AUSTRIA

Area ........ 84,000 sq. km.
Population (III. 1934) .... 6,763,000
Density per sq. km. ...... 80.5
Length of railway system (XII. 1930) .... 6,724 km.

I. Army.

Note.—See below the provisional national defence regulations issued on September 4th, 1933.

ORGANS OF MILITARY COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

According to the Constitution Act 1929, the Federal President of the Republic is the head of the army, while the Federal Minister for National Defence performs the functions of the actual commander. The Federal Ministry of National Defence has supreme control of the Federal army and the Federal Military Administration. It is under the direction of a Federal Minister, who is responsible to the National Council.

ORGANISATIONS DIRECTLY UNDER THE FEDERAL MINISTRY.

SECTION I.

THE MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.

Administrative and routine questions; organisation and distribution; replacement of personnel; disciplinary matters and questions concerning associations; organisation of the services in the Federal War Ministry, etc.

Branch No. 1.


1 See Military, Naval and Air Clauses of the Treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye (Annex I).
Branch No. 2.
Military training and general civic education in the Federal army; training of soldiers for subsequent employment in civil life, libraries, etc.

Branch No. 3.
Personal files of officers in the fourth and lower classes, N.C.O.s, rank and file, etc.

Branch No. 4.
Buildings, permanent quarters, movable property.

Section II.

Branch No. 5.
All questions of technical military science.

Branch No. 6.
Purchase and administration of arsenal plant. Questions concerning State manufacture, purchase and administration of ammunition and explosives, monopoly of ammunition and explosives.

Branch No. 7.
Taxes, orders for payment and funds; budgetary questions; organisation of accountancy services; questions relating to depots; administrative audits, provident funds, etc.; clothing and equipment.

Legal Bureau.
Legislative studies, legislation concerning national defence, legal advice. Billeting of troops and teams. Questions of public and constitutional law, etc.

The Federal Ministry is assisted by the following officers:
The Army Inspector;
The Chaplain-General;
The Director of the Army Medical Service;
The Chief of Military Intendance;
The Chief of the Army Construction Department.

The Army Inspector, who has the rank of general, assists the Federal Ministry of National Defence, and, in his relations with it, is under the immediate orders of the Minister.

He is responsible for securing uniformity in the entire training of the troops, especially their military training, for the discipline and moral of the troops and their internal administration, and for the instruction, training and selection of the senior officers in every rank.

There are, in addition, inspectors of infantry, cavalry, artillery, pioneers, telegraphs and remounts.

Attached to the Ministry of National Defence is a Permanent Parliamentary Commission for the Army, which has supervisory powers over military administration but has no administrative powers.

It consists of three members elected by the National Council, one from each of the three largest parties. Each party gets a seat.

On the same basis a substitute is appointed for each member of the Permanent Parliamentary Commission. Only members of the National Council and the Federal Council are eligible for membership of the Commission.
MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUX.

Each province has a Military Administrative Bureau under the direct authority of the Federal Minister of National Defence. Each bureau is directed by an officer appointed with the approval of the provincial Government. The head of the bureau is assisted by an advisory commission of three members elected by the provincial Diet.

The special duties of the Military Administrative Bureau are as follows:

(a) To provide for the material welfare of the troops stationed in the province;
(b) To supervise the military establishments situated in the province;
(c) To advise commanding officers on questions of training;
(d) To direct and conduct recruiting;
(e) To maintain regular relations with the provincial administrative departments.

COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY.¹


No. 1 Burgenland Brigade Command (Vienna) includes 2 infantry regiments, 2 independent infantry battalions, 1 cyclist battalion, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 brigade telegraph company, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

No. 2 Brigade Command (Vienna) includes 2 infantry regiments, 2 cyclist battalions, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 independent regiment of artillery, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 telegraph company, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

No. 3 Lower Austria Brigade Command (St. Pölten) includes 2 infantry regiments, 1 cyclist battalion, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 brigade telegraph company, 1 bridging section, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

No. 4 Upper Austria Brigade Command (Linz) includes 2 regiments of Alpine infantry, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 telegraph company, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

No. 5 Styria Brigade Command (Graz) includes 2 regiments of Alpine infantry, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 telegraph company, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

No. 6 Carinthia, Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg Brigade Command (Innsbruck) includes 2 regiments of Alpine infantry, 2 independent

¹ On April 1st, 1934.
battalions of Alpine infantry, 2 cyclist battalions, 1 cavalry squadron, 1 brigade detachment of artillery, 1 pioneer battalion, 1 telegraph company, and 2 train companies (horse and motor traction).

2. Arms and Services.

**Infantry.**

- 6 regiments of infantry.
- 6 *Alpenjäger* regiments.
- 2 foot light infantry battalions forming a separate unit.
- 2 *Alpenjäger* battalions forming a separate unit.
- 6 light infantry cyclist battalions.

The infantry regiments and two *Alpenjäger* regiments consist of a regimental staff and 3 battalions of 4 companies each (3 companies of infantry and 1 machine-gun company).

The other four *Alpenjäger* regiments consist of a regimental staff and 2 battalions of 4 companies each (3 *Alpenjäger* companies and 1 machine-gun company).

The composition of infantry and *Alpenjäger* battalions forming separate units is the same as that of the ordinary regimental battalions.

Each cyclist battalion consists of a battalion staff, 3 cyclist companies and 1 cyclist machine-gun company.

**Ammunition Supply.**

- Rifle, 200 rounds; automatic pistol, 32 rounds in the infantry (or *Alpenjäger*); automatic rifle, 3,600 rounds, and machine-gun, 8,500 rounds; in cyclist battalions, machine-gun, 10,000 rounds.

**Cavalry.**

- 6 squadrons.

Each squadron consists of a squadron staff, 3 troops of cavalry, 1 mounted machine-gun section and 1 mounted technical troop.

**Artillery.**

- 6 brigade artillery groups and 1 independent artillery regiment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artillery Type</th>
<th>Number of Batteries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field artillery</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field howitzers</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorised artillery (104-mm.)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain artillery</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain howitzers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortars</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total                                | 32                  |
Armament and Ammunition.

The artillery armament consists of 80-mm. guns, Mod. 18, 100-mm. field, howitzers, Mod. 14, 75-mm. field guns, Mod. 15, 100-mm. mountain howitzers Mod. 16, 104-mm. field guns, Mod. 15, 104-mm. motor-drawn guns, Mod. 15, and 140-mm. mortars, Mod. 18.

Each artillery group has, in addition, 2 anti-aircraft machine-guns.

The ammunition supplies are as follows:

- For the 80-mm. field guns, Mod. 18: 120 rounds
- For the 100-mm. field howitzers, Mod. 14: 120 rounds
- For the 75-mm. mountain guns, Mod. 15: 20 rounds
- For the 100-mm. mountain howitzers, Mod. 16: 120 rounds
- For the 104-mm. field guns, Mod. 15: 120 rounds
- For the 104-mm. motor-drawn guns, Mod. 15: 120 rounds
- For the 140-mm. mortars, Mod. 18: 15 rounds

Engineers.

6 battalions of pioneers and 1 bridge section.

There are, in addition, 1 guard battalion (3 companies), 6 telegraph, 6 machine-gun squadrons and 6 motor-car train companies.

Summary Table of Units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Higher units</th>
<th>Brigades</th>
<th>Regiments</th>
<th>Battalions</th>
<th>Squadrons</th>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Batteries</th>
<th>Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infantry</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>168 2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavalry</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field 3</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy field</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortars</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Higher units | 6        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Infantry     | —        | —         | 42 1       | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Cavalry      | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Artillery    | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Field 3      | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Heavy field  | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Mountain     | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Mortars      | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |
| Engineers    | —        | —         | —          | —         | —         | —         | —      |

1 Including 6 cyclist battalions.
2 Including 42 machine-gun companies.
3 Including howitzers.

POLICE, GENDARMERIE AND CUSTOMS SERVICE.

