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LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**CONFERENCE FOR THE REDUCTION AND LIMITATION  
OF ARMAMENTS**

LAND COMMISSION.

**Report of the Technical Committee on the Definitions  
contained in Articles 2 and 3 of the Draft Convention.**

The Technical Committee was asked by the Land Commission "to examine how the different Governments, in drawing up the particulars they have sent to the League of Nations, have interpreted the definitions given in Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the draft Convention and what difficulties they encountered and doubts they had in interpreting them".

The Committee first of all confined itself to examining the definitions contained in Articles 2 and 3. For the purposes of this examination, it adopted the following questionnaire, which served as a guide to each of the experts in giving information as to the manner in which his Government interpreted these definitions.

"What meaning have you given to the word 'effectives'? Theoretical, budgetary, legal, actual or other effectives?"

"What have you counted as days of presence? (Short leave, long leave, illness, travelling, early discharge, etc.)"

- "(a) For an officer;
- "(b) For a professional soldier;
- "(c) For a conscript serving with the colours;
- "(d) For a militiaman, reservist, etc., undergoing a period of service, or attending a drill, a training lecture, an annual muster-parade or a kit inspection.

"What have you counted in your effectives? (Different services, missions, persons attached to civilian services, etc.)."

- "(a) Officers;
- "(b) Professional soldiers;
- "(c) Men called up with the annual contingent; militiamen, reservists;
- "(d) Young men subject to compulsory pre-regimental training (soldiers' sons and orphans educated for a naval or military career), etc."

After hearing each of the experts members of the Committee, the latter invited the experts of the other delegations to make similar statements. A number of them responded to this invitation, and the result of the enquiry is given below.

From the replies received, it appears that three conceptions of the term "effectives" have been adopted, either separately or jointly, by the Governments in supplying the information requested—viz., "theoretical or legal effectives", "budgetary effectives" and "real or actual effectives".

The Committee proposes in the present report (1) to give for each of these three conceptions a list of the Governments which have adopted them in supplying information on their effectives, at the same time making clear the differences between the definitions; (2) to define the categories of persons which the several Governments have included or excluded from the general term "effectives"; (3) to reproduce certain general observations made by some of the experts on the methods and definitions contained in Articles 2 and 3 of the draft Convention.



I.

The Committee has not attempted to give a precise definition of the different meanings of the word "effectives", applicable to all the individual cases and covering the different interpretations. It confines itself to reproducing as briefly as possible the essential points of these interpretations. Nevertheless, for greater convenience and for a better understanding of the replies given by the experts, an endeavour has been made to give a general idea of the three conceptions of effectives, legal, budgetary and actual, without attempting a precise definition.

LEGAL OR THEORETICAL EFFECTIVES.

Generally speaking, legal or theoretical effectives are expressed in terms of numbers fixed by the army law or regulations or numbers obtained by a full application of the legal provisions concerning the personnel subject to military obligations and the duration of these obligations. These numbers, therefore, essentially represent a maximum, and hence they naturally do not, as a rule, take into account purely temporary and unforeseen absences.

1. The following countries have taken legal effectives as a basis in giving their information, and the manner in which they have applied this term is explained in each individual case. All the effectives shown in these countries' returns are calculated according to the method fixed in Article 3 of the draft Convention and they therefore represent average daily effectives.

*Belgium.* — The effectives are calculated on the assumption that the men regularly serve the period prescribed by law, leaving out of account absence for illness, leave, early discharge. Effectives of officers are fixed numerically by the law on cadres, and their presence has been reckoned at 365 days per annum. To this figure have been added the days of presence of reserve officers called up for periods of training.

*Finland.* — The professional personnel, officers and N.C.O.s, has been regarded as maintained throughout the year at the level fixed by the law relating to cadres. The average strength of a certain category of active officers in the reserve who have undergone a period of training and the average daily number of an annual class of reserve officers undergoing a period of training have been added to the number of officers.

In the case of other ranks, it was assumed that the actual number of conscripts found fit for service had accomplished the legal period of service. The actual number of cadet officers and the average effectives of a class of reservists undergoing training has been added to them.

No deduction has been made for absences or early discharge.

