<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>56,000 sq. km.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (XII. 1935)</td>
<td>2,500,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density per sq. km</td>
<td>44.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Length of land frontiers:

- With Germany: 272 km.
- With Latvia: 570 km.
- With Poland (provisional administrative boundary): 525 km.

Total: 1,367 km.

Seaboard: 90 km.

Length of railway system (1934): 1,699 km.

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I. Army.

**ORGANS OF MILITARY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION.**

1. **President of the Republic.**

   The President of the Republic is the supreme head of all the armed forces of the Republic.

   The President of the Republic proclaims the mobilisation and demobilisation of the armed forces; orders the Commander-in-Chief to begin military operations should war be declared on Lithuania or hostile forces invade Lithuanian territory; orders the Commander-in-Chief to cease military operations; appoints officers of and above the rank of regimental commander and accepts their resignation, etc.

   **Council for the Defence of the State.**

   The President of the Republic is assisted by the Council for the Defence of the State.

   The Council for the Defence of the State consists of the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, the Ministers of National Defence, Finance, Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs, the Commander-in-Chief and the Head of the Commissariat.
The other Ministers sit on the Council for the Defence of the State when questions affecting their departments are discussed. The Commander-in-Chief acts as Rapporteur to the Council for the Defence of the State.

The function of the Council for the Defence of the State is to consider national defence questions.

The resolutions of the Council for the Defence of the State must be countersigned by the President of the Republic.

Meetings of the Council for the Defence of the State are convened and presided over by the President of the Republic, or by the Prime Minister if the President of the Republic entrusts him with these duties.

The regulations governing the work of the Council for the Defence of the State are approved by the President of the Republic.

2. MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

The Minister of National Defence is the head of all the armed forces. The Prime Minister, or another Minister appointed by the Prime Minister for the purpose, may act for the Minister of National Defence.

The following officials are under the direct orders of the Minister of National Defence: the Commander-in-Chief, the Head of the Commissariat, the President of the Military Tribunal, the Attorney-General of the Military Tribunal and the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of National Defence.

The Minister of National Defence is responsible for the preparation of the nation and the State for the case of hostilities; for equipping the army to meet the needs of organisation, mobilisation and operations; for administering the credits granted to the Ministry of National Defence and supervising the drafting of its budget, etc.

War Council.

The War Council is an advisory body attached to the Minister of National Defence.

The War Council consists of: the Minister of National Defence, the Commander-in-Chief, the Head of the Commissariat and the Chief of the Army Staff.

On the order of the Minister of National Defence, one of the Divisional Commanders takes part in the meetings of the War Council.

The Minister of National Defence has the right to call upon other army chiefs to attend the meetings of the War Council also.

The meetings of the War Council are convened and presided over by the Minister of National Defence, or the Commander-in-Chief if empowered by the Minister.
3. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY.

The Commander-in-Chief is responsible for training all the armed forces for the case of hostilities.

The Chief of the Army Staff may act for the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief has under his direct orders: the Chief of the Army Staff, the Commanders of Divisions, the Chiefs and Inspectors of the various arms, the Chiefs of Military Training Institutions, the Head of the Rifle Association and the Senior Military Chaplain.

For purposes of training, education and discipline, the whole army is under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief approves the mobilisation and organisation schemes drawn up according to his instructions, the regulations and orders for training and tactics; supervises the training of the army, inspects the troops and services, decides on army quarters, verifies the preparedness of the nation and State for mobilisation and war, etc., and is also responsible for the training of reserve troops and the military training of the population.

4. ARMY STAFF.

The Army Staff includes the following subdivisions:

   First section: Operations, military training;
   Second section: Intelligence;
   Third section: Mobilisation, organisation and material;
   Fourth section: Transport, supplies and evacuation;
   Army Topographical Service;
   Personnel Section;
   Press and General Instruction Section.

5. HEAD OF THE COMMISSARIAT.

The Head of the Commissariat organises and supervises army supplies.

The circulars and instructions of the Head of the Commissariat are obligatory on the whole army.

The Head of the Commissariat co-ordinates his work with the requirements of the Commander-in-Chief.

The following are under the direct authority of the Head of the Commissariat: the Head of the Armaments Department, the Intendant of the Army, the Head of the Military Buildings Department, the Head of the Army Medical Service, the Head of the Army Veterinary Service.
6. Inspectorates and Directorates of Arms and Services.

