

Geneva, October 9th, 1931.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**PARTICULARS WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION OF ARMAMENTS
IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES**

22.* COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LUXEMBURG

Note by the Secretary-General:

At the request of the Government of Luxemburg, dated October 6th, 1931, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate to the Governments invited to the Disarmament Conference a letter from the State Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, dated March 6th, 1931, relating to the position of armaments in his country.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE STATE MINISTER OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF
LUXEMBURG TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[*Translation.*]

Luxemburg, March 6th, 1931.

The armaments of the Grand Duchy were regulated by the Treaty of London of May 11th, 1867, concluded between the Great Powers and Luxemburg. Article 3 of this Treaty, which placed the Grand Duchy and the principle of its permanent neutrality under the guarantee of the Great Powers, provided that "the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg being neutralised, the maintenance or establishment of fortresses upon its territory becomes without necessity as well as without object". Thus, the City of Luxemburg ceased to be a fortified city, and the only troops which the Government was allowed to maintain there were those necessary for the maintenance of order. Under Article 5, moreover, the Luxemburg Government was required to convert the fortress of Luxemburg into an open city, and to undertake to refrain from restoring the fortifications or creating any military establishment.

Faithfully adhering to its international obligations, the Government of the Grand Duchy demolished the fortifications established in its territory, and reduced its armed strength to the lowest level compatible with the requirements of internal security.

At the present day, therefore, the Grand Duchy possesses nothing more than a police force employed exclusively for the maintenance of order, and has no armaments suitable for use in war. The troops consist of a company of gendarmes and a company of volunteers, making a total strength of 500 men.

The people of Luxemburg, relying upon the treaties which guarantee its independence and upon the League of Nations, which is a sure bulwark of peace in the post-war world, intend to remain faithful to this policy of complete neutrality in military affairs and to maintain the state of disarmament established by the Treaty of London.

It is therefore in pursuance of its traditional policy that the Government of the Grand Duchy associates itself with the desire of the nations that the work of the coming Disarmament Conference may be carried to a successful conclusion.

* This figure indicates that 22 documents (with in addition one annex to document C.440.M.187. 1931. IX.) in regard to the position of the Armaments in the different countries have already been published.