According to the report submitted to the Third Assembly of the Soviets of the Union on May 19th, 1925, by the People’s Commissary for Military and Naval Affairs, the reorganisation of the military system of the Union is necessitated by the impossibility of giving military training to the whole of the annual contingent of men of military age within the limits of the present permanent army.

The military system of the Union combines the principles of a permanent army and a territorial militia.

The regular army of 562,000 men, by a system of two years’ service with the colours, is capable of absorbing and training an annual maximum of 260,000 men; the annual contingent of recruits, however, is 1,200,000; excluding from this number 400,000 as being unfit for military service or exempted for family reasons, there remain 800,000 liable to military service. Of these the Regular Army absorbs 260,000, and the territorial formations 200,000. The remaining 340,000 are trained outside the ranks of the Army.

1 The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics includes the Federative Socialist Republic of Russian Soviets, the Socialist Republic of the Soviets of the Ukraine, the Socialist Republic of the Soviets of White Russia; the Federative Socialist Republic of the Soviets of Transcaucasia (Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia); the Turkoman Soviet Socialist Republic, the Usbeg Soviet Socialist Republic, and the Soviet Socialist Republic of Tadjikistan.
2 See Izvestia of May 22nd, 1925, and March 4th, 1926.
The main principle of this system of territorial militia is to ensure preparatory military training. 842,000 men are receiving this training in 4,500 training centres (1926). The territory of the Union is divided for the purpose into a number of areas (divisional, department or army corps areas); their head authority for purposes of registration and mobilisation is the district Commissariat.

The Red Army of workmen and peasants of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics includes:

1. the army;
2. the navy;
3. the air force.

The Red Army also contains units for special purposes, such as:

1. the troops of the Staff Political Department;
2. the Prison Guards.

All citizens\(^1\) may be required to defend the Union, but the military defence of the country falls exclusively upon the workers; those who do not belong to the working-class pay a special tax and are called upon in peace time to perform certain duties; in time of war they serve in special units.

The Red Army consists of:

1. permanent cadres;
2. militia forces known as territorial units.

The latter are built up on the militia system and are called territorial because each of them is assigned to an area in which its effectives are recruited.

Each territorial unit consists of:

1. cadres (permanent units);
2. mobile units.

The cadres of the territorial units are established in accordance with the militia system; in peace time they do not make up complete organic units, although their effectives are larger than those of ordinary militia units.

The cadres of the territorial units consist of the command, of the administrative staff required for current work, of the medical and veterinary staff and of the rank and file.

Men belonging to the cadres of the territorial units serve for an uninterrupted period with the regular army; their function is to train men belonging to the mobile units and men who receive preparatory military training or training outside the army. Mobile units receive annual training with the cadres; in the intervals they are given their military training in their home district without being taken away from their ordinary occupations.

Military training outside the army is given to citizens who belong neither to the regular army nor to the territorial army.

\(^1\) Women are allowed to serve as volunteers, but for special work (doctors, nurses, etc.) in war time they may be conscripted.
B. SUPREME MILITARY AUTHORITY AND ITS ORGANS

For the external defence of its territory, the Union possesses common military forces under a single command.

I. CONGRESS OF THE SOVIETS.

The Congress of the Soviets of the Union and, failing it, the Central Executive Committee of the Union, are the supreme authorities of the Union; they are competent to deal with the following military questions: the declaration of war, the conclusion of peace, the approval of the State budget, and the organisation and control of the military forces of the Union.

2. COUNCIL OF PEOPLE’S COMMISSARIES.

The Council of People’s Commissaries is designated by the Central Executive Committee, the decisions of which it executes.

3. COUNCIL FOR LABOUR AND NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The Council for Labour and National Defence was established in order to co-ordinate the activities of all public bodies in the sphere of national defence and in that of national economics.

It is the supreme authority for dealing with all economic questions connected with national defence.

The Council for Labour and National Defence, which is under the Council of People’s Commissaries, consists of 8 members appointed by the Council of People’s Commissaries.

It is presided over by the President of the Council of People’s Commissaries.

4. PEOPLE’S COMMISSARIAT FOR MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS.

The People’s Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs is responsible for the military administration of the country from the point of view of land, naval and air defence.

The head of the armed forces of the Union is the People’s Commissary for Military and Naval Affairs, who is at the same time president of the Revolutionary Military Council.

Delegates of the People’s Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs, approved by the Council of People’s Commissaries of the Union, are attached to the Councils of People’s Commissaries in the respective Republics of the Union.

5. THE REVOLUTIONARY MILITARY COUNCIL OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS.

The Revolutionary Military Council of the Union is a collective organ of the People’s Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs. It consists of the People’s Commissary for Military and Naval Affairs, or his deputy,
The Revolutionary Military Council has under its direct orders:

1. The Army Staff.
2. The Central Army Administration.
3. The Army Political Administration.
4. The Inspector-General of Armaments.
5. The Military Air Force Administration.
6. The Naval Administration.
7. The Army Service Corps.
8. The Military Works Administration.
11. The Health Administration.
12. The Veterinary Administration.

