ECUADOR

Area ............... 307,000 sq. km.
Population (estimate) ........ 2,000,000
Density per sq. km. .......... 6.5

ORGANISATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY

The armed forces of Ecuador consist of the land army, the military air force and the navy controlled by the Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation.

The land army consists of:

10 infantry battalions (40 companies);
1 regiment of 3 squadrons and 3 squadrons of cavalry forming a unit;
3 regiments of artillery (12 batteries);
2 engineer battalions (6 companies);
1 air force company.

The Ecuadorian army also possesses an aviation corps and auxiliary services (intendance, medical, etc.).

CARABINEER CORPS.

This corps is under the orders of the Ministry of the Interior, and is for the maintenance of public order.

Officers and carabineers are recruited from the army units. Service in the corps is assimilated to active service in the army.

The corps consists of a headquarters and five squadrons.

Recruiting of the Army.

Military service is voluntary. The army consists of all Ecuadorians between the ages of 18 and 50 inclusive who are fit to bear arms. The period of service with the colours is three years. After completing their service in the active army, men pass into the first reserve, where they remain until the age of 35, and then into the second reserve, where they remain until the age of 50 inclusive.

1 Two gunboats with a total tonnage of 1,050 tons.
Budgetary effectives.

Army (1931):

- Officers: 607
- N.C.O.s and men: 4,663
- Total: 5,270

Police (1931):

- Urban police: 2,376
- Rural police: 255
- Total: 2,631

Carabineers (1929):

- Officers: 29
- N.C.O.s and carabineers: 1,436
- Total: 1,465

Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1925 Estimates</th>
<th>1926 Closed accounts</th>
<th>1927</th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1929</th>
<th>1930 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes. — 1. Certain services of a civil character are included under naval expenditure — e.g., lighthouses, harbour administration.

2. Military pensions, amounting to 1.1 million sucres in 1927 and to 1.2 million sucres in 1928, were not shown under the Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation for those years, but under the item: “State obligations”. For 1929 and 1930, they were shown jointly with civil pensions under the heading: “General and unforeseen expenditure and pensions”.

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1 Including 29 administrative officers, 44 army doctors and 15 civilians ranking as officers.