*France.* — The definition given is as follows: by legal effectives are meant the average strength which the armed forces can attain on the basis of the complete application of the legal provisions in force governing the conditions of service of military effectives (officers, men, and officials assimilated to them), whether volunteers or called up for service, during the first period of service or during subsequent periods of instruction, whatever the capacity in which those periods are served (as recruits, militia, reservists, territorials, etc.).

This definition has been applied to the whole of the personnel (active and reserve). The entire active personnel has been counted at the rate of 365 days of presence per year. Reserve personnel has been counted as undergoing the total legal days of training.

*Greece.* — The legal effectives given represent the figures that would be attained if the law on recruiting were fully applied. The number of professional soldiers is fixed by law. No deduction has been made for absences.

*Italy.* — Same definition as that given by the French expert. In furnishing particulars it has been applied solely to the conscript contingent, without deductions of any kind.

*Japan.* — Same definition as that given by the French expert. It has been applied to the personnel whose strength varies according to the budgetary resources, like the reservists, no deduction being made for absences.

*Norway.* — The average legal effectives have been calculated by taking the annual contingent fixed by law and the period of service fixed each year by Parliament, without any deduction for absences. Officers serving with the colours are regarded as present for the whole year, officers on restricted service and reserve officers being regarded as present only during the periods of service.

*Roumania.* — The legal effectives have been calculated on the assumption that the active personnel is present during the whole year, except in the case of officers' long leave exceeding six months and the usual short leaves granted to other ranks.

*Czechoslovakia.* — The legal effectives have been calculated without deductions of any kind on the basis of the legal possibilities for the year 1930. Details of the calculation are given in document C.654.M.266.1931.IX.

*Yugoslavia.* — The term "average legal effectives" applies solely to conscripted soldiers, no deductions of any kind having been made.

2. *Definitions of Legal Effectives given by Other Experts.*

The experts of the following countries, whose Governments did not base their data upon the legal effectives, have given the following definitions:

*Argentine Republic.* — In the case of officers the legal effectives represent the maximum number authorised by law. The theoretical effectives are the personnel shown in the table of peace-time establishments, on the basis of which the actual effectives are distributed among the various corps and services.

*Austria.* — The theoretical effectives consist of the number of persons liable to military service, of whatever kind and duration, and who have received military training.

*Brazil.* — The legal effectives represent the maximum which the number of troops present at any time of the year can attain.

*United States of America.* — The term "legal effectives" means the maximum number allowed by the law on national defence.

*Persia.* — The theoretical and legal effectives are the number of troops of all kinds, with the exception of municipal police, which the Government proposes to attain under its ten years' programme, in accordance with the recruiting law.

*Poland.* — Same definitions as that given by the French expert.

BUDGETARY EFFECTIVES.

Generally speaking, budgetary effectives mean either the number of personnel on which the budgetary estimates are based, or the number which can be maintained with the credits opened in the budget. The budgetary effectives are therefore an estimated or probable average of the number of days' maintenance. In countries in which the budgetary effectives may be exceeded, the examination of the final accounts shows whether they have actually been exceeded. When this happens, the accounts must be regularised by means of supplementary credits. In other countries, if in the course of the year it is anticipated that the budgetary effectives will be exceeded, this is remedied by means of the early discharge of conscript personnel so as to remain within the limits of the credits allotted.

1. The following countries have based their information on the average budgetary effectives, according to the definition and methods of application given by each:

*Germany.* — No deduction has been made for absences and sickness. The figures given cannot be exceeded either as regards appropriations or as regards the number of men.

*Spain.* — No deduction is made for absences, with the exception of early discharge when the leave exceeds two months.

*Hungary.* — The budgetary effectives are the same as the legal effectives.

*Italy.* — The definition given is as follows: the budgetary effectives of the armed forces are the average daily effectives which the armed forces can muster, calculated on the basis of the special credits for which provision is made each year in the budget law.

The Italian Government has given the average budgetary effectives for officers, N.C.O.s, professional soldiers and men called up for training. These budgetary effectives are based on the number of days' pay. The following have been excluded from the days of presence: in the case of officers and professional soldiers, days of special leave for personal reasons; in the case of reservists called up, days of leave, sick leave, early discharge.