The Army Staff, which examines all technical questions concerning the defence of the country, has under its orders the inspectors of the different arms. It consists of 5 departments: operations, organisation and mobilisation, military communications, intelligence and field preparation, battle orders.

The Central Army Administration deals with all questions concerning recruiting, the training of regimental staff and the rank and file, military schools, etc.

The Central Army Administration comprises 5 departments: command, military schools, recruiting and military service, remounts and military topography, and two offices: rationalisation and statistics.

The Political Administration is responsible for the political training of the army. It deals with all questions relating to the political personnel of the Red Army and controls its activities.

It consists of three sections: organisation, propaganda, mobilisation.

The Inspector-General of Armaments, who has a technical staff, has the following administrations under his orders: artillery, military technique and chemistry applied to war, mechanisation and motorisation.

The Military Air Force Administration is the supreme organisation in regard to military aviation. Its Commander-in-Chief also commands the whole of the military air forces of the Red Army.

The Naval Administration deals with questions concerning the organisation, mobilisation, technical training and special supplies of the naval forces.

6. The Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of the Union is appointed and dismissed by the Council of People's Commissaries.

Within the limits of the decisions of the higher authorities of the Union, the Commander-in-Chief enjoys complete autonomy in all strategical questions, provided he reports his decisions to the People's Commissary and to the Revolutionary Military Council of the Union.
The following are under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, as defined in special regulations:

(a) The Deputy-Commander-in-Chief for Naval Affairs, as regards all operations questions;
(b) The Deputy-Commander-in-Chief for the cavalry;
(c) The Staff of the Army;
(d) The Inspectorate of the Army Medical Corps;
(e) The officer in charge of military training establishments;
(f) The officer in charge of the artillery, who is also the head of the principal artillery command;
(g) The head of the Engineers Command;
(h) The head of the Veterinary Command;
(i) All military academies.

The following are also directly under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief:

As regards military operations:

(a) All army commanders in the military frontier districts and the commanders of independent armies;
(b) The air department;
(c) The officer commanding special missions.

Generally, and through the intermediary of army commanders:

The fortresses and fortified districts throughout the territory of the Union.

7. Political Organs of Military Administration.

(1) Political Command of the Revolutionary Council of the Union.

The Political Command constitutes the supreme organ and directs all political activity in the army.

It is competent in questions concerning the training of political cadres, political direction, the army Press, the organisation of military propaganda among the people, etc.

(2) Revolutionary military councils in the military areas.

These councils, which constitute the supreme organs of military power in the military areas, centralise the direction of political activity, strategy and military organisation within their different areas.

(3) Army corps political secretariats attached to the territorial district departments.

(4) Political sections of infantry and cavalry divisions and of independent cavalry brigades, territorial infantry divisions and garrison units.

These sections are responsible in particular for the political training of future recruits.

(5) Political sections attached to the special garrison units.

(6) Political organ attached to various army units (regiments, etc.).

8. Delegates of the People's Commissariat on the Councils of the People's Commissaries of the Allied Republics and on Local Organs.

The Delegates of the People's Commissariat for the Military and Naval Affairs of the Union on the Councils of the People's Commissaries of the Allied Republics are appointed according to the general regulations governing the People's Commissaries of the Union and are under the direct orders of the People's Commissariat for the Military and Naval Affairs of the Union.
The local organs of military and naval administration throughout the territory of the Union receive instructions from the People's Commissary for the Military and Naval Affairs of the Union and are directly under the latter.

The military districts are administered by Army Commanders, who are appointed by the Revolutionary Military Council of the Union. In special cases the Revolutionary Military Council may establish Revolutionary Military Councils in these districts.

The rights and duties of the Army Command and of the Military Councils of the districts are determined by the Revolutionary Military Council of the Union, which also fixes their composition.

The rights and duties of the local military and naval organs are determined, in accordance with the laws in force, by the Revolutionary Military Council, which also fixes their composition.

C. COMPOSITION OF THE RED ARMY IN PEACE TIME

The Red Army is divided in peace time into:

(1) Field troops;
(2) Training detachments;
(3) Auxiliary troops for service behind the front line;
(4) Special troops comprising:
   (a) The troops of the Political Department;
   (b) Frontier Guards;
   (c) Detachments for special purposes.

(1) The field troops or troops in the Active Army are organised in units possessing fairly large cadres. The fortress garrisons also form part of the field troops.

(2) The training detachments are employed for the training of the cadres and the troops; they train the future instructors and specialists and they are responsible for the training of the horses. In the event of war, these detachments may be used as cadres for the creation of new units.

(3) The auxiliary detachments intended for service behind the front line are composed of men fit for military service whom it is not desirable to employ in the Field Army because they belong to the bourgeoisie. Labour companies varying in number are established for this purpose in each military district. These detachments are not formed into units larger than a company.

(4) The special troops are under the Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs as regards recruiting, organisation, equipment, supply, military training and effectives. They are employed by the competent civil authorities.

