PREFACE

The present work will be concerned with the evolution of American policy towards aid and to a case study of American assistance for an integrated hydroelectric and aluminium smelter project in Ghana—the Volta River Project. This Project represents the largest single investment in the economic development of Ghana and is one of Africa's most exciting undertakings in the 60s.

For purposes of this study the writer has made an effort to examine the factors and the influences in American policy as it evolved leading first to President Eisenhower's letter to Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, offering the help to explore the possibility of assistance in respect of the Volta River Project and next to President Kennedy's letter to Nkrumah making an explicit commitment to support the Project, culminating in the inauguration of the Volta dam on 22 January 1966.

The originator, the inspirer and the guiding spirit behind this effort is my Supervisor, Professor M.S. Venkataratnam, Chairman, Centre for American and West European Studies. I am greatly obliged and deeply indebted to him for the profound contribution he has made to bring this work to its present shape. I am also extremely thankful to him for giving me the enjoyment of a most wonderful and highly satisfying time under his supervision.

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In course of my research I consulted the following libraries: The Library of Congress, Howard University Library, George Town University Library, George Washington University Library, the Department of State Library, Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Harry S. Truman Library, Lyndon B. Johnson Library and the University of Kansas Library, Sepru House Library, USIS
Library and Jawaharlal Nehru University Library. I thank the library staff of the above institutions for their invaluable help.

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[Signature]

Laxmi Narayan Misra

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