*Portugal.* — The average effectives given are based on the budgetary effectives and the authorised number of days of presence. The budget fixes the number of effectives, and the days of presence according to the category of personnel. No deduction has been made for absences, except early discharge of the contingent.

*Turkey.* — The effectives given are the budgetary effectives based on the average days of presence in summer and winter. Officers are regarded as permanently present. No deduction has been made for absences, short leave, and sickness in the case of other ranks. Reservists have not been included in the budget.

*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.* — The effectives given are the maximum effectives corresponding to the number of rations (pay and provisions) provided for in the budget: this maximum may be exceeded, the accounts being regularised by means of supplementary credits. In practice, however, it has not been exceeded. Reservists of all kinds called up, and among them non-permanent effectives belonging to militia units to which special credits may be assigned, are not included.

*Yugoslavia.* — The budgetary effectives have been given for reserve officers and reservists. No deduction has been made for absences.

## 2. *Definitions of Budgetary Effectives given by Other Experts.*

The experts of the following countries whose Governments did not base their information on budgetary effectives have given the following definitions:

*Argentine Republic.* — By budgetary effectives are meant the personnel included in the actual budget according to the sums placed at the disposal of the Ministry of War under the head: "Pay".

*Austria.* — The budgetary effectives are the effectives which can be attained according to the budgetary estimates for each year. An absolute figure is fixed for officers and N.C.O.s and an average figure for other ranks.

*France.* — Budgetary effectives are calculated in France from the basic effectives which are for any given year the average daily effectives corresponding to the degree to which it is possible to apply the legal provisions during that year.

The budgetary effectives are arrived at from the basic effectives by applying co-efficients of reduction called "co-efficients of absence".

The actual effectives may be higher than the budgetary effectives, which are only an estimate. When this happens, supplementary credits are asked for.

*Greece.* — The budgetary effectives vary according to the credits voted, and leave granted by the Minister is taken into account.

*Persia.* — The budgetary effectives are made up of the total strength of troops and services whose expenditure is provided for in the State budget.

### ACTUAL OR REAL EFFECTIVES.

Speaking generally, real or actual effectives are the number of persons performing a day's duty. The number may be recorded on a given day, and we then have the actual effectives on that day, or it may be obtained by taking the average number of persons performing days of duty over a certain period, and we then have the average actual effectives for that period. The differences of interpretation are the result of differences in the definition of a day's duty.

1. The following countries have adopted the system of real effectives in giving their information and have applied it in the manner explained in respect of each of them.

*South Africa.* — The number of effectives given is the average number of daily effectives based on the total number of days' duty. The permanent personnel is regarded as performing 365 days' duty a year without deduction for absences of any kind. In the case of militia, days passed in camp are counted as days of duty, and the non-continuous periods of training are included on the basis of six drills being equivalent to one day's duty.

*The Argentine Republic.* — The number of effectives is equal to the average number of days' duty in the course of the year of all officers and men attached to units. All days passed with the colours are regarded as days of duty without deduction of any kind.

*Australia.* — The average daily effectives based on the total days of presence of the regular forces, and of the militia forces, without any deduction for absence. The professional personnel is counted as being present for 365 days per annum. For officers and other ranks of the militia forces, are counted—the days of continuous service in camp and non-continuous service on the basis of 6 hours' exercise equivalent to a day's presence; are also counted—certain voluntary all-day courses of instruction which N.C.O.s are encouraged to attend. Attendance at voluntary lectures and rifle matches is not counted.

*Austria.* — The number of effectives given is the actual number of effectives on December 31st, 1930. It includes all officers and men without exception who are entered on the lists with the exception of men who are on early discharge after six years of active service.

*Brazil.* — The number of effectives is that of the average effectives for the year of the permanent personnel and of the annual contingent actually incorporated without deduction for any absences except, as regards the contingent, days of absence resulting from early discharge.

