UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Area .................. 1,222,000 sq. km.
Population (1930) ......... 8,014,000
Density per sq. km. ....... 6.6

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ARMED FORCES

The armed forces of the Union of South Africa are based on the militia system. In addition to the Permanent Force, which has a very small establishment (1,434 officers and other ranks on June 30th, 1930), the South-African Army consists of the Coast Garrison Force and the Citizen Force, whose members only spend a few days annually with the colours.

The Coast Garrison Force is formed to strengthen the units of the Permanent Force engaged in defending the coasts of the Union. The Force consists of men specially trained in harbour work, etc.

The Citizen Force comprises the Active Citizen Force, the Citizen Force Reserve and the National Reserve.

The Active Citizen Force constitutes a reserve of field troops, and has all the material necessary for taking the field; it consists of units recruited in the same or adjoining districts.

The Citizen Force Reserve, which is divided into two classes, is composed of men who have not been posted to the Permanent Force Reserve, and who act up to a certain age as reservists for the particular units in which they did their training. The Citizen Force Reserve also includes all citizens not past their forty-fifth year, other than those in the Permanent Force Reserve, who are serving or who have served as members of a Rifle Association. They are organised to form territorial corps or commandos.

The National Reserve consists of all citizens not members of any other portion of the defence force who are liable to render personal service.

Finally, the "Commandos", which are recruited mainly on a voluntary basis from the members of Defence Rifle Associations, form the remaining portion of the field army of the Union.
The armed forces of the Union of South Africa consist of the land army, the air force and the navy, and are under the authority of the Ministry of National Defence.

I. Army.

ORGANISATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY

PERMANENT FORCE.

The Permanent Force consists of the garrison artillery, 3 batteries of field artillery, engineers, medical service, etc.

COAST GARRISON FORCE.

The Coast Garrison Force consists of units of the garrison artillery and of the Coast Defence Corps.

ACTIVE CITIZEN FORCE.

1. Higher units:
   - 3 infantry brigades;
   - 1 mounted brigade.

2. Arms and services.
   - Infantry: 11 battalions.
   - Cavalry: 5 regiments.
   - Artillery: 6 batteries of field artillery.
   - Engineers: 3 companies of field engineers.
   - Armoured train: 2 units.

Air force:

AIR MATERIAL.

(Extract from the communication from the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated July 3rd, 1931.)

Number of aeroplanes: 66
Total horse-power: 13,353

The Citizen Force has also an intendance service, medical service, etc.

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1 The navy consists of 3 units in commission (1,860 tons), which are all exempt under the draft Convention of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference.
2 Position in November, 1931.
4 38 capable of use in war in commission or in immediate reserve with operational units.
5 28 in commission in training establishment not capable of use in war.
RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE

Every citizen between his seventeenth and sixtieth year is liable in time of war to compulsory service in defence of the Union.

Every citizen must undergo a course of peace training with the Coast Garrison Force or the Active Citizen Force, beginning in his twenty-first year and lasting 4 years.

The Permanent Force is recruited by voluntary enlistment, and corresponds to the regular army in Great Britain. Enlistment in the Permanent Force is for a period of 3 years, and engagements may be renewed every 2 years up to the age of 45 (for the rank and file). All units are trained on the same lines as in the British regular army.

COAST GARRISON FORCE.

The Coast Garrison Force is recruited by voluntary enlistment, and resembles the units of the British territorial army allotted to coast defence. If, however, there is not a sufficient number of volunteers, the establishment may be raised to the authorised figure by ballot based on compulsory service. Enlistment in the Coast Garrison Force is for a term of 4 years, and engagements may be renewed, in certain circumstances, yearly up to the age of 45 (other ranks).

Training lasts for 30 days annually, 14 of these being continuous.

CITIZEN FORCE.

The recruiting system and the terms of enlistment and re-enlistment are the same as in the Coast Garrison Force.

Members of the Force must undergo three periods of continuous training, one of not more than 50 and two others of not more than 30 days in all. In addition to continuous training, members of the Citizen Force carry out a course of not more than 26 days’ non-continuous training over four years.

Members of the Citizen Force Reserve may be called up once a year for inspection.

RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS.

If a citizen does not enlist in a Coast Garrison Force or Citizen Force unit, or is not required to serve in such a unit, he is posted to a Defence Rifle Association from July 1st of the year in which he attains the age of 21 to June 30th of the year in which he attains the age of 25. Members of Rifle Associations may be called up annually for a prescribed musketry course, and membership is compulsory in their case for a period of 4 years; volunteer members retain their membership up to the age of 60, but may obtain their discharge at any time.