Federal Police.

The Federal police is used for the maintenance of order in the larger towns; in the provinces, this duty devolves upon the gendarmerie (excepting in small villages, where order is maintained by the communal police).

1 The Ambassadors' Conference decided on May 24th, 1922, that the pre-war figures (the pre-war establishment of the police was 5,003 and that of the gendarmerie 4,869) might be exceeded, provided that the maximum figure of 39,972, sanctioned for the total effectives of army, police and gendarmerie—viz., 30,000 for the army and 9,972 for the police and gendarmerie—was not exceeded. In spite of the increase in police effectives, the total figure at the present day is 4,369 below the approved maximum.
The Federal police is organised by districts; several districts are placed under the control of a Federal Police Directory. The ultimate organ of control is the Federal Chancellery. The Federal police are armed with pistols, swords and batons. In emergencies, the Federal police may employ rifles and 47 machine-guns together with—in the case of the Vienna police—3 armoured motor-cars.

Recruiting is by voluntary enlistment for a period of 12 years.

The establishment of the Federal police is 8,388; of this number, the city of Vienna possesses approximately 7,000 men.

**Gendarmerie (Rural Police).**

The gendarmerie is organised by districts, the latter being grouped into provinces. The provincial Gendarmerie Directories are under the control of the Federal Chancellery. The gendarmerie's armament is the same as that of the Federal police. In cases of emergency, the gendarmerie may use rifles and 37 machine-guns.

Recruiting is the same as in the case of the Federal police.

The establishment of the gendarmerie is approximately 5,890 men.

**Customs Service.**

The customs service is organised in groups of 2 to 15 men. In each province the groups are under the control of the finance authorities and ultimately of the Customs Department at the Federal Finance Ministry. The armament of this is the same as that of the Federal police. In emergencies, Customs officers are armed with rifles.

The establishment of the customs service is 1,995 men.

**VOLUNTEER PROTECTION CORPS.**

The Volunteer Protection Corps, formed in 1933, is an armed formation constituted by the Federal Government with units which are taken into consideration for the formation of volunteer assistance corps of the Federal army. It serves to form a reserve for the executive power of the State, in particular for the Federal police and gendarmerie. It must not be used except when the normal forces of the State are insufficient or cannot be called up in time.

The Volunteer Protection Corps is generally called up by the Federal Government at the request of the competent Federal Minister for matters relating to security. If delay involves danger and if the calling-up is only necessary for limited local needs, it may be effected by the Federal Minister mentioned, pending the subsequent consent of the Federal Government.

**RECRUITING SYSTEM AND PERIOD OF SERVICE.**

The army is formed and recruited by voluntary enlistment. The minimum age for recruits is 18, and the maximum age 26 years.

Under the Law of December 21st, 1934, only Austrian citizens of the male sex who are loyal to their Austrian fatherland and who,

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1 The establishment sanctioned by the Ambassadors' Conference was 3,200.
2 The validity of the Federal Government's decree relating to the constitution of a volunteer protection corps (Decree No. 292 of 1933) is prolonged until June 30th, 1935.
on enrolment, affirm upon their honour that they are faithful to Austria as their independent German fatherland, may be members of the armed forces.

**Recruiting Districts.**

The city of Vienna and each province forms a recruiting district. The maximum number of recruits to be enlisted in each recruiting district is fixed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Recruits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Austria</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgenland</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Austria</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Styria</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carinthia</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salzburg</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyrol</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vorarlberg</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The personnel of the army consists of officers, non-commissioned officers, and men. The cadres of N.C.O.s are filled by the promotion of specially trained men; the cadres of officers are filled by the promotion of specially trained N.C.O.s.

