

LUXEM

MEMORANDUM - POPULATION

Memorandum - Popu-  
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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION  
ADMINISTRATION

PRELIMINARY MEMORANDUM

ON

LUXEMBOURG

- Unrevised Draft -

Prepared by the  
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## I. INTRODUCTION

This preliminary memorandum is factual rather than analytical. Its principal <sup>aim</sup> ~~aim~~ is to furnish in brief form such background information on the physical characteristics, population, economic resources, industry, and trade of Luxembourg as may be helpful in planning relief and rehabilitation operations for that country.

Because of the Grand Duchy's vital connection with Belgium in the form of the Economic Union, the preliminary memorandum on Belgium should be referred to for information on foreign trade.

## II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS<sup>1/</sup>

### Location and area

<sup>IP</sup> The Duchy of <sup>L</sup>uxembourg is a small land locked country bounded by Belgium, Germany and France. With a total area of 99<sup>8</sup>/<sub>10</sub> square miles it is slightly smaller than the State of Rhode Island and is one of the smallest <sup>states</sup> countries in Europe. <sup>Schmiede in The</sup> From north to south, ~~from~~ <sup>in The south</sup> ~~Schmiede~~ to Rumelange, it extends 51 miles, and from east to west, from Rosport to Martelange, 36 miles.

### Topography

Although the Grand Duchy of <sup>L</sup>uxembourg is extremely small, its topography is highly diversified being situated at the junction of two distinct regions: <sup>hills called the</sup> The Ardennes <sup>Cesling</sup> ~~or hills~~ of the north <sup>called</sup> ~~The Cesling~~ and the Gutland to the south formed by the undulating plains extending from Lorraine. The dividing line between these two regions runs from Fouchy on the German border to Ell on the Belgium border and passes en route through the communes of Bastendorf, Dicki<sup>r</sup>ch, Feulen, Mert<sup>z</sup>ay, Grosbous, Wahl, Folschette, <sup>and</sup> Redange, ~~and Ell~~.

The Cesling with an area of 320 square miles comprises about

<sup>1/</sup> Based upon: League of nations, European Conference on Rural Life, Luxembourg, Geneva, August 1939, p. 5 and Résultats du Recensement de la Population du 31 Decembre 1935 Vol. II "Aperçu Geographique", p. 67.



one third of the country. Elevations are higher than in the Gutland, lying for the most part between 1300 and 1600 feet above sea level. Its highest points which are also those of the Grand-Duchy are: <sup>WV</sup>Bangplatz near Huldange on the frontier, 1,830 feet, and Napoleónsgard near Grevels and Rindschluden, 1,810 feet. The Oesling is characterized by ~~narrow~~<sup>deep</sup>, winding brook valleys, with narrow stretches of meadowland, steep slopes with projecting boulders and abundant thickets, open plateaus and rocky mountain promontories.

The Gutland with an area of <sup>approximately</sup> 680 miles comprises the remaining <sup>and</sup> two-thirds of the country. As its name implies, ~~it~~ is the more fertile of the two regions. The distinctive topographical features of the Gutland are undulating plains, low hills and sluggish rivers. Elevations are generally low averaging about 1,000 feet and ranging from 434 feet. The lowest point in the country, ~~found~~ at the confluence of the Sauer and <sup>M</sup>oselle Rivers, to 1,443 feet at Zolven<sup>rk</sup>napp, its highest summit.

#### Rivers and drainage

Luxembourg<sup>sm</sup> drains toward Germany, all the rivers of the country flowing in due course into the Ours, the Sauer, <sup>or</sup> and the <sup>M</sup>oselle which constitute the natural frontier on the German border.

#### Climate

The climate of the Oesling is more severe than that of the

## Climate

As in Belgium, rainfall in Luxembourg is not excessive, but occurs throughout the year with no drought season. The average annual precipitation is about 31 inches, with 176 rainy days in 1938, and 207 in 1939.