The membership of Defence Rifle Associations is divided into five classes according to age; boys between the ages of 13 and 17 are required, unless their parents or guardians object, to become cadets, and are
in this capacity members of Rifle Associations. The training for cadets, which is not compulsory, includes instruction principally in drill, musketry, hygiene and signalling. Two courses of instruction for officer cadets are held annually at the Military School.

Compulsory members are liable for an annual 5-day training course and a one-day inspection.

On June 30th, 1930, there were 1,528 Rifle Associations with a total membership of 136,196 officers, N.C.O.s and other ranks. The Cadet Corps numbered 1,396 officers and 51,629 cadets on February 28th, 1930.

EFFECTIVES

I. AVERAGE NUMBER OF EFFECTIVES OF THE ARMED FORCES (1930).
(Extract from the communication from the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated July 3rd, 1931.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Effectives</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Other effectives having completed at least 6 months' service</th>
<th>Details of personnel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land armed forces</td>
<td>2,487</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>2,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent force 989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Citizen force 8,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reservists 126,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval forces</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent force 154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Citizen force 857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air armed forces</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent force 294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Citizen force 227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The legislation provides for 3 periods of continuous training, of which one shall last not more than 50 days and the other two, taken together, not more than 30 days, and a total of not more than 26 days' non-continuous training during a period of 4 years. Owing to financial considerations, these periods have had to be considerably curtailed for the present.

2 Members of Defence Rifle Associations. For the year 1930, continuous training varying from 3 to 5 days was prescribed, but, owing to various reasons, a percentage did not complete their training.

3 Thirteen days' continuous training and 8 days' non-continuous training.

4 Continuous training varying from 5 to 30 days. Of a total number of 227 men, 33 only did 3 days in non-continuous training periods.

Note. — Non-continuous training periods equalling six hours have been reckoned as one day's training.

2. SUMMARY TABLE OF BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES OF THE PERMANENT FORCE.

The figures in the following table, which are extracted from previous editions of the Armaments Year-Book, differ in character from the figures in the preceding table. These two kinds of returns are not comparable with each other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>N.C.O.s and men</th>
<th>Natives</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1,533</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>2,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926-27</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>1,422</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927-28</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>1,159</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>1,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928-29</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1,123</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>1,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929-30</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>1,041</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>1,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930-31</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>1,441</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# II. Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1925-26</th>
<th>1926-27</th>
<th>1927-28</th>
<th>1928-29</th>
<th>1929-30</th>
<th>1930-31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed Accounts</td>
<td>Revised Estimates</td>
<td>Estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure from Revenue Funds:</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defence . . . . . .</td>
<td>965.7</td>
<td>895.3</td>
<td>1,023.9</td>
<td>992.7</td>
<td>943.0</td>
<td>940.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure from Loan Funds:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defence . . . . . .</td>
<td>134.5</td>
<td>175.0</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence Endowment Account . . . . . .</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>121.0</td>
<td>132.0</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .</td>
<td>1,144.7</td>
<td>1,191.3</td>
<td>1,192.1</td>
<td>1,088.0</td>
<td>995.0</td>
<td>1,008.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Index numbers of:
- Wholesale prices (1913 = 100)
  - 1925-26: 126
  - 1926-27: 124
  - 1927-28: 123
  - 1928-29: 120
  - 1929-30: 113
  - 1930-31: 101
- Retail prices: Cost of living (1914 = 100)
  - 1925-26: 132
  - 1926-27: 131
  - 1927-28: 132
  - 1928-29: 132
  - 1929-30: 130
  - 1930-31: 127

**Notes.** — 1. The above figures include expenditure on the South African air force.

2. Military and war pensions are shown under the special heading "Pensions", military pensions not being shown separately from civil pensions. A table of military pensions is, however, attached to the estimates of the budgets for National Defence. These pensions include contributions to a pensions fund. The amounts of pensions have been as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1925-26</th>
<th>1926-27</th>
<th>1927-28</th>
<th>1928-29</th>
<th>1929-30</th>
<th>1930-31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed accounts</td>
<td>Revised estimates</td>
<td>Estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions for the Defence Force(^1) . . . . . . . . .</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td>£'s (ooo's)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War allowances . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>175.0</td>
<td>154.0</td>
<td>138.6</td>
<td>137.8</td>
<td>131.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>913.6</td>
<td>918.1</td>
<td>865.9</td>
<td>795.0</td>
<td>790.0</td>
<td>760.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{1}\) Estimates only.
\(^{2}\) Not available.