ECUADOR

Area ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 307,000 sq. km.
Population (estimate) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 2,000,000
Density per sq. km. ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 6.5
Length of railway system (1930) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 1,030 km.

I. Army.

ORGANS OF MILITARY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION.

The supreme military authority is in the hands of the President of the Republic.

In time of war, the head of the executive may appoint a commander-in-chief. The latter assumes full power and responsibility for the conduct of the war.

1. THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The Ministry of National Defence administers the land, sea and air forces of the country.

It consists of the Minister's Secretariat, the Secretarial Branch, the General Archives and the General Department (personnel, military works, military justice and paymaster's office).

2. HIGHER COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Secretariat of the Armed Forces Command;
1st Department: Army (consisting of 3 sections: infantry and cavalry, artillery and engineers, war material);
2nd Department: Navy (comprising the Navy Staff and the Personnel and Navy Material Section);
3rd Department: Air Force;
4th Department: Services (consisting of 5 sections: Army Intendance, Medical Corps, Chemical Section, Arms and Ammunition Section, Remount Service).

The Ministry of National Defence, as the principal organ of national defence, is responsible for directing and co-ordinating the work of the other organs, in accordance with the suggestions of the Council of National Defence, and with the co-operation of the Inspector-General of the Army and the Chief of the General Staff.
3. Army General Staff.

In agreement with the Minister of National Defence, the General Staff is entrusted with the technical preparation of the army. It consists of:

- The Command of the Chief of the General Staff;
- The Secretariat;
- Department I: Training and history;
- Department II: Operations, intelligence and statistics;
- Department III: Mobilisation and transportation.

There is also a geographical service, under the General Staff.

4. Inspectorate-General of the Army.

The Inspectorate-General of the Army is under the Ministry of National Defence and exercises administrative, economic and technical control over the army. It consists of the Secretariat of the Inspectorate-General and of two sections (infantry and cavalry; artillery, transport and technical services).


The Council of National Defence has to examine and deal with the problem of national defence and to ensure uniformity and permanence in the country's military preparation.

TERRITORIAL MILITARY AREAS.

The Republic is divided into four military areas, which are under the authority of the General Staff and the Ministry of National Defence.

COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.¹

The army is organised in four brigades.

- **Infantry**: 9 battalions. Each battalion consists of 3 rifle companies and 1 heavy machine-gun company.
- **Cavalry**: 1 regiment and 3 independent groups. A cavalry regiment is formed of 3 squadrons.
- **Artillery**: 4 groups.
- **Engineers**: 4 engineer battalions, 2 independent battalions and 1 independent company of sappers.
- **Air Force**: 1 group.

The army has also the following auxiliary services: intendance, medical, sanitary, chemical, veterinary, etc., services.

¹ On November 4th, 1935.
RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.

Military service is compulsory for all citizens between the ages of 18 and 50 inclusive.

The term of service in the permanent army is one year. After completing their service with the colours, citizens are placed in the first reserve, where they remain until the age of 35; they are then transferred to the second reserve, where they remain until the age of 50 inclusive. The second reserve also includes youths aged 18-19.

The President of the Republic designates the contingent of men aged 20 to be incorporated in the army. When only part of the contingent is called up, lots are drawn among those who are required to report; the remainder of the contingent forms the depot of the standing army. This army consists solely of cadres of instructors in which the whole or part of the contingent of men aged 20 is incorporated each year.

The President of the Republic may call up for service at the same time each year not more than two reserve contingents for a period of forty-five days, which he can extend, with the consent of the Council of State, to ninety days. If it is desired to call up a larger number of reserve contingents, or to keep them with the colours for more than ninety days, the authorisation of Congress is necessary in time of peace, and the introduction of a provision into the law on army organisation in time of war.

Cadres.

(a) Recruiting of Officers for the Active Army.

The officers of the standing army are commissioned from the military college or institutions established for the instruction and training of cadets; promoted from the ranks or, lastly, selected from personnel on the "available" and "retired" lists.

As regards promotion from the ranks, first-class sergeants born in Ecuador who have passed an examination, are not over 27 years of age and are unmarried, can obtain commissioned rank by promotions which take place once a year under the conditions stated below.

To obtain promotion to the rank of officer, first-class sergeants must have served at least seven years in the ranks, including two consecutive years as first-class sergeants.

Preference is given to first-class sergeants who have obtained the highest places in the annual examinations.

(b) Recruiting of Reserve Officers.

Reserve officers are recruited:

(a) From among officers who have retired from the active army but have kept their military rank;
(b) From among first-class sergeants who have voluntarily left the active army after more than ten years' service, including two years' service as non-commissioned officers;

(c) From among citizens who have completed their compulsory military service as reserve officer cadets.

Military Schools.

The most advanced centre of technical studies is the Higher War School. There is also a military college for officers, a school for non-commissioned officers, a radio-telegraphic school and schools for the different arms (artillery, infantry, cavalry, etc.).

An aviation school has been established and is administered by senior officers of the army, the technical direction being in the hands of Italian officers. This school possesses special aerodromes at Quito and Guayaquil.

A practical training school for subaltern officers (one-year course) was formed in 1929.

ESTABLISHMENT.

(1935.)

Officers: ¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generals</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonels</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant-Colonels</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majors</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captains</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenants</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenants</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>702</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.C.O.s            | 531    |

Corporals and other ranks | 6,302 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>6,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand total          | 7,535  |

Police.²

(1935.)

National police     | 3,526  |

¹ Including 82 administrative officers, 66 army doctors and 2 civilians ranking as officers.
² Under the Ministry of the Interior, not including officials.
II. Navy.

LIST OF UNITS. 
(1935.)

The Ecuadorian navy consists of 1 cruiser (*Presidente Alfaro*), 1 gunboat (300 tons) and 1 despatch-boat.

Total effectives for 1936: 394 officers and ratings.

III. Budget Expenditure on National Defence.

The budget year coincides with the calendar year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1931</th>
<th>1932</th>
<th>1933</th>
<th>1934</th>
<th>1935</th>
<th>1936</th>
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<tr>
<td>Closed accounts</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of War, the Marine and Aviation .. .. .. .. ..</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES.—1.** Certain services of a civil character are included under naval expenditure—e.g., lighthouses, harbour administration.

2. Military pensions, not included in the above table, are shown jointly with civil pensions under the heading: “General and unforeseen expenditure and pensions”.

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