   (a) The troops of the State Political Department are divided into battalions, companies, squadrons and half-companies, which are organised on the same lines as the corresponding units of the Red Army. Most of these troops are composed of volunteers who have served in the Red Army. They have staffs and commanders in the military districts.
(b) The frontier guard troops are responsible for protecting the property of inhabitants in the frontier districts, putting a stop to smuggling, preventing the unlawful crossing of the frontier, etc. They constitute an independent corps, divided into three districts, which are subdivided into sectors and subsectors. They are formed into battalions, companies, squadrons and half-companies. They are organised in the same way as the corresponding units of the Red Army. The frontier guard troops are composed mainly of volunteers.

(c) At the head of the detachments for special duties is an officer, assisted by a staff. In the military districts and in the departments, these detachments are placed under the orders of the military commanders of the districts or departments. They consist mainly of communists and are formed into independent battalions and squadrons organised in the same way as in the Red Army. This category of troops also includes the detachments for special purposes attached to the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party.

D. TERRITORIAL MILITARY AREAS

The territory of the Union is divided into eleven military areas. The areas are so organised that they can be placed upon a war footing in a very short space of time.

The military areas are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Area Name</th>
<th>Chief Town</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moscow area</td>
<td>Moscow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Leningrad area</td>
<td>Leningrad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Volga area</td>
<td>Samara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ukraine area</td>
<td>Kharkov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Area of the Northern Caucasus</td>
<td>Rostov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>White Russian area</td>
<td>Smolensk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Middle Asia area</td>
<td>Tashkent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Siberian area</td>
<td>Novo Sibirsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Army of the Red Flag of the Caucasus</td>
<td>Tiflis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Special Army of the Far East</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cossack Military Commissariat</td>
<td>Alma Ata</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Composition of military areas:

At the head of each military area is a Revolutionary Military Council acting as the supreme military authority of the area. The Revolutionary Military Council is presided over by the Officer commanding the troops of the area. The Revolutionary Military Council of the area is under the direct authority of the Revolutionary Military Council of the Union; it is responsible for the general political as well as military direction of the area, and provides liaison between the military area and the organs of the Government situated in that area. It is also responsible for making preparations for mobilisation, for army training and for inspections; in addition, it directs the military training of citizens outside the army.
Each military area comprises:

1. The general staff of the area;
2. Political department;
3. Command of the air forces of the area;
4. Officers commanding the different arms;
5. Officer commanding the supply service;
6. Medical corps command;
7. Veterinary command.

E. HIGHER FORMATIONS

The higher units of the Red Army are the following:

1. Infantry divisions;
2. Infantry corps;
3. Cavalry divisions (independent cavalry brigades), and
4. Cavalry corps.

Each of these units comprises a command, with a commander, a military commissary and a certain number of formations.

The command of an infantry division or corps comprises: (1) Staff, (2) Political Section, (3) Medical Section, (4) Veterinary Section, (5) Intendance Section, (6) Military Justice Department, (7) Court-martial, (8) State Political Administration Section, (9) Chemical Service.

The commands of cavalry divisions and corps are practically the same as those of the other units.

Infantry Corps.

An infantry corps consists of from two to four infantry divisions, one regiment of heavy field artillery and one independent engineer battalion.

1 The official documents which the Secretariat has been able to obtain do not give the number of the higher and lower units. According to unofficial publications, the Red Army is composed of 21 light infantry corps, 4 cavalry corps, 29 light infantry divisions (plus 41 territorial divisions), 10 cavalry divisions (plus 3 territorial divisions). The infantry is composed of 89 regiments (plus 123 territorial regiments) comprising 267 battalions (plus 369 territorial battalions). There are also 9 independent machine-gun battalions. The infantry comprises also 174 artillery batteries (plus 246 territorial batteries). The cavalry is composed of 36 brigades (plus 9 territorial brigades), comprising 79 regiments (plus 18 territorial), composed of 360 squadrons (plus 119 territorial). There are also 79 machine-gun squadrons (plus 18 territorial). The artillery comprises 31 regiments of light artillery (plus 42 territorial) and 28 regiments of heavy artillery (plus 2 territorial). The number of batteries of light artillery is 382 (plus 422 for the territorial artillery); the number of batteries of heavy artillery is 168 (plus 12 for the territorial artillery). The engineers are composed of 16 battalions (plus 5 territorial) and 42½ independent squadrons (plus 44 territorial). There exist also 9 bridging battalions (of which one territorial battalion). The air force comprises 12 reconnaissance brigades, 9 reconnaissance squadrons and 24 independent reconnaissance flights; 9 fighting squadrons and 3 independent fighting flights; 3 bombing squadrons and 3 independent bombing flights. The accuracy of these figures cannot be vouched for.
Infantry Division.

An infantry division consists of three regiments, one cavalry squadron, one light artillery regiment, one independent signalling company and one independent engineering company.

Cavalry Corps.

A cavalry corps consists of two or three cavalry divisions, one independent mounted howitzer group and one independent signalling squadron.

Cavalry Division.

A cavalry division consists of four or six cavalry regiments grouped into two regiments per brigade, one horse artillery group and one engineer squadron.

Independent Cavalry Brigade.

A cavalry brigade consists of three regiments, one horse artillery group, half a squadron of engineers and half a signalling squadron.

In time of war these units serve to constitute armies and army groups.

F. ARMS AND SERVICES

Infantry.