Army officers are trained at the military college at Enns in Upper Austria. After 4 years' service in the ranks, soldiers can acquire officers' patents, provided that they have the matriculation certificate of a public school. Failing to produce this certificate, they are admitted to the rank of officer only after longer service.

Officers are engaged for service with the colours; N.C.O.s and men for service both with the colours and in the reserve.

The regular term of engagement for officers is not less than 20 years with the colours; for N.C.O.s and men it is not less than 12 years, of which at least 6 must be spent with the colours and the remainder in the reserve. The period served by an officer in the ranks is counted towards his term of service.

On the expiry of the regular period of service with the colours, officers may, on voluntary re-engagement, be retained with the colours for a further period of 15 years, and N.C.O.s and men for a further period of not more than 3 years.

**Transfer to Effectives on Furlough.**

On the expiry of their term of service with the colours, N.C.O.s and men are transferred to the effectives on furlough—generally on March 31st or September 30th. Certificates of transfer are issued to reservists.

**Calling-up of the Effectives on Furlough.**

The effectives on furlough can only be called up in exceptional emergencies.
The power to call up the effectives on furlough and send them on indefinite furlough is vested in the National Assembly. The Central Government cannot call up the reserve except in case of serious danger and must at once convene the National Assembly and request its approval for this measure.

**MILITARY COLLEGE.**

The Military College consists of:

(a) The staff of the Military College (comprising: infantry, artillery, pioneers and telegraph schools) and the officers' training course;

(b) The physical training course at Wiener Neustadt, and,

(c) The riding and driving school at Vienna.

**BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES.**

(1935.)

*Officers:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major-Generals</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonels</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieut.-Colonels, Majors, Captains and Lieutenants</td>
<td>1,267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*N.C.O.s* 1,350

*Rank and file* 1,420

**Total** 22,000

**Rank and file on temporary short-term service** 8,000

**PROVISIONAL DEFENCE REGULATIONS.**

**GENERAL.**

*Defence System.*

The armed forces consist of the Federal Army and the Military Assistance Corps; the latter is a temporary organisation.

Members of the armed forces (Militärpersonen) are divided into officers, N.C.O.s and men.

1 Under the Treaty of St. Germain, the total effectives may be 30,000 men, including 1,500 officers.

2 Including 4 officers and 410 N.C.O.s of the military administration, etc. Not including officers and N.C.O.s of the medical service.
All officers are professional soldiers. N.C.O.s are divided into professional and non-professional N.C.O.s (time-serving N.C.O.s). The men comprise the short-service personnel of the Military Assistance Corps (Class A) and the longer-service personnel of the Federal Army (Class B).

The establishment of Class B is kept up by the transfer, on their application, of men from the establishment of Class A. The establishment of N.C.O.s is completed by the appointment of suitably trained men; and the establishment of officers by the appointment of suitably trained N.C.O.s.

**Purpose of the Armed Forces.**

The armed forces are destined:

(a) For the protection of the frontiers of the Republic;
(b) For the protection of the Constitution and, in particular, for the maintenance of order and safety at home; and,
(c) To render aid in exceptionally grave emergencies and calamities.

In cases under (b) and (c), to such an extent as the lawful civil power may deem necessary, it may call for the assistance of the armed forces.

**Strength of the Armed Forces.**

The total strength of the armed forces, including officers and depot troops may not exceed 30,000 men.

This figure does not include 120 officers of the higher army medical and veterinary staff and 800 N.C.O.s of the medical and veterinary corps.

**Recruiting.**

**Recruiting Areas.**

Each province forms a recruiting area.

The maximum number of members of the armed forces to be recruited in the several recruiting areas is as follows:

- Vienna ............... 9,000
- Lower Austria ...... 6,500
- Burgenland .......... 1,500
- Upper Austria ...... 4,000
- Styria ............... 4,000
- Carinthia ........... 1,700
- Salzburg ............ 1,000
- Tyrol ............... 1,700
- Vorarlberg .......... 600

**Conditions of Acceptance.**

Only Austrian nationals of the male sex who are upholders of the democratic Republic of Austria and solemnly declare the same on their enlistment shall be accepted in the armed forces.