The Inspector of the Infantry; the Inspector of the Artillery.
The Chief of the Cavalry.
The Chief of the Technical Troops.
The Chief of the Medical Service.
The Chief of the Veterinary Service.
The Chief of Anti-aircraft Defence and of the Defence of the Population against Chemical Attacks from the Air.

Territorial Military Districts.

The country is divided into three territorial districts for the active army.

Each territorial military district is under a general officer who commands, with a few exceptions (technical troops, etc.), all the active army troops stationed within that district.

Composition of the Army.  

1. Higher Formations.
   3 infantry divisions.
   1 cavalry brigade.

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

   The cavalry brigade consists of 3 regiments.

2. Arms and Services.

Infantry.

9 regiments.

Each regiment consists of 3 battalions.

Cavalry.

3 cavalry regiments.

1 remount squadron.

Artillery.

4 regiments.

Technical Troops.

1 signal battalion.

1 armoured detachment.

2 battalions of pioneers.

1 May 1936.
Air Force.

1 reconnaissance group.
1 fighter group.
1 bombing group.
1 anti-aircraft defence detachment.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

(Lietuvos Šaulių Sąjunga.)

The Rifle Association is a public military organisation designed to strengthen the nation's powers of resistance and increase the defensive capacity of the State.

The Rifle Association is an organisation of marksmen which arranges for the military training of its members, instructs the population to defend themselves against air attacks and inculcates military discipline as a preparation for military life and a means of increasing physical strength and endurance. In certain circumstances, the association also assists the police.

The Rifle Association is controlled by the Minister of National Defence, and is under the direct orders of the head of the army.

Proposals regarding the organisation of the association are made by the head of the army and approved by the Minister of National Defence in so far as funds allow.

The association is sub-divided into groups and sections. Sections may comprise companies, squadrons, batteries and other military units.

The association receives weapons and war material from the Minister of National Defence.

The members of the association, known as riflemen, are sub-divided into active, female, passive and honorary members.

Active members who have completed the prescribed training-courses, passed the tests and obtained a satisfactory certificate from the group commander may be exempted from several terms of military training in the army. Reserve officers who are active members of the association have a preferential right to promotion in the reserve forces.

The funds received from the State are expended in accordance with the rules laid down by the Ministry of National Defence. The utilisation of other funds is regulated by the committees in accordance with budget arrangements and the association's working programme, and is accounted for in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of National Defence.

The total membership of the Rifle Association is about 55,000.

SERVICE OF DRAGOONS.

The dragoons are the local cavalry formation and are organised into cavalry troops. The latter may consist of separate units or be formed into squadrons, and the squadrons may be combined into sections.

Each troop of dragoons corresponds to a given district. Squadrons may be drawn from the area of several districts.

In peace-time, the squadrons are placed under the orders of the cavalry commander acting through the district commanders, and, in war-time, in accordance with the instructions of the Army General Staff.

In peace-time, the troops of dragoons are commanded by officers of the cavalry reserve and the higher formations by officers of the active army.
The officers commanding the cavalry troops and squadrons are appointed and discharged by the cavalry commander. The following are entitled to become dragoons: officers of the cavalry reserve, men of the reserve and of the active army, recruits and volunteers who have not yet attained the age of compulsory military service and are in a position to provide for the maintenance of the horses with which they are supplied.

Officers must not be over the age of 40, and other ranks not over 27.

They must be physically fit for service in the active cavalry formations. The period of service in the dragoons is seven months. It begins on April 1st and ends on November 1st.

Dragoons who have concluded the stipulated period of service with the colours are granted long furlough.

In the dragoons, such furlough is granted for a period of seven years. Dragoons who have concluded the stipulated period on long furlough may, on application, have this furlough extended for a further period of three years.

The dragoons may be called up each year for one month for military training.

The dragoons called up for military training, and their horses, are maintained at the cost of the State as special army formations from the date of their arrival at the place of assembly.

If called up for service with the colours, or if mobilisation has been declared, dragoons on long furlough are incorporated in the army according to plan.

**POLICE FORCES.**

*Public Police* (urban and rural police).

The effective of the public police is 1,597 employees and policemen. The individual arms of the public police consist of automatic pistols and rifles; the collective arms consist of a certain number of light machine-guns.

Moreover, there are: (1) *Railway Police*; (2) *River Police*; (3) *Criminal Police*; (4) *Autonomous Police of the Territory of Memel*; (5) *Municipal Police*; and (6) *Frontier Police* (2,068 employees). The individual arms of the above-mentioned corps consist of automatic pistol and rifle for the criminal police and the frontier police, which has also collective arms consisting of a certain number of light machine-guns.