There are two kinds of infantry regiment:

(i) the cadre regiments;
(ii) the territorial regiments.

The cadre regiments consist of:

(1) The command, at the head of which are a commander and a military commissary, to whom are attached a chemical section and a section of sappers and men of the camouflage service.

(2) The regimental staff, which includes a section of mounted scouts, a signals section, a band section and the office staff.

(3) Three rifle battalions, each consisting of a signal section, a section of auxiliary weapons (58 mm. mine-throwers and 37 mm. guns) and 4 companies, one of which is a machine-gun company. Each rifle company consists of 3 sections with 2 machine-gun groups and 3 groups of riflemen, 1 machine, gun section with 2 groups and 1 administrative section with a signals group. A machine-gun company consists of 3 sections of 2 groups each.

(4) A regimental artillery group of 2 batteries with 3 guns (76 mm. each).

(5) A regimental school consisting of 3 rifle sections, 2 machine-gun sections and 1 administrative section.

The regiment also includes 1 army service corps group, 1 medical group and 1 veterinary group.
The territorial regiment has only a limited cadre consisting of the same organic units as those of the regular regiments, the sole difference being that some of these units consist of one or two men only. When mobile units are called up to attend a training course the effectives of the territorial regiment are equal to those of a regiment on a war footing.

Cavalry.

The cavalry regiment consists of:

1. A command, at the head of which are a commander, a military commissary, a chief of the chemical service and cavalry instructors.
2. Four or five squadrons, of which one is a machine-gun squadron. Each squadron consists of three or four platoons of three groups. The machine-gun squadron consists of four platoons, each having four machine-guns.

There is also one medical company, one veterinary company, one army service corps company and one school for N.C.O.s.

The territorial regiment consists of the same units as the regular regiment.

The independent cavalry squadrons are made up in almost the same way as divisional squadrons.

Artillery.

The artillery of the Red Army is divided into:

1. Small calibre artillery (attached to battalions),
2. Regimental artillery,
3. Light field artillery,
4. Mountain artillery,
5. Light field howitzer artillery,
6. Heavy field artillery,
7. Heavy field howitzer artillery,
8. Horse artillery,
9. Mountain horse artillery,
10. Howitzer artillery (horse),
11. Heavy artillery,
12. Heavy howitzer artillery,
13. Anti-aircraft artillery,

The last four types of artillery are usually organised as independent units.

The light field artillery, mountain artillery, horse artillery and anti-aircraft artillery are armed with 76 mm. guns; the howitzer artillery with guns of 122 and 144 mm. and the heavy artillery with guns of 107 and 155 mm.; the heavy howitzers have 205 and 260 mm. guns.

The organic units of artillery are:

1. The regiment;
2. The independent artillery group;
3. The independent artillery battery.

The artillery regiment consists of:

1. The command, at the head of which are the regimental commander and a military commissary;
2. The regimental staff;
   Each regiment also has medical and veterinary sections and an army service corps section.
3. Three groups; two groups have 3 each and one group 4 batteries of 3 guns each.
The composition of the independent artillery groups and batteries does not materially differ from that of the regimental units.

Engineers.

The engineers consist of sapper battalions, bridging regiments or battalions, railway regiments, electro-technical battalions and companies, camouflage battalions and motor regiments, battalions and companies.

The battalions consist of two, three or four companies. The railway regiment has four battalions (two operating and two building companies).

Technical units.

The technical units are as follows: (1) armoured units, (2) signalling, (3) gas.

Armoured Units.

The armoured units are divided into three groups:

1. Armoured trains;
2. Armoured cars;
3. Tanks.

(1) Armoured Trains.

Armoured trains include: (1) front-line units and (2) base units. There are armoured train regiments, comprising a certain number of groups; each group consists of 3 trains, one of which is for constructional purpose. There are also independent groups.

The base unit consists of 20 to 25 trucks.

The front-line units are armed with 2 or 4 76 mm. guns and 6 machine-guns, or with one gun of 107 mm. (sometimes supplemented by a 76 mm. gun) and two machine-guns.

(2) Armoured Cars.

These units are organised in groups of 9 cars.

(3) Tanks.

Tanks are grouped in regiments. Each regiment contains 2 or 3 battalions divided into 2 or 3 companies. The light tanks are armed with a machine-gun or a 37 mm. gun and the heavy tanks with 2 to 4 machine-guns and a 57 mm. gun.

Signalling.

The signalling service (telegraph, wireless and military postal service) is organised in regiments of two or three battalions with from two to five companies, independent battalions containing three companies, independent companies with three or five sections, independent squadrons consisting of three platoons independent wireless battalions with three companies and wireless regiments consisting of two to three battalions of two to five companies each.

Gas.

This service is organised in technical battalions and experimental battalions. Each group has an administrative section, a number of companies for the discharge of gas and some flame-throwing companies.
Aviation.

The air forces consist of independent bombing, fighting and reconnaissance flights, groups of fighter and reconnaissance machines, naval aviation units and independent balloon groups. A flight consists of three to five groups, each group possessing six to twelve machines. The independent reconnaissance and fighting group has six or twelve machines; the independent balloon group consists of a station with one balloon in active service and one in reserve.