The temperature is cool but even, with only about 15 degrees change from summer to winter. The average annual temperature is about 46.4 which is slightly colder than Belgium. The climate of the Oesling, or northern part is more severe than that of the Gutland; the mean annual temperature being 44° F as compared with 50° F in the Gutland. For ~~for~~ more detailed information see Appendix L, Chart 1.

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### III POPULATION

#### Total Population

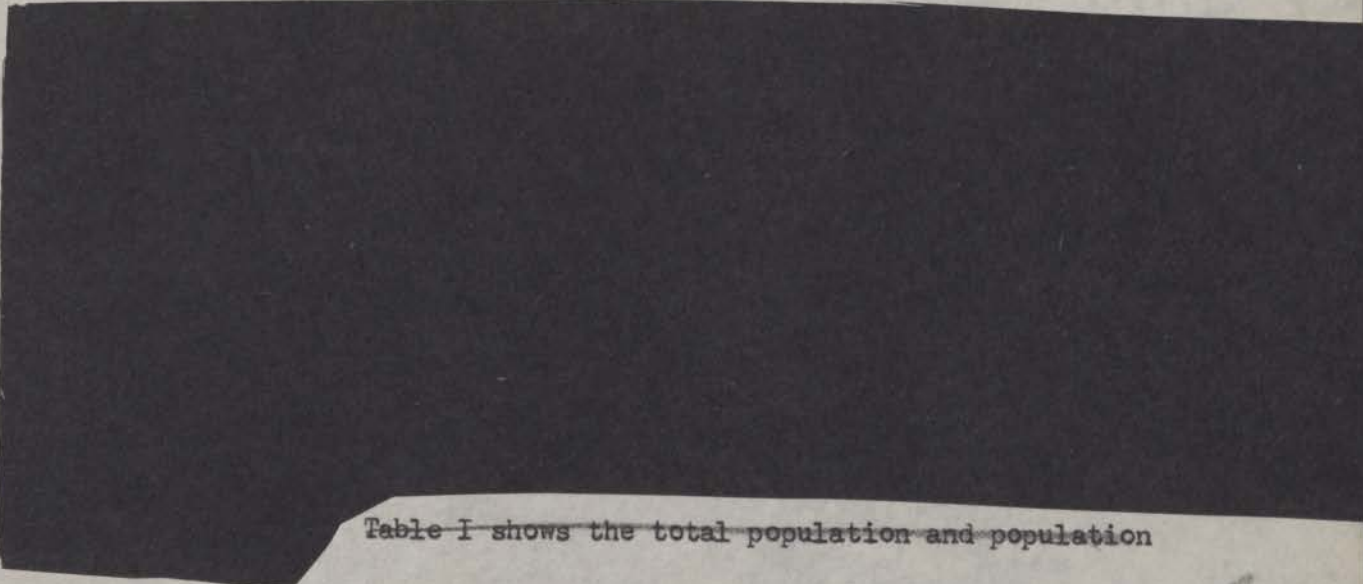


Table I shows the total population and population density of the country at stated intervals since 1900.

The results of the 1935 census provide the best available guide for planning relief and rehabilitation operations. Deportation of Luxembourgers and importation of Germans <sup>and foreign workers</sup> during the period of German control have been of such ~~great~~ magnitude as to make more recent estimates of the population of less value for general relief purposes than are the statistics of 1935 since, ~~immediately~~ following an armistice, the deported Luxembourgers will doubtless return to their homes at the first available opportunity.

P (Information regarding the number of displaced persons is discussed under the heading of "Wartime migration" <sup>1/</sup> below.)

Table 1. - Luxembourg: Total population, selected years 1900 through 1935

Year	Total Population	Population Density	
		Persons per sq. k.m.	Persons per square mile.
1900	235,954	91.2	236.4
1905	246,455	95.3	246.9
1910	259,891	100.5	260.4
1922	260,767	100.8	261.3
1927	285,524	110.4	286.1
1930	299,992	116.0	300.6
1935	296,913	114.8	297.5

Source: Résultats du Recensement de la Population du 31 Décembre 1935,  
Vol. I pp 45-46.



