

# ALBANIA

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Area .. .. .	28,000 sq. km.
Population (V. 1930) .. .. .	1,003,000
Density per sq. km... .. .	35.8
Length of railway system (under construction) ..	39 km.

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## I. Army.

### COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.

The armed forces of Albania are composed of the army proper and the gendarmerie.

The army consists of :

The national defence command ;

The land army (which also comprises the royal frontier guard, acting as revenue police) ;

The air force.<sup>1</sup>

The national defence *command* is composed of a General Staff, a director-general's department and a General Intendance Bureau.

The *land army* is composed as follows :

The Royal Guard ;

12 infantry battalions (of which only 9 are permanently organised, the other 3 having permanent cadres) ;

1 section of armoured cars and tanks ;

22 batteries of artillery : 12 of 65 mm. (of which 9 are permanently organised), 6 of 75 mm., 2 of 105 mm. and 2 of 149 mm. guns ;

9 engineer companies (consisting of 4 field engineer companies, 1 liaison company, 1 wireless company, 1 photo-electrical company, 1 air-line company and 1 bridging company).

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<sup>1</sup> The air force has not yet a permanent organisation.

*Military Schools and Various Establishments.*

Royal School (for the recruiting of officers of the active army) ;  
 School for supernumerary cadet officers ;  
 Schools for the advanced training of officers ;  
 Training centre for the royal frontier guard ;  
 4 hospitals ;  
 4 special companies ;  
 1 motor repair workshop ;  
 1 court-martial.

**GENDARMERIE, ROYAL FRONTIER GUARD AND POLICE.**

*Gendarmerie.*—The gendarmerie is organised in 1 general headquarters, 10 district headquarters, 31 sub-divisional headquarters and 252 post headquarters.

Gendarmes are recruited from among citizens who have sent in an application and who fulfil certain conditions.

Officers are recruited from among young men who have successfully completed the courses of a military academy and afterwards of an advanced school, and also from among infantry subalterns.

N.C.O.s are selected from among the corporals of the gendarmerie corps who have successfully completed the courses of the gendarmerie school.

The period of service in the gendarmerie is three years, renewable not more than three times for periods of three years each.

The gendarmes are armed with rifles of the 1891 pattern and with bayonets.

The effective strength on January 1st, 1933, was as follows :

Officers	.. .. .	134
N.C.O.s	.. .. .	351
Corporals	.. .. .	208
Gendarmes	.. .. .	2,540
Total	.. .. .	3,233

*Royal Frontier Guard.*—The Royal Frontier Guard is organised in four battalions comprising 14 companies in all.

The method of recruiting is the same as for gendarmes.

The guards are armed in the same way as the gendarmerie.

Sergeant-majors also carry revolvers.

The effective strength on January 1st, 1933, was as follows :

Officers	.. .. .	67
N.C.O.s	.. .. .	71
Corporals	.. .. .	100
Guards	.. .. .	1,100
Total	.. .. .	1,338

Albania also has a rural police (rural guards) appointed by the village council, a communal and municipal police (in process of organisation) and a State police (at present under consideration). The provisional personnel of the State police now serving comprises 150 superintendents, inspectors and constables armed with revolvers. Lastly, there is a forest police (19 inspectors and 57 guards armed with revolvers and rifles), which is under the Administrations of Forests.

## RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.

Military service is compulsory. Men are liable for military service from the attainment of the age of 19 until the age of 50. The period of service with the colours is eighteen months. Men remain in the first reserve until the age of 45 years, and then in the second reserve until the age of 50.

## MATERIAL IN SERVICE IN THE UNITS.

(1930.)

Rifles or carbines .. .. .	11,581
Revolvers .. .. .	1,104
Machine-guns .. .. .	204
Guns less than 120 mm. calibre .. ..	56
Guns of 120 mm. or over .. .. .	8
Tanks.. .. .	8

## EFFECTIVES.

AVERAGE DAILY EFFECTIVES FOR THE LAND ARMED FORCES<sup>1</sup>  
REACHED DURING THE YEAR 1930-31.

Total effectives .. .. .	12,629
Officers .. .. .	771 <sup>2</sup>

## II. Navy.

The navy, the permanent organisation of which is under consideration, is composed of one flotilla of light units (tonnage : 184 tons).

*Effectives* : 141 officers, N.C.O.s and seamen, including 17 regular officers.

## III. Expenditure on National Defence.

## I. ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1930-31.

	Land forces	Naval forces	Air forces	Total
	Gold francs (ooo's)			
Effectives .. .. .	11,103.4	98.8	—	11,202.2
Transport .. .. .	1,244.7	8.5	—	1,253.2
Buildings .. .. .	1,090.4	4.8	—	1,095.2
War material .. .. .	972.3	6.7	—	979.0
	<u>14,410.8</u>	<u>118.8</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>14,529.6</u>

<sup>1</sup> Including the Royal Frontier Guard and the gendarmerie.

<sup>2</sup> The number of regular officers of the land armed forces provided for by the law is 1,017.

NOTES.—1. Expenditure on land forces includes expenditure on the Royal frontier guard and the gendarmerie, which are part of the land forces.

2. Albania has no air force.

## 2. BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEARS 1927-28 TO 1932-33.

The data in the table below are in continuation of those given in the preceding edition of the *Armaments Year-Book*. These data should not be compared with those in the foregoing table, which are based on the answer of the Albanian Government in response to the Council's request for information concerning the state of its armaments (see Preface, p. 4).

	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	Estimates					
	Albanian francs (000,000's)					
Command of National Defence..	11.9	<sup>1</sup>	14.8	14.7	15.5	14.6
Index numbers of wholesale prices (1927 = 100) .. .. .	100	104 <sup>2</sup>	96	88	89	70 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Not available.

<sup>2</sup> Average for the year 1928.

<sup>3</sup> Average, April 1932 to January 1933.

NOTES.—1. The expenditure of the Command of National Defence comprises that on the army, the navy, the frontier guard and the gendarmerie.

2. Albania has no air force.

3. Military pensions are not included in the figures above, but shown under the Ministry of Finance. This expenditure has been estimated as follows :

	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	Albanian francs (000,000's)			
Military pensions .. ..	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.05