Military Aviation from 1920 to 1926:
(Percentages of the year 1920.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


This association was formed by the fusion of the three following societies: Society of Friends of the Air Fleet; Society for the encouragement of aviation and the chemical industry; Society for the encouragement of national defence.

The duty of the “Osoaviachim” is to co-operate in the defence of the U.S.S.R. and to develop those industries which are the most important and indispensable from the economic and technical points of view and for the defence of the country; in particular, the aeronautical and chemical industries.

The association co-operates with the Red Army for the purpose of adding to its military power and aiding materially in the defence of the country. The whole of the military activities of the association are exercised through the Red Army command.

In 1930, the “Osoaviachim” had 5,100,000 members.

The number of military “corners” was 9,498 (in 1926, 6,506); the number of military study clubs was 9,240 compared with 5,651 in 1926; rifle clubs, which in 1926 did not exist, numbered on October 1st, 1927, 7,815. In 1927, 800 clubs existed for the study of aviation and chemistry (923 in 1926), chemical laboratories numbered 184 as compared with 60 in 1926. At the same date there were 52 clubs and museums, 68 permanent exhibitions, and 5,530 libraries. There were 766 clubs for air sports, compared with 1,106 in 1926.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>1927</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workmen</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peasants</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldiers</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 1927, 17.4 per cent of the association’s members belonged to the communist party (in 1926, 17 per cent).

**Numerical Composition of the Different Groups and Clubs.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1927)</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Percentage of members of the association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Military study clubs</td>
<td>235,217</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military rifle clubs</td>
<td>106,068</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifle clubs</td>
<td>113,498</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clubs for the study of aviation and chemistry</td>
<td>17,619</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air sport clubs</td>
<td>11,570</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerochemical units and commands</td>
<td>25,023</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other units</td>
<td>5,225</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>514,820</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To sum up, it may be said that this association counted, in 1927, among its members 3,000,000 out of a total population of 150,000,000, while 17.4 % took an active part in its work. Of these 3,000,000 members, 681,000 were peasants divided into 16,840 “cells”. As the U.S.S.R. has altogether 307,443 villages, there was in 1927 one “cell” of the association to every 23 villages.

The budget of the association for 1926-27 was 5,484,345 roubles. The estimates for 1927-28 were 8,447,839 roubles.

**G. RECRUITING SYSTEM**

**I. Fundamental Principle.**

The defence of the country is an obligation to which all citizens of the Union are liable. Only workers may be entrusted with the armed defence of the Union. The rest of the population, if passed fit for service, is placed in a special reserve and, in peace time, pays a military tax. In time of war they form special units for service at home or in the army zones. Compulsory military service, which begins at the age of 19 and lasts till the close of the fortieth year, is divided up as follows:

- Preparatory military training;
- Service with the colours;
- Service in the reserve.

(a) **Preparatory military training.**

All males on completing their nineteenth year are liable until the age of 20 to a period of preparatory military training lasting for two months outside the army.

There is also advanced pre-military training for students at higher educational establishments. It is aimed at training men for the cadres of the regimental staff.

Advanced pre-military training consists of (1) a theoretical course (not more than 18 hours) and (2) a practical course (2 months).
Those who have received advanced pre-military training may enter a military school for middle-grade regimental staff; after having performed 9 months' military service (one year in the air force and the navy) and after successfully passing the examination for the middle-grade regimental staff, they are transferred to the reserve.

(b) *Service with the colours.*

Citizens who have completed their twenty-first year are called upon to serve for five years. Such service is performed in the regular army, or in territorial mobile formations or, finally, outside the army.

Military service with the colours in regular units consists of an uninterrupted period of two, three or four years in the Red Army, according to the arms, and long furlough of one, two or three years subject to recall for one or two months' service.

Active service in the mobile territorial units is performed in the following manner:

1. During the first year, a period of three months' training.

2. During the four succeeding years men are recalled for periods of:
   
   (a) not more than five months in all (not more than two months in each year) in the infantry and artillery;
   
   (b) not more than eight months in all (not more than two months in any one year) in the cavalry;
   
   (c) not more than six months in all (not more than two months in any one year) in the special territorial units (engineers, technical groups). In addition, men may be recalled each year in the intervals between the above periods for a short improvement course not exceeding seven days. For the remainder of their service — during the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th year of their active service — men belonging to mobile territorial units are sent on leave; while thus situated, they may be required to carry out certain military duties which do not oblige them to leave their homes or interrupt their ordinary work.

   Men who perform their active military service elsewhere than in the cadres receive military training in the form of periodical courses lasting not more than six months in all (not more than two months in any one year) and extending over 5 years.

   Privates and non-commissioned officers may, if it is in the interest of the service, be permitted to re-engage at the conclusion of their normal period of military service. The same rule applies to men who have been sent on long furlough.

   Such engagements are for prescribed periods, but in no case for less than one year.

   They may be further renewed, on the expiration of the above periods, but not beyond the 45th year of age.