### Stability

In 1935, 84.7 percent of the population or 251,467 persons <sup>out of the total</sup> resident population had been born in Luxembourg. Of the total population, 52.8 percent were enumerated in the commune where they had been born and an additional 6.8 percent were living in the canton although not in the commune of birth. Since the previous census <sup>in</sup> 1930, although the population had decreased approximately <sup>by</sup> 3,000, the number of persons born in the Grand-Duchy had increased <sup>by</sup> 8,000. This increase may be attributed to a number of Luxembourgers who had emigrated before 1930, and who, as a result of economic discrimination in foreign countries, had returned to their homeland before the census of 1935.

Table Luxembourg: Distribution of the population according to place of birth, census of 1935

Inhabitants born in:	Total Population	aliens <i>? omit</i>	Percent of Total Population	Percent of aliens
<u>Total</u>	<u>296,913</u>	<u>38,369</u>	<u>100.0</u>	
<u>Luxembourg</u>	<u>251,467</u>	<u>9,022</u>	<u>84.7</u>	
Commune of enumeration	156,873	6,771	52.8	
Canton, but not commune of enumeration	22,468	928	7.6	
Another canton of enumeration	72,126	1,323	24.3	
<u>Foreign countries</u>	<u>45,446</u>	<u>29,347</u>	<u>15.3</u>	
Germany	20,033	14,533	6.84	
France	11,390	4,075	3.8	
Italy	5,809	5,686	2.0	
Belgium	4,845	2,268	1.6	
Poland	1,191	1,140	.4	
Others (less than 1,000)	2,178	1,645	.7	

Source: Résultats du Recensement de la Population du  
31 Décembre, Vol I p 81.



Table - Luxembourg. Religious distribution of the population according to the census of 1935

Cantons	Total	Catholics	Protestants	Hebrews Jews	Other	No religion: and religion: unknown
<u>Total</u>	<u>296,913</u>	<u>284,450</u>	<u>3,216</u>	<u>3,144</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>5,653</u>
Luxembourg-ville	57,740	52,122	1,124	2,069	75	2,350
Capellen	16,757	16,559	59	25	3	111
Esch	97,943	93,646	1,547	470	207	2,073
Luxembourg-camp	14,481	14,300	50	42	2	87
Mersch	12,714	12,410	85	63	2	154
Clervaux	13,585	13,442	7	9	0	127
Diekirch	17,791	17,313	83	187	29	179
Redange	12,024	11,876	8	6	0	134
Wiltz	13,580	13,313	107	17	44	99
Vianden	2,732	2,714	4	0	0	14
Echternach	11,152	10,873	47	78	27	127
Grevenmacher	15,413	15,087	60	79	59	128
Remich	11,001	10,795	35	99	2	70

Source: Résultats du Recensement de la population du 31 Décembre 1935. Vol. I p. 65

population

Labor

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The Duchy has practically no unemployment, and as a matter of fact, depended on foreigners for as much as 1/5 its labor. The following table shows the labor distribution in Industry.

Table Luxembourg: Distribution of the Gainfully Employed  
In Industry, according to Nationality,  
1935-1939

Nationality	1935	1939
Luxembourgers	23,659	27,502
Belgiums	1,060	1,186
Germans	2,033	1,520
French	430	344
Italians	1,563	1,510
Other Nationalities	589	604
TOTAL	29,334	32,666

Publications de l'Office de Statistique Annexe a l'Annuaire Officiel.  
1/ Annuaire Officiel, 1940, Aperçu Statistique, 1940 p. 55.

Workers have an eight hour day and holidays, and wages and working conditions are usually fixed by collective agreement. There is extensive social legislation, including compensation and medical care to all employees in case of illness or accident, pensions in case of permanent disability ~~xxxxxxx~~ and for old age, and unemployment pay. There is also special allowance and freetreatment for expectant and nursing mothers. Youth under 14 years of age are protected by labor laws.

Based upon:

1/ Luxembourg under German Occupation, Pierre Krier, 1941  
Krier, Pierre, Luxembourg under German Occupation, Oct. 1941