

Tenth Year.

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LEAGUE OF NATIONS**ARMAMENTS YEAR-BOOK****General and Statistical Information**

Afghanistan — Albania — Sa'udi Arabia — Argentine — Australia  
 — Austria — Belgium — Bolivia — Brazil — Bulgaria — Canada  
 — Chile — China — Colombia — Costa Rica — Cuba — Czecho-  
 slovakia — Denmark — Dominican Republic — Ecuador —  
 Egypt — Estonia — Finland — France — Germany — Greece  
 — Guatemala — Haiti — Honduras — Hungary — India —  
 — Iraq — Irish Free State — Italy — Japan — Latvia  
 — Liberia — Lithuania — Luxemburg — Mexico  
 — Netherlands — New Zealand — Nicaragua —  
 Norway — Panama — Paraguay — Persia —  
 Peru — Poland — Portugal — Roumania  
 — Salvador — Siam — Spain — Sweden —  
 Switzerland — Turkey — Union of South  
 Africa — Union of Soviet Socialist  
 Republics — United Kingdom of  
 Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
 (including British Colonies and  
 Protectorates and Newfoundland)  
 — United States of America —  
 Uruguay — Venezuela —  
 — Yugoslavia (Kingdom of).

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PREFACE

The *Armaments Year-Book* is published in pursuance of the decision taken by the Council of the League of Nations in July 1923 and in conformity with the principles laid down by the Council and the Assembly of the League of Nations.<sup>1</sup>

The present edition (tenth year) has been revised and, as far as possible, brought up to date and completed in the light of the most recent official publications; it contains monographs on sixty-four countries, both Members and non-members of the League. In the case of countries possessing colonies and colonial forces, the monographs also give detailed information on the organisation and composition of such forces.

It has been possible in most cases, with the aid of publications appearing at frequent intervals, to follow the changes which have taken place in the military organisation of the different countries up to May 1934. As regards budgetary effectives and expenditure on national defence, it has been possible to give figures for 1933 (or 1933-34) for nearly all countries and in a great number of cases for 1934 (or 1934-35).

Owing to the difference in military systems and the transitional state of the laws on armaments in certain countries, it has not been possible to follow a uniform plan in all the monographs. The information given is more or less detailed according as the military systems described are more or less complicated and as the documents at the disposal of the Secretariat are more or less numerous.

There is a close connection between the different chapters of each monograph. To form a correct idea of any particular aspect of the military organisation of a given country, it is therefore necessary to read the whole monograph, or at any rate those chapters which supplement one another. For example, a perusal of the chapter concerning military effectives is not always sufficient to give a correct idea of the situation; in some cases, it must be supplemented by reading the chapter on the system of recruiting (period of service, etc.).

The information on which the present publication is based is derived from two sources: the communications from various Governments to the Secretariat on the occasion of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments and the official publications of the different countries, such as collections of laws, official journals, army gazettes, military year-books, statistical publications, etc.,

<sup>1</sup> For details, see the introduction to the first edition of the *Year-Book*, published in 1924. S. D. N. 1.215 (F) 1.040 (A) 6/34. Imp. Réunies, Chambéry.

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which the Secretariat has been able to obtain. In the large majority of cases, the communications sent to the Conference contained information as to the effectives of armed forces, the organisation of police forces, air material and naval material.

As this information refers for the most part to the year 1931-32, more recent particulars taken from the official publications received by the Secretariat in the meantime have been added. In particular, as regards the effectives of armed forces, the reader's attention is called to the fact that it is impossible to compare the figures for effectives published on the basis of the information contained in the various communications from the Governments to the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments and those appearing in other official publications of the same Governments. The latter are generally budgetary or establishment effectives, whereas the former are the average daily effectives calculated on a system established in the draft Convention of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission.

The chapters of the *Armaments Year-Book* containing information on the principal characteristics of the armed forces of the different countries, the organs of military command and administration, territorial military areas, the organisation and composition of land army, air force and navy, system of recruiting and period of service, military training, etc., are based on the above-mentioned official publications.

Each monograph is preceded by a short table which, as a rule, gives particulars of the area, population, length of railways and length of land and sea frontiers of the country in question.