(c) *The Reserve.*

Having completed their active service, men are placed in the reserve. The reserve Army consists of the first reserve up to the age of 34 inclusive and the second reserve up to the age of 40 inclusive.
SYNOPTIC TABLE OF COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of the recruits</th>
<th>1st year</th>
<th>2nd year</th>
<th>3rd year</th>
<th>4th year</th>
<th>5th year</th>
<th>1st reserve</th>
<th>2nd reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 to 34</td>
<td>35 to 40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Signalling Service, Armoured Units, Railways, etc.

Coast Defence, Aviation (specialists)

Navy

Territorial Mobile Units

Outside the army cadres

Legend:
- Preparatory military instruction
- Long furloughs and furloughs between recalls
- Uninterrupted Service
- Reserve
- Recall
Men belonging to the reserve are called upon to attend improvement courses not exceeding a total of three months for the whole of the time they belong to the reserve (a maximum of one month in the year).

The rank and file and the lower ranks of the regimental staff may be allowed, on request, after completing their active service in the cadres of the army, to re-engage in the Red Army, as supernumeraries. The same rule applies to men who are away on long leave. They must re-engage for not less than one year, after the expiration of which they may have their engagements renewed, on request, for further periods but not beyond the age of 46.

II. EXEMPTION FROM SERVICE FOR FAMILY REASONS.

In time of peace, men liable for military service with the colours may, under certain conditions, be excused service in the regular army for special family reasons; men belonging to this class perform their military service in the territorial mobile formations; they can also be given their military training outside the army.

III. EXEMPTION FROM MILITARY SERVICE ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS.

Citizens who, by birth or education, are members of families belonging to certain religious sects may be excused from compulsory military service. If declared "fit for service with the colours" after passing their medical examination, they are liable for two years to perform certain public services (during epidemics, outbreaks of epizootic disease, etc.). In time of war they are drafted into special units for service at home or in the army zones.

IV. POSTPONEMENT.

School-teachers, students, and teachers at higher educational establishments, who are liable to service with the colours, may secure postponement to enable them to complete their studies.

V. DISTRIBUTION OF THE RECRUITS.

As soon as they have passed their medical examination, men are drafted into the regular army or into the territorial mobile formations in an order determined by lot.

The annual contingent is fixed each year by the Council of Labour and Defence. The contingent is then allotted by the People's Commissariat for Naval and Military Affairs.

About 33% of the contingent is allotted to the regular army, 25% to the mobile units of the territorial militia and about 42% to military training outside the army.

VI. MILITARY SERVICE OF STUDENTS OF COLLEGES OR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

Pupils of the higher grade schools and technical schools receive advanced pre-military instruction. (See Chapter G § I a).

Pupils who have passed through the courses in the Workers' Universities — in the secondary schools or schools of equivalent grade — perform their military service in the cadres of the army; after serving for one year (two years in the Navy) and passing an examination they are transferred to the medium category of the regimental staff.
VII. VOLUNTEERS.

Workers below the age at which compulsory military service begins and not less than 18 years of age (or 17 years if they have entered a military school) may enlist as volunteers in the regular army; men who have received military training outside the ranks of the army, or who belong to mobile units of the territorial army, are also accepted.

These volunteers engage for a prescribed period varying with the arm and are not sent on furlough until the date fixed for conscripts performing compulsory service.

Women may also be accepted as volunteers in peace time and war time, but in war time the Government may require them to perform military service in special units.

VIII. MILITARY TAX.

Men who have been borne on the rolls of the Territorial Army since 1925, or of units of the Regular Army since 1924, but who are not in fact performing military service, are liable in peace time to a military tax throughout the period when they are thus situated. The military tax is assessed on the basis of the income tax and the single agricultural tax; men who are not liable to any other taxation pay a military tax of fifteen roubles a year.

The military tax is payable, yearly, during the first five years in which the man is borne on the rolls of the Territorial Army. Thenceforward it is only payable at the end of each successive period of six years until the man ceases to belong to the Territorial Army.

IX. MOBILISATION.

Men belonging to the regular army or the mobile territorial formations who are on leave, men who are performing their military service without being in the army, and also reservists, may be mobilised in the event of war.

Mobilisation is decreed by the Councils of Commissaries of the Union.

Men allowed postponement are exempted from mobilisation; they may be called up by a special decree.

The mobilisation of the following may be postponed:

(a) Workmen and employees in factories, workshops and establishments engaged in supply work for the Red Army;

(b) Workmen and employees in the transport and communication services;

(c) The employees in the different branches of State political administration;

(d) Skilled workmen and employees in workshops, factories and establishments manufacturing articles of primary necessity for the population;

(e) The responsible officials of certain Union administrations;

(f) Certain professors of teaching establishments.

X. CADRES.

The cadres include: (a) regimental staff, (b) political staff, (c) administrative staff, (d) medical staff and (e) veterinary staff.

From the point of view of military preparation the regimental cadres include lower grade, middle-grade, senior and higher personnel.
The lower grade personnel is recruited from among men who have received the necessary training during their service in units of the Red Army.

The other grades are recruited from among soldiers who have received middle-grade, advanced or special military training or who have had military experience.

The lower grade personnel is drafted into mobile units when sent on extended leave to districts where such units are recruited. The length of service of such personnel is three years, during which they are recalled for not more than two months.

