This situation was reflected in there being no Slovak national administration. This was different at regional level, where certain elements of the Slovak territorial administration did exist as long as 1918. The author of the present contribution first offers an outline of historic developments, before progressing to discuss all twelve administrative reforms implemented in Slovakia after the establishing of the Czechoslovak state. That all these reforms were conceived by persons with no firsthand knowledge of the local situation, that they neglected geographical facts and the natural pattern of settlement, and that they were even instituted without the population consenting expressly or at least tacitly is, according to the author, one of the reasons for Czechoslovakia eventually breaking up.

**SLOVAKIA'S IMPORTANCE FOR THE GERMAN REICH, 1939–1945**

*Tatjana Tönsmeyer*

This contribution is based on a master's dissertation submitted at Marburg university in 1994. The author attempts to counter a notion not infrequently found in published studies, according to which the establishing of a Slovak state in March, 1939, was but a by-product of the dissolution of Czechoslovakia and the institution of the "Protectorate" over Bohemia and Moravia. She analyzes what specific political, military, and economic importance the Slovak state had for the Third Reich, examining in particular the realm of political propaganda. The most important factors being considered are Slovakia's function as a "showcase" of the Reich, the role attached to Slovakia within German plans for a new order in the Danube region, Slovak participation in the Holocaust and in the military operations of the Reich as well as the Slovak contribution to Germany's wartime economy. What finally emerges is the picture of Slovakia as the ideal "satellite".

**THE DEPORTATION OF SLOVAK JEWS, 1944–45**

*Gila Fatran*

Deportation of Jews from Slovakia in 1942 was brought to a close with the transport of a group of mentally ill persons on October 20 of that year. When, in 1943 and in the spring of 1944, the Germans raised the demand that the transports be reinstated, the so-called working group that had sought cessation of the transports in 1942, succeeded in garnering effective support and, in some cases, managed to stave off the threat. In the Slovak cabinet meetings of September 11 and 15, 1944, the decision was taken to concentrate the Jews resident within Slovak boundaries in the camp Sered, the one camp which after the outbreak of the Slovak National Uprising was not on rebel territory. The author traces the destiny of some 25,000 Jews living in Slovakia at that time, of whom around 14,500 where deported and eventually killed, with particular attention being devoted to the multitudinous reactions from abroad.