ESTONIA

Area ...................................................... 48,000 sq. km.
Population (III. 1934) .................................. 1,125,000
Density per sq. km. ..................................... 23.4
Length of railway system (III. 1932) ............... 1,434 km.

ORGANS OF MILITARY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION.

The supreme command of the army is vested in the President of the Republic, who exercises it through the Government of the Republic, the Minister for National Defence and the commander of the armed forces.

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

In exercising his functions, the President of the Republic is assisted by the Council of National Defence, an advisory body consisting of the members of the Government and a certain number of military commanders of high rank, occupying important posts. It studies all questions relating to national defence submitted to it by the President of the Republic.

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Government of the Republic sees that the existing national defence resources are utilised to the best advantage and settles the various economic questions relating to national defence.

MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The chief task of the Minister for National Defence is to supervise the military administration of the budget, and the supply and medical services of the armed forces, and to deal with questions of military justice. The following are under his orders: the administrative supply services, the medical service, the supreme court martial, the Judge-Advocate, the legal adviser to the Ministry of National Defence. The Minister for National Defence is assisted by the Council of the Ministry of National Defence, an advisory body consisting of the Deputy Minister for National Defence, the permanent members, the
group commanders of the armed forces, the heads of the administrative
departments, the inspectors of the infantry, artillery, engineers,
cavalry and musketry and the commander of the Civic Guard. The
Council's task is to study various economic questions and to give its
opinion on any other matter submitted to it by the Minister for
National Defence.

COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES.

In time of peace, the commander of the armed forces has command
over all the national defence forces. He is directly responsible to the
President of the Republic. The commander of the armed forces has
under his orders the chief of the General Staff, the divisional comman-
ders, the commanders of the naval and air forces and of the Civic
Guard, the inspectors of the infantry, artillery, etc., and the chief
of the combined military schools.

GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES.

The General Staff of the armed forces is placed under the authority
of the commander of the armed forces. As regards questions of
organisation and effective, it is also under the Minister for National
Defence. It is divided into seven sections (operations, intelligence,
communications, administration, organisation and mobilisation,
training, cartography).

MILITARY TERRITORIAL AREAS AND DISTRICTS.

For purposes of command, Estonia is divided into three divisional
areas, each consisting of two or three military districts. There are
eight districts in all. The commanders of all the infantry, artillery,
armoured train and guard units stationed in the various districts
are under the commander of their military district. The naval and
air force units and the combined military schools are not under the
divisional commanders (divisional area) or the military district
commanders, but are placed under their respective higher commands.

I. Army.

COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.

1. Higher Units.

3 divisions of infantry.
2. Arms and Services.

Infantry.

2 regiments.
12 independent battalions (36 companies).
Each regiment consists of 3 battalions of 3 rifle companies and 1 heavy machine-gun company.

Cavalry.

1 regiment consisting of 4 line squadrons and 1 heavy machine-gun squadron.

Artillery.

5 groups of field artillery with 3 or 4 batteries each.
1 anti-aircraft artillery group.

Engineers.

2 battalions.
A pioneer battalion consisting of 2 companies of sappers, 1 company of railway engineers, 1 anti-gas company, 1 searchlight company, 1 training company.
A signal battalion consisting of 3 signal companies, 1 carrier-pigeon park, 1 training company.

Armoured Units.

1 regiment of armoured cars and tanks.
2 regiments of armoured trains (4 trains).
The regiment of armoured cars and tanks consists of 1 company of light tanks, 1 heavy tanks section, 2 companies of armoured cars, 1 company of motor vehicles, 1 training company.

Air Force.

3 aviation groups, 1 naval aviation detachment and 1 school of aviation, comprising 68 aeroplanes (total horse-power: 23,400).
The air force establishment (1933) is 517 officers, N.C.O.s and other ranks.

STATE POLICE, FRONTIER GUARD AND CIVIC GUARD.

State Police.

