

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
THE CZECH REPUBLIC	7
BASIC DATA ON THE CZECH REPUBLIC	8
STATE SYMBOLS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	10
THE CZECH REPUBLIC'S MEMBERSHIP IN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	11
HISTORICAL MILESTONES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CZECH NATIONHOOD	16
Bohemia under the Přemysl dynasty	16
The climax and crisis of the Czech statehood	18
Bohemia of the Estates and consolidation of the Habsburg power	20
The process of National Revival	25
Czechoslovak units in World War One: fighting for independence abroad	26
Emergence of the independent Czechoslovak state and its further development	28
Czechoslovak military units in World War Two	30
Czechoslovakia between 1945 and 1989	32
Transition to a democratic society and emergence of two sovereign states	33
HISTORICAL MONUMENTS – WITNESSES OF RICH HISTORY	34
HOLIDAYS AND IMPORTANT DAYS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC	38
30 JUNE – THE CZECH REPUBLIC'S ARMED FORCES DAY	39
THE ARMED FORCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	43
THE REFORM OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	46
MODERNISATION PROJECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES	49
THE ARMED FORCES' PEACETIME STRUCTURE	54
The Military Office of the President of the Republic and the Castle Guards	56
DEFENCE DEPARTMENT	59
Ministry of Defence	60
Military Intelligence	61
Military Police	62
Accredited Military Education	66
THE ARMED FORCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	73
FULLY PROFESSIONAL ARMED FORCES	75
JOINT FORCES	77
Ground Forces	79
4th Rapid Deployment Brigade	80
7th Mechanised Brigade	81
13th Artillery Brigade	82
102nd Reconnaissance Battalion	83
Ground Forces training	84
Main types of Ground Forces' equipment	86
Air Force	88
21st Tactical Air Force Base	90
22nd Air Force Base	91
23rd Helicopter Base	92
24th Transportation Air Base	93
25th Anti-aircraft Missile Brigade	94
26th Command, Control and Surveillance Brigade	95

Training of Air Force components	96
Air Force equipment and armament	98
Joint Forces Support Units	102
14th Logistic Support Brigade	103
15th Engineer Rescue Brigade	104
31st NBC Protection Brigade	106
101st Communications Battalion	108
53rd Passive Systems and EW Centre	108
103rd CIMIC/PSYOPS Centre	110
104th Support Battalion	111
SUPPORT AND TRAINING FORCES	113
Support and Training Forces Command	114
Logistic and Medical Support Directorate	116
Training and Doctrines Directorate	120
Personnel Support Directorate	124
Regional Military Commands	125
Active Reserve of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic	127
MILITARY REGIONS AND TRAINING FACILITIES	128
ACR ENGAGEMENT IN MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS, OBSERVER MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STRUCTURES	131
MILITARY OATH OF ALLEGIANCE	134
MILITARY DECORATIONS	136
UNIFORMS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	140
PROSPECTIVE MILITARY GARRISONS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC	145

On historical map works

P. 21 – A map of Bohemia by Nicolas Claudianus is the first map of the territorial entity in Central Europe. It is oriented with south at top; its pictorial part allegorically illustrates the conflicting religious and political situation in the then Bohemian Kingdom. The map has neither graphic nor ratio scale, and no coordinate frame; an approximate scale is 1 : 650 000.

Pp. 22 and 23 – A map by Paul Aretin has served for more than a century; it was published in just several editions. The author took into account not only topography, mountains and rivers, but he attempted to record even the territorial division of the country. The map's decorativeness is underlined by figural motives – 12 figures in period costumes.

P. 24 – A map by Jan Criginger is the second separate map of Bohemia; it was published by Abraham Ortel in Antwerp. The map has no coordinate frame, but it is already oriented with north at top. Its approximate scale is 1 : 683 500 and it contains 292 settlements, main rivers and other bodies of water, and also the Říp mountain.

The map by Paul Fabricius is the oldest map of Moravia. Originally it was drawn in a 1 : 288 000 scale, in quite a detailed manner. The author even conducted astronomical measurements from 1568. This version was published in 1595, again by Abraham Ortel in Antwerp. The map includes a Latin legend, a scale, and a coordinate frame.

The map from 17th century is made after the Paul Aretin map from 1619 with the orientation towards North. It contains settlements, main waters, signs of a relief shown by hillocks, vegetation, borders of Bohemia and the then administrative division into regions. The map has guide lines of a coordinate frame, it is decorated with a two-headed imperial eagle and a two-tailed Bohemian lion.

An engraving of the map by Jan Amos Komenský (Comenius) was made for the then Dutch atlases. It has a rich informative contents; it defines the scale and coordinates frame, the terrain is shown by hillocks. It contains almost 500 settlements differentiated according to their importance. Its scale is about 1 : 470 000.

P. 25 – A map of the Austrian monarchy, created by Karl Czoernig, Freiherr von Czernhausen, was produced and published in Vienna based on the results of the activities of the Statistics Office between 1829 and 1853 (Czoernig was its head). Different colours stand for individual nationalities settled on the territory of the monarchy.

A general synoptical map of Bohemia and Moravia from a late 19th century atlas. It shows the historical lands of the Czech state in a 1 : 750 000 scale. It indicates the boundaries of the state and lands, settlements, important roads and railways and water bodies. The terrain is marked by hatching.

By Drahomír Dušátko

Source: collection of reproductions, Military Geographical Institute Prague.