The middle-grade personnel is recruited from the military and naval schools.

The age-limit for middle-grade personnel is fixed at 40; for the other grades at between 45 and 50.

After reaching the age-limit, the middle-grade, senior and higher personnel pass into the reserve, where they remain until they are 50, 55 or 60 according to their category.

The middle-grade and senior personnel of the reserve are employed to train men who are performing their service outside the army, for a maximum period of sixteen months. They may also be called up for further training.

The junior regimental staff and supernumeraries of the regimental staff who have served for a minimum period of three years and fulfil certain conditions may be transferred to the Reserve in the category of medium regimental staff. The same rule applies to the rank and file, who may, subject to the same conditions, be transferred to the Reserve in the category of the junior regimental staff.

Military Schools.

Military schools for the training of middle-grade regimental staff:

- 15 infantry schools. Period of study 3 1/2 years.
- 4 cavalry schools. Period of study 3 1/2 years.
- 4 artillery schools. Period of study 4 1/2 years.
- 2 engineering schools. Period of study 4 1/2 years.
- 2 signalling schools. Period of study 4 1/2 years.

Special schools:

- Technical Armament School.
- Technical Artillery School.
- School of Military Communications.
- School of Military Topography.
- Course for armoured units (tanks, etc.).

The period of study in these schools is 4 1/2 years.

To supplement the military training of the regimental staff there are 13 improvement courses and 3 courses for senior officers.

Military colleges for senior officers:

- Military College (Moscow). Period of study 2 to 3 years.
- Military Flying College (Moscow). Period of study from 4 to 5 years.
- Technical Military College (Leningrad). Period of study 4 1/2 years.
- Naval College (Leningrad). Period of study 4 years.

There are also military sections in certain higher educational establishments.
H. EFFECTIVES OF THE RED ARMY

(ooo's omitted)

REGIMENTAL STAFF AND MEN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Effectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1918</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1918</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1919</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1919</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 28th, 1920</td>
<td>3,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1st, 1921</td>
<td>4,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1st, 1921</td>
<td>2,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1st, 1922</td>
<td>1,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGIMENTAL STAFF

(1927)

23,889 officers who have passed the normal military school.
4,125 ,, ,, ,, ,, short course for officers.
7,341 ,, ,, ,, ,, advanced courses.
2,1261 ,, ,, ,, ,, through military academies.
4,4182 ,, ,, ,, had received their whole military training in the old army (ex-officers).
3,968 officers who had not received adequate military preparation (ex-non-commissioned officers, etc.).

45,867

As regards its political composition the regimental Staff included in 1921: 20% communists and 80% not belonging to any party. In 1927 it included 48.1% communists; 4.8% junior communists; and 47.1% not belonging to any political party; in 1930 it included 51% communists.

The Red Army included in 1930 129,000 communists and 150,000 junior communists (Komsomol).

1 This number includes 465 who had passed through the Military Academy in the old army.
2 In 1930 the regimental staff of the Red Army included 10.6% of officers exclusively trained in the old army.
II.

Navy.

Nota. — The first date in brackets gives the date of the launching of the ship; the second that of its completion. The dash (—) signifies that the construction has not yet been completed or that the date of completion is not known.

LIST OF UNITS

(1930)

(Navies of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.)

Battleships:

1. Pariskaia-Kommuna
   (1911-15)

2. Marat (1911-14)
   Beam: 87 feet. Mean draught: 27 ½ feet. H.P. 42,000 = 23 kts. Guns: 12 12-inch; 16 4.7-inch; 2 3-inch (anti-aircraft); 4 torpedo-tubes submerged (18-inch).

3. Oktiabrskiaia-Revolutia (1911-14)

4. Mihail Frunze
   (1911-15)

Aircraft carrier (Old Battleship):

Lenin (ex-Evstafi).

Cruisers:

1. Profintern (1915-1925)

2. Tchervonaya Ukraina
   (1915-24)

3. Lazareff
   Present condition unknown.

4. Aurora ¹ (1909-03)

5. Komintern ¹ (1905-)

¹ Employed as training ship.
24 destroyers (mine-layers).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date of launching</th>
<th>Displacement</th>
<th>H.P.</th>
<th>Max. speed</th>
<th>Coal or Oil</th>
<th>Tubes, Mines</th>
<th>Max. draught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Petrovski</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>1,326</td>
<td>29,000</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>12/80</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Karl Marx</td>
<td>1912-23</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>32,700</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>9/60</td>
<td>9²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Frunze</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>1,110</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>4/80</td>
<td>9²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Uritsky</td>
<td>1914-18</td>
<td>1,260</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>9²/³</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Markin</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2/16</td>
<td>7²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sverdlov</td>
<td>1904-05</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>6,200</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>3²/5</td>
<td>7²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Zhelesniakov</td>
<td>1904-07</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>3²/5</td>
<td>7¹/²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 in 1928.