**Period of Service.**

The regular period of service for officers is at least 20 years on the active list. Nevertheless, officers must, on application, be retained, after their regular period of service, at least until the conclusion of 35 years actually completed in the armed forces; period of service actually accomplished in the armed forces of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and in the provisional German-Austrian Defence Force shall be counted in the above period.
The regular period of service for time-serving N.C.O.s and for men of Class B is at least 12 years—at least 6 with the colours and the remainder on furlough. After the 6 years with the colours, N.C.O.s may, on application, re-engage for a further 9 years, and men of Class B for a further 3 years, and, in exceptional cases, for a further 6 years, with the colours.

The regular period of service for men of Class A is at least 5, and at most 6, months with the colours. In exceptional cases they may, on application, re-engage for a further period of 6 months with the colours, after the first 6 months. At the end of their service with the colours, they remain for 1 year on furlough. If their application for re-engagement is accepted, their period of service on furlough is shortened by twice the amount of time in excess of 6 months completed with the colours.

**Placing on Furlough.**

Members of the armed forces who, after service with the colours, are still liable for service on furlough, shall, at the end of their service with the colours, be placed on furlough. A man so serving shall, on being placed on furlough, receive a certificate (furlough pass). The furlough pass shall be withdrawn on discharge from the armed forces.

There shall be an annual inspection of the numbers on furlough (strength inspection) each October. Attendance at the strength inspection is obligatory for all members of the armed forces on furlough who have not done service with the colours during the year.

- **Calling-up of Men on Furlough.**

Members of Class A may be called up by the Federal Minister for National Defence for further service at any time during their period on furlough. The total period of their service with the colours shall not exceed 1 year.

Time-serving N.C.O.s and men of Class B, when on furlough, may, in exceptional circumstances, be called up. Their calling-up and retransfer to furlough shall be ordered by the Federal President, on the advice of the Federal Government.

**Postponement of Discharge from Service with the Colours.**

In exceptional circumstances, the Federal President, on the advice of the Federal Government, may postpone the placing on furlough of time-serving N.C.O.s and men of Class B, and their discharge, notwithstanding the completion of their period of service, provided always that the total strength laid down above is not exceeded.

**Annex.**

Time-serving N.C.O.s who have completed 15 years with the colours may, on application, be taken into permanent service, and, following their previous service, be re-engaged for a period up to the completion of 35 years' actual service with the armed forces, but not beyond 55 years of age. Service actually completed with the armed forces of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the provisional German-Austrian Defence Force shall be reckoned in the period of service with the colours required for this further engagement and for acceptance for permanent service.

These N.C.O.s shall remain in service without regard to their employment on the strength of the armed forces; their number may not exceed 300.
II. **Budget Expenditure on National Defence.**

The budget year coincides with the calendar year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1930</th>
<th>1931</th>
<th>1932</th>
<th>1933</th>
<th>1934</th>
<th>1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ministry of the Army</strong>: Army</td>
<td>108.1</td>
<td>101.3</td>
<td>81.0</td>
<td>86.1</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>115.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Index numbers of:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale prices</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>110^1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1914 = 100)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail prices</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>105^1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of living (July 1914 = 100)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Month of January 1935.

**Notes.**—1. Austria has no military air force.

2. Military pensions are not charged to the army budget, but, jointly with civil pensions, to a special section of the general budget, the amount of military pensions not being shown separately.

Expenditure for war disablement is shown in the budget of the Department for Social Welfare, and has amounted to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1930</th>
<th>1931</th>
<th>1932</th>
<th>1933</th>
<th>1934</th>
<th>1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Social Welfare</strong>: War disablement</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>61.3</td>
<td>58.0</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>52.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>