**README FILE**

The GIS file in the folder (in Mapinfo format .tab) shows the railroad lines we use in our analysis. These are all the railroad lines built before 1960. See Web Appendix for data sources.

***railroads.Tab***

The GIS file contains several variables:

*Country* = country

*Independence* = independence year of the country

*Year\_built* = year the line was built

*Built\_pre\_indep* = dummy equal to one if the line was built before independence

*Mining* = dummy equal to one if mining was one of the motivations for the construction of the line

*Military* = dummy equal to one if military domination was one of the motivations for the construction of the line

*Length\_km* = length of the segment in km