The approximate effective of the State police is 1,200. The individual arms are automatic pistol, rifle and rubber club. The training of the police is given in the police training-school; the duration of the training is six months and includes, from a military point of view, (a) training in the use of arms included in regulation equipment and (b) practice for street fighting. Conditions of service are the same as for other State employees.
Frontier Guard.

The frontier guard is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior. The guard is an organisation of a military character and comprises about 800 men. The individual arms of the guard consist of pistols and rifles; the collective arms comprise light machine-guns.

The frontier guards are recruited from men having accomplished their military service in the army. Engagement is voluntary, the length of service being generally one year. Other conditions are similar to those obtaining for persons seeking re-engagement in the army.

Civic Guard.

The duties of the civic guard are to help the legal authorities of Estonia in preserving order under the Constitution, also to defend the constitutional Government, to give help in public calamities, to encourage a patriotic and national feeling, and to assist in the physical development of the people.

The civic guard (32,000 men and 12,000 women) is composed of citizens who are admitted according to the statutes of the guard; women form organisations with a special view to helping the guard. As regards operations and training, the civic guard is under the command of the armed forces.

The activities of the civic guard are actually directed by the chief of the civic guard. The guard is composed of territorial units (regiments, representing either a town or a province); with regard to operative functions, it is organised in complete analogy to military units (companies, battalions, etc.).

RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.

All citizens of the Estonian Republic are liable for military service. Military service is divided into four stages:

(a) Service in the active army;
(b) On furlough from the active army;
(c) Service in the reserve;
(d) Service in the territorial force.

Duration of Service (in Days).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infantry, artillery and cavalry</th>
<th>Other troops, air force, navy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First period</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Following periods</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>772</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contingents are incorporated in the active army on two occasions in each year. The men called up for service are those who reached the age of 20 on January 1st of the current year.

The total period of service in the active army and on furlough is five years.

Citizens who have completed their period on furlough from the active army are transferred to the reserve up to the age of 45.

The reservists may be called up for not more than four periods of training, not exceeding six months in all (N.C.O.s and specialists may be called up for six periods not exceeding nine months in all). Service in the territorial force lasts until the age of 55.
Cadres.

The officers of the army receive their training in the United Military Schools, which include the following schools: Staff College; Military School (3 companies of infantry, 1 battery); School for N.C.O.s (2 companies of infantry, 1 battery and 1 squadron); Course for majors.

**EFFECTIVES.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1924</th>
<th>1925</th>
<th>1926</th>
<th>1927</th>
<th>1928</th>
<th>1929</th>
<th>1930</th>
<th>1931</th>
<th>1932</th>
<th>1933</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officers</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,325</td>
<td>1,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.C.O.s and men</td>
<td>18,900</td>
<td>16,375</td>
<td>15,840</td>
<td>15,840</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>12,243</td>
<td>9,722</td>
<td>9,526</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20,500</td>
<td>17,875</td>
<td>17,340</td>
<td>17,340</td>
<td>13,300</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>13,533</td>
<td>11,047</td>
<td>10,849</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Navy.

**LIST OF UNITS.**

*(1933.)*

Torpedo-boat:

*Sulev* (1917)  
Displacement, 200 tons. Dimensions: $165\frac{1}{2} \times 17\frac{1}{2} \times 6$ feet. Guns: 2 3-inch, 2 torpedo-tubes (18-inch).

Miscellaneous: 7 units (gunboats, minelayers, despatch-boats).

III. Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

The financial year covers the period April 1st to March 31st.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1928-29</th>
<th>1929-30</th>
<th>1930-31</th>
<th>1931-32</th>
<th>1932-33</th>
<th>1933-34</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of War:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary expenditure</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary expenditure</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Index numbers of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1928-29</th>
<th>1929-30</th>
<th>1930-31</th>
<th>1931-32</th>
<th>1932-33</th>
<th>1933-34</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale prices <em>(1913 = 100)</em></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>86¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail prices: Cost of living <em>(1913 = 100)</em></td>
<td>115</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>89²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Average, April to November 1933.  
² Average, April to December 1933.

**Note.**—Military pensions are not included in the figures above. They are shown under the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, jointly with other pensions.

¹ On August 1st, 1931.