*British Empire.* — The number of effectives given is the average of twelve numbers representing the average actual effectives of each month. This figure of average monthly effectives is obtained by taking the arithmetical average of the strength on the first day of a given month and on the first day of the following month. The number of days' duty is obtained by counting 365 days' duty per annum for all men inscribed in the registers of the regular army without any deduction for absences. As regards the territorial army, whole days passed in instruction camps are counted as days of duty; parades and lectures are counted on the basis of six drills being equivalent to one day's duty.

The British Government also gives the number of actual effectives calculated in accordance with the same definition of a day's duty on April 1st, 1931.

*Bulgaria.* — The number of effectives given is the average daily number of all the personnel at the disposal of the military authorities without deduction for any absences except the days of early discharge for reasons of health, discipline, etc.

*Canada.* — The number of effectives given is the number of average daily effectives without any deduction for absences.

*China.* — The same as Canada.

*Denmark.* — The same as Canada.

*Estonia.* — The number of average daily effectives is based upon the total number of days when officers, professional soldiers, conscripts and reservists are at the disposal of the military authorities, excepting only days representing early discharge.

*United States of America.* — The number of effectives given is the average number of actual effectives on the last day of each month of the year. All the personnel inscribed in the registers is counted as performing a day's duty, whatever the status of the individual and without any deduction for absences.

As regards the National Guard, the number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives calculated according to the method described in Article 3, days passed in instruction being counted as days of duty and periods of training of less than a day being counted on the basis of eight hours' training being equivalent to one day's duty.

*India.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of the personnel registered in the armed forces either with the colours or in the reserve, days of duty being counted as follows: in the case of regular officers and professional soldiers, 365 days a year; in the case of reservists of the Indian territorial force, one day's duty for every day of service; in the case of the Indian auxiliary force, one day's duty for four hours' training; and in the case of the forces organised on a military basis, one day's duty for each day's service. No deduction is made in respect of leave of absence, sick leave, etc.

*Italy.* — The number of actual effectives is the average daily number of effectives actually present and performing duty. The number of days' duty is calculated on the basis of the actual presence of the individual, and consequently days of leave of absence or of sick leave, days spent in travelling or days of absence resulting from early discharge are not counted as days of duty. The Italian Government has applied this definition in calculating the average effectives of the conscription contingent for a period of five months in winter and seven months in summer. The average effectives for the year are obtained by multiplying the first figure by five and the second by seven, and by dividing the total by twelve.

*Japan.* — The number of effectives given is the average daily number of effectives for the year without deduction for absence, except in the case of early discharge. Muster-parades have not, however, been counted as days of duty.

*Latvia.* — The average daily effectives have been calculated by strictly applying Article 3 of the draft Convention for the twelve months of the year. The days of presence are in the case of the whole personnel, the days during which that personnel is at the disposal of the military authorities.

*New Zealand.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives calculated on the basis of 365 days' duty per annum for all ranks of the regular forces, six drills of one hour or four drills of an hour and a-half being counted as one day's duty in respect of the non-regular forces, without deduction for temporary absences.

*Netherlands.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives based upon the number of days' duty in the year. Days of sick leave, days of absence resulting from discharge and days of leave of absence exceeding four weeks in the case of officers and two days in the case of men, are not counted as days of duty.

*Persia.* — The number of real effectives is the number of officers, N.C.O.s and men inscribed in the register of the War Minister. Each day in respect of which the personnel receives either presence pay or availability pay is counted as a day of duty. In the case of recruits and reservists, duty is counted as beginning on the day of arrival at the barracks. Days of leave of absence without pay and days of absence resulting from early discharge are not counted as days of duty. Days of sick leave are counted as such.

*Poland.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives based upon the number of days' duty for 1930. No deduction is made for absence except in the case of early discharge for days of actual absence. As regards professional soldiers, days of absence are not counted as days of duty if the period of leave of absence exceeds six months.

*Siam.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives based upon the number of days' duty in the course of a year. No deduction is made for absences in counting the number of days' duty.

*Sweden.* — The number of effectives given is the average daily number of effectives based on the number of days' duty. Days passed in hospital or on leave with pay are counted as days of duty. Days of absence with reduced pay are not so counted.

