ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is grateful to Prof.S.S. Merh for supervising the present investigation.

He also expresses his gratitude to Lt. Col. M.V. Kayerkar and R.A. Chansarkar of the Terrain Evaluation Cell (Ministry of Defence) for their valuable suggestions and guidance. His special thanks are also due to the Officers and Jawans of 1st and 2nd Battalion B.S.F. for their unstinted help and co-operation during the course of his field-work. He must also express his gratitude to Dr. M. P. Patel, R. N. Pande, S. A. Laghate, R. V. Karanth, A.N. Shah, R.K. Parmar and Dr.S.K. Munshi who helped him in many ways during the course of The author also wishes to gratefully his work. acknowledge the help from Shri S.G. Patel, Dr.B. P. Jambusaria, and Shri B.M. Chauhan in preparing the illustrations of the thesis, and to V.F. Bhavsar and S.P. Dalvi in typing the thesis.

Lastly, the financial assistance from Research and Development Organisation (Ministry of Defence) is also gratefully acknowled, without which this study could not have been taken up and completed.