LATVIA

Area ..... 66,000 sq. km
Population (XII. 1931) ....... 1,920,000
Density per sq. km...... 29.1
Length of railway system (III. 1932) .... 2,768 km.

I. Army.

COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.

The armed forces of Latvia comprise the land army, the military air force and the navy. They are under the control of the Ministry of War.

1. Higher Units.

4 divisions.

Each division consists of 3 infantry regiments and 1 field artillery regiment.

2. Arms and Services.

Infantry.

12 regiments.

Cavalry.

1 regiment (5 squadrons including 1 machine-gun squadron).

Artillery.

4 regiments of field artillery (24 batteries of 4 guns each).

1 regiment of heavy artillery (3 batteries of 4 guns each).

Engineers.

1 regiment (sappers).

Air Force.

1 regiment.
LATVIA

AIR MATERIAL.

Number of aeroplanes .... 79
Total horse-power ....... 41,050

Tanks and Armoured Trains.

1 regiment of tanks and armoured cars.
1 regiment of armoured trains (2 trains).
The tank regiment consists of 6 tanks and 6 armoured cars.

MATERIAL IN SERVICE IN THE UNITS.

(I930.)

Rifles and carbines .... 18,000
Pistols and revolvers .. 1,500
Automatic rifles .... 650
Heavy machine-guns .... 212
Guns or howitzers (calibre of less than 120 mm.) ... 114
Guns or howitzers (calibre of over 120 mm.) ... 13

RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.

Military service is compulsory. It begins at the age of 21 and lasts until the age of 50. The period of service with the colours is twelve months for the infantry, and fifteen months for other arms. Men who have completed their service with the active army are transferred to the army reserve for a period of eighteen years, after which they pass into the territorial army, where they remain until the age of 50.

The reservists consist of men attached to the reserve on completion of their service in the “available” class (class I); citizens between 30 and 40 who have not served with the colours (class II); citizens from the age of 17 until they are conscripted for service with the colours (class III).

The territorial army consists of reservists after a specified period of service in the reserve or after they have reached the age of 40; persons whose state of health necessitates their transfer to the territorial army; persons fit for military service, between 40 and 50 years of age, who, for various reasons, have not been attached to the reserve; and officers between 48 and 55 years of age.

Men in the “available” class belong to this latter category for three years after they have completed their compulsory service.

Reservists of classes I and II are called up for training not less than three nor more than six times. The length of each of these periods of training may not exceed six weeks (126 to 252 days).
Class III reservists can only be called up for service for a total period of thirty days in each year. Citizens who, for various reasons, have not performed their compulsory service, may be called up for training for two periods of four weeks, making fifty-six days in all.

EFFECTIVES.

EFFECTIVES OF THE LAND ARMED FORCES.

(1931.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total effectives</th>
<th>Officers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land armed forces</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formations organised on a military basis</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air armed forces</td>
<td>550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Navy.

The Latvian navy comprises 2 submarines with a total tonnage of 756 metric tons (standard displacement), as well as 3 other units with a total tonnage of 818 tons.

EFFECTIVES

(1931.)

The naval effectives comprise 450 officers, petty officers and men.

III. Expenditure on National Defence.

I. ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1928-29.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Land forces</th>
<th>Naval forces</th>
<th>Air forces</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effectives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War material</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>42.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Frontier guard force.
NOTES.—1. The above figures represent expenditure on land, naval and air forces and also include expenditure on the frontier guard.

2. Outstanding amount, at the end of the financial year 1928-29, of block credits voted in respect of expenditure for more than one year.

3. Outstanding amount on March 31st, 1929, in respect of purchases on credit or deferred payments relating to goods delivered or services rendered, in cases where the due dates of payments are later than those customary in contracts of the same kind which do not provide any special credit facilities.

4. Statement for the financial year 1928-29 of loans made to, or participations acquired in, enterprises having among their objects the furnishing of goods or services for armament purposes, where these have been excluded from the return on the ground that they are not regarded as armament expenditure.

5. Expenditure in respect of pensions for the year 1928-29:

I. Military personnel:
   (a) Service pensions
   (b) Invalidity pensions
   (c) Mixed pensions

II. Civil personnel: pensions

III. War pensions, if a distinction is made in the national budget between ordinary pensions and war pensions.

IV. Pensions or other compensation granted, apart from the regulations regarding normal pensions, for premature retirement, discharge or loss of office resulting from a reduction of the forces.

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

The data in the table below are in continuation of those given in earlier editions 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 Government of Latvia in response to the Council's request for information concerning the state of its armaments (see Preface, p. 4).

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>40.4</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index numbers of:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale prices (1913 = 100)</td>
<td>132&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail prices: Cost of living (July 1914 = 100)</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>91&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup> Average, January to March 1928. Series not published before January 1928.

<sup>2</sup> Average, April 1932 to January 1933.
Notes.—1. The above figures represent expenditure on the army, the navy and the air force.

2. Expenditure on the frontier guard and the civic guard is not included in the above figures. It is shown under the Ministry of the Interior and has amounted to:

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>accounts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontier guard</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic guard</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Military and war pensions are not included in the expenditure of the Ministry of War, but shown under the Ministry of Social Welfare. They have been estimated at:

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lats (000,000's)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military pensions</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War pensions</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>