*Switzerland.* — The number of effectives is the average daily number of effectives based on the total number of days' duty throughout the year. Men on sick leave are only counted as absent if they are sick for more than six days, if they then leave the unit to enter hospital.

*Yugoslavia.* — The actual number of effectives has been given in the case of officers and professional soldiers on active service. No deduction has been made for absences.

2. *Definitions of Actual Effectives given by Other Experts.*

The French expert, whose Government has not employed the system of actual effectives, defines it as follows:

*France.* — The number of actual effectives is based upon the number of day's pay by category of soldiers, distinguishing presence or availability pay from absence pay—that is to say, in practice half-pay.

Days on half-pay are converted into days on full pay and added to the latter. We thus obtain the total number of days on full pay.

The average number of actual effectives is then calculated as follows:

(a) In the case of officers and N.C.O.s in receipt of monthly pay, the total number of days is divided by 360, pay being issued to the said soldiers at monthly intervals of thirty days;

(b) In the case of men in receipt of daily pay, the number of days is divided by 365.

II. OBSERVATIONS BY VARIOUS EXPERTS ON THE CATEGORIES OF PERSONNEL.  
COUNTED AS EFFECTIVES.

I. COMPOSITION OF EFFECTIVES (COMBATANT PERSONNEL AND AUXILIARY SERVICES: PERSONNEL  
DETACHED ON CIVILIAN DUTY: CIVILIAN PERSONNEL).

(a) *The following are included in the effectives:*

*South Africa.* — All the permanent personnel and the members of the citizen forces receiving military training, including civilian medical personnel serving in the army.

*Germany.* — All persons are counted as officers whom Germany is obliged by the treaties to count as such: doctors, chemists, veterinary surgeons, officials having the rank of officer. This also applies to N.C.O.s.

*Argentine.* — The military personnel of combatant units and services (medical, administrative, etc.), including the personnel detached from the army properly so called.

*Australia.* — Personnel which is in military employment for one day of twenty-four hours in the case of the regular forces, and, in the case of the militia forces, for a period of not less than six hours, either all in one day, or in a night, or in half-day parades aggregating this minimum period.

*Austria.* — Officers of administration (supply) are counted in the effective of officers. Men of the administrative, medical and veterinary services and bandsmen are counted amongst the other ranks.

*Brazil.* — The permanent personnel of units and services and the contingent enlisted or recruited by conscription.

*Bulgaria.* — All the personnel with the colours, including recruits, men of the auxiliary services, and bandboys.

*Canada.* — All the personnel belonging to the armed forces of Canada and of the Royal Mounted Police.

*China.* — All the fighting personnel and services.

*Denmark.* — Officers detached for duty with the Ministry are included in the effectives.

*Estonia.* — All personnel present with the units, including personnel seconded for the training of the civic guard or to the Ministry of Education.

*United States of America.* — All the personnel mentioned on the rolls—without exception.

*Finland.* — Officers and persons graded as officers, professional N.C.O.s and persons graded as such, men of the regular army, including the General Staff, the Ministry of Defence and organs dependent thereon.

*France.* — Officers and men of all services, including those seconded for missions or to civilian services; all those assimilated to the rank of officer in the medical services, including those detached from their units in order to carry on the health services of civilian populations overseas, officials of the supervisory service, officers of the intendance service, including those of the Pensions Civil Service, the personnel of the physical training service, the officers of the fire brigade of Paris.

Men employed in the auxiliary services who are unfit for armed service and receive only such training as is strictly necessary for internal discipline are included in the effectives of the other ranks.

*Greece.* — All the personnel performing military service and which is amenable to military jurisdiction.

*Hungary.* — Only the combatant army.

*India.* — All officers (British and Indian) and men serving on staffs or in units or services of the regular army (active and reserve), the Indian Auxiliary Forces, the Indian Territorial Army and the Indian State Forces.

*Italy.* — The following are included in the effectives: Officers on permanent effective service, of the budgetary complement or recalled from leave for training, including doctors, veterinary officers, chemists, employees of civilian offices, officers carrying out budgetary missions; professional soldiers; soldiers belonging to the conscription contingent, including cadet officers and N.C.O.'s; soldiers called up for training.

*Japan.* — All the personnel present in the army, including personnel detached on duty or to civilian services.