Wherever possible, the length of the land frontiers of the country with all the neighbouring countries has been given. As the information regarding the length of frontiers has been taken from the official publications of the respective countries, there is in some cases a certain discrepancy between the figures relating to the same frontier.

The reader will find at the end of the volume a bibliography for every country which appears in the *Armaments Year-Book*, indicating all the documents consulted in the preparation of the present publication.

The *Armaments Year-Book* contains two annexes. Annex I relates to the Conventions, Treaties and Agreements concluded between different countries from 1817 to 1931, which are at present in force and relate to questions generally affecting the reduction and limitation of the armaments of the contracting countries. Annex II contains a number of recapitulatory statistical tables and graphs showing world military expenditure, the essential characteristics of the army of each country, the navies of a number of countries, etc.

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Each monograph is divided into three or four parts—namely : I, Land Army; II, Air Force; III, Navy; IV, Expenditure on National

Defence. In cases where the air force is not organised as an autonomous arm, it is included in the chapter dealing with the army.

## I. ARMY.

In preparing this part, the Secretariat has taken into consideration the following points :

- Main characteristics of the armed forces.
- Organs of military command and administration.
- Territorial military areas.
- Organisation and composition of the army (higher units, arms and services).
- Police forces.
- System of recruiting and period of service.
- Cadres (recruiting, promotion).—Schools.
- Preparatory military training and training outside the army.
- Army effectives.

## II. AIR FORCE.

For the air force, in cases where it is organised as an independent arm, the same arrangement as for the army has been followed as far as possible.

## III. NAVY.

This chapter contains information on various warships by categories (battleships and battle-cruisers, coast-defence ships, aircraft-carriers, cruisers, destroyers and torpedo-boats, submarines), together with information concerning the most important characteristics of each vessel or of each class of vessel (dimensions, tonnage<sup>1</sup>, motive power, armaments, etc.). For some countries, a summary is also given of the organisation of the central administration of the navy, and, where possible, the effectives of the naval forces have been indicated.

## IV. EXPENDITURE ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The tables of national defence expenditure have been prepared in accordance with the method explained in the introduction to previous

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<sup>1</sup> The tonnage is given in most cases in the form of standard displacement ; in some cases it is given as normal displacement :

*Standard Displacement.*—According to the definition given in the Washington Naval Treaty (Chapter II, Part IV), standard displacement is “the displacement of the ship complete, fully manned, engaged and equipped ready for sea, including all armament and ammunition, equipment, outfit, provisions and fresh water for crew, miscellaneous stores and implements of every description that are intended to be carried in war, but *without fuel or reserve feed water on board*”.

*Normal Displacement* (Cases of Normal Armament).—The normal displacement is the standard displacement plus part only of the weight of the fuel and the whole (in the case of large ships) or part only (in that of small ships) of the weight of the reserve fuel water on board.

editions of the *Armaments Year-Book*, that is, generally speaking, without attempting "to recast defence budgets according to a standard system in order to make them comparable".

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## PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS AND RAW MATERIALS AFFECTING NATIONAL DEFENCE.

In order to avoid all duplication, and as a measure of economy, it has been decided to discontinue publishing in the *Armaments Year-Book* the information on the raw materials and other products affecting national defence.

The Secretariat publishes every year very detailed information on the production of and trade in a large number of raw materials and other products.

The reader will find in particular in the *Statistical Year-Book of the League of Nations* (Year 1933-34) the following statistical information :

Fuel : coal, lignite, petroleum.

Ores and Metals :

I. Ores : iron, copper, lead, zinc, tin.

II. Metals : pig-iron and ferro-alloys, steel, copper, lead, zinc, tin, aluminium, nickel.

Chemical Products : natural phosphates, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, cyanamide of calcium, sulphur, salt.

Agricultural Products : wheat, rye, barley, oats, maize, rice.

Potatoes.

Livestock.

Various Products : cotton, flax, wool, rubber.

For the international trade in these products, the reader is referred to the Secretariat's publication entitled *International Trade Statistics*, 1931 and 1932 (published in 1933).