## **Contents**

Bibliography 361

Index 395

Foreword vii
Preface xiii
Abbreviations and Special Terms xv
Introduction 1
1. Definitions: Tactics—Operations—Strategy 7
2. Factors and Constants: Space, Time, and Forces 17
3. The Beginnings: Planning, Mobility, and a System of Expedients 27
4. The Sword of Damocles: A Two-Front War 57
5. Bitter Awakening: World War I 99
6. Old Wine in New Wineskins: Operational Thinking in the Reichswehr and the Wehrmacht between Reality and Utopia 133
7. Lost Victories, or the Limits of Operational Thinking 189
8. Operational Thinking in the Age of the Atom 259
Conclusion 295
Notes 307