*New Zealand.* — Commissioned officers, warrant officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the regular and non-regular forces.

*Netherlands.* — Personnel of all ranks seconded for duty to civilian services is included in the effectives.

*Poland.* — The effectives include officers and other ranks detached for duty or employed in the various services, as well as officers of the intendance service, treasury department, administrative staff, barracks personnel, and military chaplains of various creeds.

*Persia.* — All the personnel legally armed by the State and participating in the maintenance of order and security, in return for payment, reduction of taxation or a similar privilege.

*Portugal.* — All the permanent personnel and the men of the contingent during their periods of instruction.

*Roumania.* — All the personnel of the army, including medical, administrative and inspection services; also personnel detached or seconded, and auxiliary personnel.

*United Kingdom.* — All officers (including military chaplains) soldiers, and reservists serving in accordance with the definition given by the British Government (see actual effectives), except personnel detached for service with the Air or Colonial Ministries and shown in the returns supplied by those departments.

Enlisted boys in the regular units below the military age, as tailors, drummers, etc., who will become soldiers on reaching the prescribed age, are included.

*Siam.* — The personnel of the armed forces and various services of the Ministry of National Defence, excluding reservists.

*Sweden.* — All the personnel performing actual service; in particular, men of the contingent, of whom about one-quarter do not receive any military instruction, save what is indispensable for internal discipline, and who serve as military labourers, are included.

*Switzerland.* — All the personnel performing service in any capacity.

*Czechoslovakia.* — All soldiers, without exception, of the combatant units and services.

(b) *The following are not included in the effectives:*

*India.* — Nurses, civilians and "followers".

*Yugoslavia.* — Military personnel detached for civil duty.

## 2. CADETS AND PUPILS IN MILITARY SCHOOLS.

(a) *The following are regarded as part of the effectives:*

The pupils in military schools in the following countries: *Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Roumania* and *Sweden*.

(b) *The following are not regarded as part of the effectives:*

*Australia.* — Young volunteers receiving cadet training.

*India.* — Cadets in the Prince of Wales's Military College and King George's Military School.

*Japan.* — Cadets of the military Prytannée.

*Portugal.* — Cadets in the Military College and in the Military Orphanage.

*United Kingdom.* — Cadets in the military colleges or in officers' training corps, since they are not liable for service in peace or in war.

3. YOUTHS UNDERGOING COMPULSORY PRE-MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

(a) *The following are regarded as part of the effectives :*

*Belgium.* — Pupils over 16 years of age in the military orphanages (children of soldiers killed or disabled in action).

(b) *The following are not regarded as part of the effectives :*

*Spain.* — Youths undergoing compulsory pre-military instruction, which is at present in its infancy.

*Estonia.* — Pupils in the highest classes of secondary schools undergoing military training, seeing that they are not mobilisable.

*France.* — Pupils in the higher civil schools of the State; pupils in schools for children of soldiers, seeing that they are not available for active service.

*Italy.* — No information is given as regards youths subject to compulsory pre-regimental instruction, owing to the reservation made in regard to preparatory military training by the Italian delegation at the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference (document C.690.M.289, Section 194).

III. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS BY VARIOUS EXPERTS ON THE SYSTEM  
OF LIMITATION AND THE DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN ARTICLES 2 AND 3  
OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION.

*Belgium.* — In the view of the Belgian Government, Articles 2 and 3 of the draft Convention aim primarily at determining a *maximum limit* of the effectives of the armed forces and the formations organised on a military basis.

Secondarily, in order to fix a common standard of calculation for these forces, the draft Convention has adopted the *average daily effectives*, which it defines in Article 3 and has distributed the troops among various categories.

In our opinion, therefore, it was important in the first place to fix the limit which our effectives might *not exceed*, and for this purpose it appeared to us natural to take as a basis for our calculations the maximum permitted under our legal provisions on the subject. In other words, we took as a basis the legal effectives.

In so doing, we have not met with any difficulty or had any hesitation; we attribute this to the fact that we have adopted the method which appeared to us to be the simplest and clearest. This method has enabled us to steer clear of the danger of submitting to an international agreement data regarding effectives which might in fact be exceeded by a strict application of our legal provisions.

