



FIGURE A - Sketch of the main ridges and fractures of the Pacific-Indian Ocean bottom (——) with main trenches (---). Possible Trans-Asian and Trans-Euro-Mediterranean rifts are added (...) to the drawing, which is adapted from O. G. Sorochin, ed., *Geophysics of the Ocean* (in Russian), vol. II, fig. 17. The lithosphere (crust) is everywhere shallowest beneath the ridge lines. Thousands of seamounts shooting up from the ocean bottom are not drawn here.