13 submarines: (+ 3 building or completing).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date of launching</th>
<th>Displacement</th>
<th>H.P.</th>
<th>Max. speed</th>
<th>Tubes, and Gear</th>
<th>Max. draught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dekabrist</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>2,640</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
<td>16²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rabotchi</td>
<td>1912-17</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>2,640</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Proletari</td>
<td>1915-16</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
<td>12²/³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bolshevik</td>
<td>1911-15</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12³/₄</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Politruk</td>
<td>1916-24</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15¹/²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Miscellaneous: 48 different units (gunboats, armoured gunboats, mine-layers, etc.)

### Summary Table of Naval Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total tonnage</th>
<th>Depreciated tonnage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battleships and battle-cruisers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>93,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruisers and light cruisers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torpedo-boats and destroyers</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarines</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Craft</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>166,247</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ The depreciated tonnage (on January 1st, 1931) 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.
² Gunboats, despatch vessels, etc.
NAVY

Distribution (in %) of Tonnage of the Navy among the Different Classes of Vessels in 1913, 1919 and 1930.

**Note.** — Only units completely finished on the dates in question have been included.

**Number and Tonnage**

(in thousands of tons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1913</th>
<th>1919</th>
<th>1930</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battleships</td>
<td>I2</td>
<td>151.5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruisers</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>115.5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroyers</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and torpe-</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do-boats</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Not including 5 old non-effective cruisers (32,910 tons).
2 Gunboats, sloops and despatch vessels.
NAVY

NUMBER OF UNITS AND TONNAGE

in 1913, 1919 and 1930

Battleships  Cruisers  Destroyers and Submarines
Cruisers     Cruisers     Torpedo-boats
Miscellaneous

Tonnage

Number of Units

Tonnage
III.

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

A. NOTES ON BUDGET PROCEDURE.

1. The financial year covers the period from October 1st to September 30th. The joint budget for the Soviet Socialist Union is composed of:

   (a) the general budget of the Union, and

   (b) the budgets of the Republics constituting the Soviet Socialist Union, namely, the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, White Russia, Transcaucasia, the Turcoman Republic and the Republic of Usbek.

The framing of a joint budget for the whole Union has led to a distinction being made between Union receipts and the receipts of the Republics, a distinction which was provided for in the Law of October 29th, 1924.
The receipts are classified as: (a) Receipts from State taxation; (b) Receipts from nationalised undertakings (gross receipts of railways and postal, telegraph and telephone services; and net receipts from other nationalised undertakings); and (c) Receipts from credit operations.

Expenditure is divided into: (a) Expenditure on State administration; (b) Capital expenditure on nationalised undertakings; and (c) Expenditure for the creation of special funds.

2. Both the general budget of the Union and those of the Republics are gross budgets. The only net receipts shown are the net profits of nationalised undertakings assigned to the State.

3. Expenditure on national defence is entered in the general budget of the Soviet Union. Military undertakings, like other nationalised undertakings, are under the Supreme Economic Council of the Union, but are directly administered by a special department, which also includes two authorities of a military nature: the Mobilisation and Demobilisation Committee and the Committee for Military Supply Orders.

4. Besides the receipts and expenditure of the Joint budget of the Union, some administrative receipts by each department, as well as expenditure relating to the services which collect those receipts, are shown separately in a special account.

B. BUDGET EXPENDITURE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

I. Summary of Defence Expenditure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE I.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Joint Budget:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Administration of the Army and Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escort troops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Special Account:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Administration of the Army and Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Index numbers of:

| | % | % | % | % |
| Wholesale prices (1913 = 100) | 174 | 172 | 179 | 185 |
| Retail prices: Cost of Living, (1913 = 100) | 199 | 210 | 232 | 227 |

1 Not available.
2 From 1927 official index; average, January to September 1927.
3 August 1st.
4 New series.
5 July 1st.
Notes. — 1. The figures in the table above include State expenditure on the social insurance of officials. These sums are paid into a social insurance fund, which provides assistance in the event of temporary incapacity, disablement, unemployment and sickness.

2. The budget accounts for 1926-27 contain, under the heading, Capital outlay for national economy, a sum of 36 million roubles devoted to military industrial undertakings. No corresponding figures are shown separately in succeeding budgets.

3. In addition to the expenditure mentioned above, there is shown in the budget for 1927-28 a sum of 5 million roubles devoted to a special fund for war disablement pensions.

II. Analysis of Defence Expenditure.

Since and including 1926-27 the budgets only give the total figures for expenditure on national defence.

III. Receipts collected by Defence Departments.

The receipts collected by the People's Commissariat for Military and Naval Affairs and the Health Administration of the Army and the Navy are shown in a special account. They consist of the yield of the sale of disused material; rent of buildings; receipts from remount depots, pilotage service, military hospitals, museum entrance fees, etc. They amounted to 14.8 million roubles in 1926-27, to 11.3 in 1927-28 and were estimated at 12.9 million roubles for 1928-29.

C. Supplementary Note.

The expenditure of the "Osoaviachim" Association, the purpose and organisation of which is described on page 883 of the notes on the Army of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, forms the object of a special budget. This expenditure amounted to 5,484,345 Roubles for 1926-27 and was estimated at 8,447,839 Roubles for 1927-28. No information is available concerning more recent years, nor whether and in what form the State budget contributes towards the expenditure of this association.