PERSIA

Area .............................................. 1,626,000 sq. km.
Population (estimation) ......................... 15,000,000 ¹
Density per sq. km. .......................... 9.2
Length of railway system (1930) ........... 370 km.

I. Army.

ORGANS OF MILITARY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION.

The command of all the land, sea and air forces is vested in the Shah.

MINISTRY OF WAR AND GENERAL STAFF.

The General Staff consists of a Cabinet of the General Staff, a division for administrative questions and four departments.

The Ministry of War comprises:

The Minister’s Cabinet and the following sections:

(a) Compulsory military service section;
(b) Air force section;
(c) Military school section;
(d) Army Paymaster’s department;
(e) Arsenal and military depot section;
(f) Intendance section;
(g) Medical section;
(h) Veterinary section;
(i) Communications section;
(j) Military justice section;
(k) Military band section;
(l) Remount section.

¹ The last census in 1929 gives a figure of about 12,500,000, not including tribes and the population of certain distant regions, where the census has not yet been commenced or completed.
TERRITORIAL MILITARY AREAS.

The territory of the country is divided into six military areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Military Areas</th>
<th>Headquarters</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Centre</td>
<td>Teheran</td>
<td>2 independent infantry brigades, 1 independent cavalry brigade, 1 independent artillery brigade, 1 independent mixed brigade, 3 air force battalions, 1 independent engineer battalion, and armoured car, tank, etc., sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. North-West Tabriz</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. West Kermanshah</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. South Shiraz</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. East Meshed</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. North Resht</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 independent brigade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ORGANISATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.

The Persian army is at present being reorganised. One division was formed in 1932 with a strength of about 10,000 officers, N.C.O.s and men (March 1933).

In 1928, the Persian army comprised:

4 mixed divisions,
2 independent infantry brigades,
1 independent cavalry brigade,
1 independent artillery brigade,
1 independent mixed brigade,
3 air force battalions,
1 independent engineer battalion and armoured car, tank, etc., sections.

Each division consists of from 2 to 3 brigades; each brigade of from 2 to 3 regiments; each regiment of from 2 to 3 battalions (infantry regiments have 3 battalions, and cavalry or mehari regiments 2 squadron groups). Each infantry battalion consists of 4 companies, including 1 machine-gun company; the cavalry and mehari squadron group consists of 2 squadrons and 1 machine-gun group.

Air Material.

Number of aeroplanes ... 80
Total horse-power ... 21,000
RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.

Military service is compulsory and begins at the age of 21 years.

LENGTH OF MILITARY SERVICE.

The total length of military service is twenty-five years, divided into three periods:

I. Active army: Six years, including two years with the colours and four years in the active army reserve. Conscripts who have graduated perform only eighteen months’ service; holders of college diplomas perform only one year’s service.

II. Reserve: Thirteen years.

Service in the reserve comprises two periods: the first period extends over six years and the second over seven years.

III. Territorial army: Six years.

Reservists of the first period are called up every two years, and reservists of the second period every three years for a month’s training.

Exemptions: Members of the clergy, students of theology and, in certain cases, only sons and those who support their families are exempted from military service.

Postponement of service: Students at the secondary schools and colleges can obtain postponement of their service until they have completed their studies.

Exclusions: Offenders sentenced to more than two years’ degrading punishment (peine afflictive) are excluded from the army; they are liable for certain compulsory work for the army.

EFFECTIVES.

It has not, so far, been possible to organise the land armed forces (for budgetary reasons) and at present no distinction is made between them and the formations organised on a military basis, the effectives of which have not yet reached their full strength.

The plan of organisation provides for two forces:

(1) A force consisting of 9 mixed divisions for the maintenance of order and internal security;

(2) Twenty-eight frontier and coastguard battalions.
Effectives of Formations organised on a Military Basis.

Officers or officials ranking as officers\(^1\) .......... 3,411 3,236
N.C.O.s and men .......... 68,349 62,613
Total .......... 71,760 65,849

II. Navy.

List of Units.

(1932.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship Name</th>
<th>Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Babre</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palangue</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simorgh</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahrokh</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahbaze</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karkasse</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homay</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total .......... 4,070

The old cruisers Persepolis and Mozaffar, of 1,200 and 379 tons respectively, are to be taken out of commission and replaced by other vessels, and are not accordingly included in the list of vessels of the navy.

EFFECTIVES.

Average Daily Number of Effectives reached during the Year 1931-32.

Total effectives .......... 834
Officers .......... 24

III. Expenditure on National Defence.

I. Actual Expenditure for the Year 1931-32.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Land forces</th>
<th>Naval forces</th>
<th>Air forces</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Krans (000,000's)</td>
<td>Krans (000,000's)</td>
<td>Krans (000,000's)</td>
<td>Krans (000,000's)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective</td>
<td>122.0</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>128.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War material</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>105.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>225.9</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>265.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Including officers (actual effectives: 105; average effectives: 97) and N.C.O.s and men (actual effectives: 638; average effectives: 549) of the air formations organised on a military basis.
NOTES.—1. Expenditure on pay of reserves for the year 1931-32:

Remuneration outside periods of training of personnel not employed None
Remuneration during training of reservists called up None

2. Expenditure on shipbuilding for the year 1931-32:

New construction 22.3
Maintenance and repairs 0.1

3. Statement of the amount outstanding, at the end of the financial year 1931-32, of block credits voted in respect of expenditure for more than one year:

I. Balance of the credit voted by the 1308 (1929-30) Budget Law for the purchase of material 0.8
II. Carry-over credit voted by the Finance Act of March 17th, 1932, for the purchase of material (£1,500,000) at the current rate of exchange 135.0
III. Balance of credit for the purchase of ships 12.1

4. Statement of the amount outstanding on March 20th, 1932, in respect of purchases on credit or deferred payments relating to goods delivered or services rendered, in cases where the due dates of payment are later than those customary in contracts of the same kind which do not provide any special credit facilities None

5. Statement for the financial year 1931-32 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 None

6. Expenditure in respect of pensions for the year 1931-32:

I. Military personnel:
   (a) Service pensions None
   (b) Invalidity pensions None
   (c) Mixed pensions None

II. Civil personnel: pensions None

III. War pensions None

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 None

At the outset of the organisation of the new army, a certain number of old officers were automatically placed on the retired list by a Finance Act making their pensions a direct charge on the Finance Ministry, like the pensions of retired civilians.

A second law established a special Retiring Pensions Fund for officers and others in the same position. The fund is supplied by a deduction of 5 per cent from the pay of the army.

Military pensions, being financed henceforward out of the accumulations of the fund, are no longer entered in the State accounts.
2. Budget Expenditure for the Years 1925-26 to 1929-30.

The data in the table below are from earlier editions of the Armaments Year-Book. These data should not be compared with those given above, which are based on the answer of the Persian Government in response to the Council's request for information concerning the state of its armaments (see Preface, page 4).

<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>98.7</td>
<td>99.8</td>
<td>98.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of ammunition</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes.—1. The Ministry of Finance has been authorised to pay to the Ministry of War a sum of 60 million krans for the purchase of ammunition, to be repaid out of budget savings in the years 1930-31 and 1931-32.

2. The figures above do not include the expenditure for military pensions, which are accounted for in the budget jointly with civil pensions.