*France.* — The French Government was not sure what kind of effectives should be included. Should it be the effectives serving with the colours whatever the position of men in active service, whether present or absent? Should it be the effectives shown in the returns upon which pay and allowances of all kinds were allotted? Should it be the effectives immediately available—namely, the aforesaid effectives less the men in hospital—or should the effectives actually serving with the armed units be taken—that is to say, the aforesaid effectives less all absentees whatever the reason for their absence—leave, sickness or travelling?

Finally, it was considered that the Conference alone would be in a position to choose the best means of assessing effectives in order to take into account the various military organisations. But the meaning of the term “legal effectives” is extremely important from the point of view of limitation. It would not be understandable to States which had undertaken to limit their effectives under the terms of an international convention to a specified figure, to reserve the possibility of increasing them under their national laws. For this reason, France has stated the legal effectives—that is to say, those which can be attained in execution of the law. In the Convention, these legal effectives might of course be reduced, if the Conference decided not to include among effectives certain categories of absentees such as men in hospital or on long leave (the minimum duration to be fixed), men travelling for long periods (minimum duration to be fixed).

*New Zealand.* — It seems to New Zealand necessary that the terms “effective” and “day’s duty” should be defined.

Owing to the different methods employed in the various countries, I hesitate at this stage to make a suggestion for the definition of effective, especially as in drafting such a definition Article 31



of the draft Convention would have to be taken into consideration, and, in this article, the term “ youth ” has not been defined.

In defining the term “ day’s duty ”, two points seem to require consideration :

(1) Whether, in the case of non-regular forces, only complete days under military training (in camp, at courses of instruction, etc.) should be reckoned as days of duty, or whether drills, parades and attendances should be brought into the reckoning and, if so, how many or what duration of these should be considered as the equivalent of a day’s duty ;

(2) In the case of regular and full time forces, whether or not periods of temporary absence (on leave, in hospital, etc.) should be counted as days of duty.

The terms “ effective ” and “ day’s duty ” not having been defined in the draft Convention, my Government adopted a form of reckoning which seemed to it fair.

*Portugal.* — In the opinion of the Portuguese delegation, the principle of limitation on the basis of the effectives on a given date cannot be accepted without reservation by certain States. Theoretic effectives must be contemplated on account of the necessity of counterbalancing obvious deficiencies which make the reduction of armaments incompatible with national security and the execution of international obligations.

*United Kingdom.* — The system of making no deduction for absences was more convenient from the administrative point of view. If the General Commission decided to reckon these deductions, this would necessitate somewhat complicated calculations, and the British expert thought that it would be preferable to provide for an average number of absences. He pointed out that, generally speaking, there would always be differences of interpretation as between the different military organisations and that those difficulties could not be settled by the same formula. The best thing would be to take into account the special features of each army, assuming that they did not vary.

*United States of America.* — The United States Government felt some difficulty as to the National Guard, which is not a Federal armed force. It had considered it as being on the same lines as the trained reserves of countries with conscription and as regards the calculation of its effectives had treated it in the same way as the said reserves.

*Norway.* — The “ average daily effectives ” was an incorrect expression when applied to militia armies such as that of Norway, in which there were hardly any permanent units. Nevertheless, there had been no difficulty in stating the figure in accordance with the method indicated; this figure, however, was not regarded as expressing the situation of the army on each day of the year, but as expressing the relative weakness of the Norwegian army as compared with the large armies.

*Switzerland.* — The special system on which the Swiss army was based gave rise to fundamental difficulties for the Swiss Government in furnishing particulars as to effectives, owing to the fact that the conception of average daily effectives was not adapted to the militia system. The essential feature of the militia was not so much that the men served only for short periods, but rather that there were no units serving permanently. The number of effectives might vary very considerably from one year’s end to another; there were even periods during which there were no effectives serving. The conception of average daily effectives accordingly gave quite a false idea of the militia army; the Swiss Government had therefore the intention, before applying the system recommended in Article 3, to give separately the number of recruits undergoing training during the year and the number of men who had followed refresher courses.

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