COSTA RICA

Area .......... 60,000 sq. km.
Population (xii. 1930) .......... 515,000
Density per sq. km. .......... 8.6

The armed forces of Costa Rica (land army and air force) are under the control of the Department of Public Security.

The regular army consists of infantry and artillery; the budgetary effectives of the regular army for the year 1929 amounted to 318 officers, non-commissioned officers and men. The maximum strength of the armed force, which can be maintained with the colours in peace-time by the Executive, is laid down at 500 men for the year 1932. The total number of men enrolled in the army is 50,485, of whom 37,280 belong to the active army, divided into 33 battalions, which may be mobilised in case of need.

Military service is compulsory for all citizens of Costa Rica aged between 18 and 50.

The army is divided into two parts: the active army, which includes all men aged between 18 and 40, and the reserve which includes all men aged between 40 and 50. There is also a national guard consisting of men between 50 and 60.

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

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<th>1925</th>
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<td>Closed accounts</td>
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<td>Ministry of Public Security</td>
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Notes. — 1. Expenditure under the Ministry of Public Security as given above covers the army, the police force, military bands, the marine and penitentiaries.

2. Naval expenditure is entirely for civil purposes.

3. Expenditure for military pensions is charged, jointly with civil pensions, to the Ministry of Finance.