The method of recruiting is based on voluntary engagement for an indefinite period.

The training of police officials is given in the police school (duration of training: nine months).

**RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.**

The regular forces comprise:

(a) The active army (regulars, and one and a half contingents of conscripts);

(b) The reserve of the active army (men who have performed their period of active service);

(c) Territorial reserve;

(d) Reserve of recruits (men in excess of the annual contingent of conscripts).
Military service is compulsory. The period of military obligation in the regular army is divided up as follows:

(1) Thirteen years and a half in the active army and its reserve (including period when available without mobilisation);
(2) Ten years in the territorial reserve.

The periods of compulsory service performed by citizens of the Republic are seen in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular army</th>
<th>17-21.5 years</th>
<th>21.5-23 years</th>
<th>23-25 years</th>
<th>25-35 years</th>
<th>35-45 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young men have to undergo compulsory pre-military training (actually carried out in the secondary and special schools).</td>
<td>Reserve of recruits consisting of conscripts in excess of the numbers which may be embodied annually.</td>
<td></td>
<td>21.5-35 years. Reserve of recruits. First category</td>
<td>35-45 years. Reserve of recruits. Second category</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The duration of active service, which, in 1929, was eighteen months in the infantry and two years in other arms, has now been fixed for all the arms alike at eighteen months.

Conscripts are embodied in the active army at the age of 21. Enrolment takes place twice a year: on May 1st and November 1st. The law makes provision in special cases for exemption, postponement of service, etc.

Periods of training are provided for the reserve of the active army, the territorial reserve, the reserve of recruits and for the so-called "first-line" auxiliary force. The reserve of the active army has to perform three periods of training, the first consisting of six weeks, and the second and third of four weeks; the territorial reserve has a single period of training of four weeks; the reserve of recruits has three periods, consisting respectively of three months, six weeks and four weeks.

The annual contingent of recruits is about 20,000 men.

Recruiting of Officers.

The lower ranks of the cadres are recruited from active service and re-engaged men, possessing a fair general education, who have passed the final examination after a course in the regimental schools.

Officers are recruited from the Central Military School (infantry, artillery and cavalry sections), where the course of study lasts two or three years.

Conscripts or voluntarily enlisted men who have passed the leaving examination of a secondary school preparing candidates for the
university may be commissioned as second lieutenants after two years' study. Officers complete their education in the Staff College and the various practical training schools, in which the length of courses varies according to the arm.

There are, further, one or more refresher courses for superior officers, organised at irregular intervals, and also preparatory courses for promotion to a higher rank, etc.

Second lieutenants in the reserve are recruited from the Cadet School (a subdivision of the Central Military School). Conscripts possessing the necessary education perform a year's study, at the end of which they may be promoted to the rank of second lieutenant in the reserve.

**PREPARATORY MILITARY TRAINING.**

There is no special law governing pre-regimental or preparatory military training in Lithuania.

It should, however, be noted that the members of the Rifle Association receive a certain amount of military training, which does not, however, exempt them from service with the colours.

Further, with the consent of the Ministry of Education, military training is given in the State schools, where officers from various garrisons and reserve officers are responsible for physical training and military drill (without arms) and elementary instruction in army regulations.

**DEFENCE AGAINST ATTACKS FROM THE AIR.**

The Minister of National Defence is responsible for the organisation of defence.

The preparation and execution of defence measures are supervised by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army in person or by those to whom he delegates his powers.

An advisory body — the Air Defence Commission — has been set up at the Ministry of National Defence for the discussion of defence questions and the co-ordination of defence measures.

This Commission consists of the President, who is appointed by the Minister of National Defence, and representatives of the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Education respectively.

The Commission may also invite representatives of the other Ministries or of organisations and experts on various subjects to be present at its meetings.

Natural persons and legal entities may be required to perform the personal and material duties and obligations necessary for the purpose of organising and carrying out defence measures.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Army gives orders for anti-air-attack drill under a director of his own appointing.

The latter's orders must be obeyed by the whole population.

**EFFECTIVES.**

(1935.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land armed forces and Air</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>22,550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. **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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closed accounts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of National Defence</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>46.4</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td>49.9</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index numbers of retail prices:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of living (1929 = 100)</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45(^1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Average, January to April 1936,

**Notes.**—1. The above figures represent expenditure on the army and the air force.

2. Lithuania has no navy.

3. Military and civil pensions are given jointly in the budget under the section for Social Welfare.