

CONTENTS

I. BRIEF HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL OUTLINE	7
The Rise of the Czechoslovak State	7
The Routes to the Danubian Basin	8
The Crossroads of European Thrusts	10
Balance of Power on the Middle Danube	13
Romans, Germans, Slavs and Mongols	15
The Czech State	19
The Habsburg Confederation and the Turks	23
Revival of the Meridian Thrusts	25
The Importance of the Bohemian Basin	27
The German Advance to the "Eurasian Axis"	29
The Danube Basin Resists Germany in the Great War	32
The Austrian Slavs and Latins on the Side of the Allies	35

II. PRESENT-DAY PERSPECTIVES	38
The New Adjustment of the Danubian Basin after 1919	38
The Importance of Czechoslovakia on the "Transversal Axis"	40
Czechoslovakia and Italy	42
Czechoslovakia and Poland	46
Genoa-Prague-Warsaw	48
Manoeuvre round the "Transversal Eurasian Axis", and the British Empire	50
Czechoslovakia and Soviet Russia	58
The Little Entente	62
The Balkan Entente	66
The Gateway to the East	67