### Contents

#### Foreword 7

### In the maelstrom of history 9

# The emergence of a divided system 13

D'origine française 13 The policing role of the army 15 Provó Kluit versus Thorbecke 17 A failed attempt to organize the Rijkspolitie 22 Rijksveldwacht and Koninklijke Marechaussee side by side 25 No Police Act 28

#### PART 2 Growing discrepancies around 1900 31

Modderman's defeat 31 The Koninklijke Marechaussee goes north 33 The upgrading of the Rijksveldwacht 36 The modernization of the Gemeentepolitie 38 The emergence of the police unions 47 Poised between two centuries 52 Policing in the doldrums 57

#### PART 2 Dissension reaches new heights (1914-1940) 65

War on all sides 65 Troelstra's imaginary revolution 69 The reform that never was 75 Heyday of the Gemeentepolitie in the major cities 79 A breakthrough in relations 85 The effects of the Great Crisis 89 Unbridled wrangling for power 99 The Oss affair 104

#### PART 4 Rauter's iron grip 109

Incorporation into the ss police state 109 The two faces of the reform 114 In the wake of the February strike 116 Promoting further nazification 119 A Germanic police force at all costs 126 Deployment in the persecution of the Jews 127 The definitive restructuring of the police system 129 Police resistance and the purging of the police after the war 132

#### PART 5 Coming to terms with the war years 137

An entrenched struggle for power 137 The compromise or synthesis 139 A pause for reflection 143 Sealing the compromise 145 In the shadow of the police question 147 The disastrous year of 1966 157

# PART 6 Continued unification in slow motion 161

Inglorious beginnings and an inglorious end 161 An antiquated system is put to the test 165 The revolt among police officers 178 A half-baked solution to a persistent problem 182 The path to a new Police Act 185

Two centuries of change 191

Glossary 193

Recommended literature 197

Index of persons 201