

MEXICO



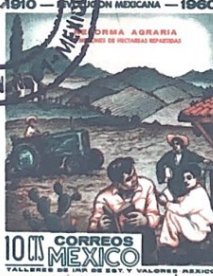
In dramatically beautiful MEXICO (760,373 sq. mi.; pop. 33,500,000; cap. Mexico City) climate depends on altitude. The mountain-rimmed plateaus, where most of the people live, stand at 4,000 to 8,000 feet high, enjoying a climate of perpetual spring. Though primarily agricultural, Mexico is rapidly industrializing, and ranks high in world production of petroleum, silver and other minerals. After Mexico's Aztec civilization was plundered by Cortez in 1521 the conquerors married Indian women, so that today 55% of the Mexicans are mestizo; 29% pure Indian; 15% pure white. The Mexicans freed themselves from Spain in 1812; suffered a century of political turmoil; began their Revolution or social reform program in 1911; and now have a peaceful, orderly, increasingly prosperous nation.

COAT OF ARMS



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MEXICO (concluded) • MIDDLE CONGO and REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO



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MONACO



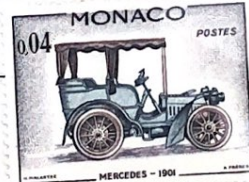
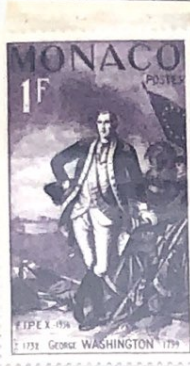
World's second smallest country is the PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO (1/2 sq. mi.; pop. 20,000), which is embedded like a splinter in the coast of southern France. Independent since 968, its happy citizens enjoy eternally blue seas and skies; no income or inheritance taxes; no military service, no unemployment, no overwork. The reason: their government is entirely supported by (1) the famous gambling casino at Monte Carlo, which attracts 1 1/2 million tourists a year; (2) a tobacco monopoly; and (3) the production of irresistible issues of postage stamps! Doomed to revert to France, taxation and conscription in the event of a vacancy to the throne, the Monégasques were overjoyed when their bachelor Prince Rainier III finally married a glamorous actress, and in 1958 dutifully produced a son and heir.

COAT OF ARMS



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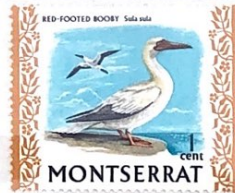
MONACO



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MONACO · MONGOLIA · MONTENEGRO · MONTSERRAT · MOROCCO



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MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY



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NETHERLANDS



The startling fact about the NETHERLANDS or HOLLAND ("Low Lands"; area 12,616 sq. mi.; pop. 11,350,000; cap. The Hague) is that one-fourth of its area, including the largest cities and best farm lands, lies from two to twenty feet below sea level! "God made the world, but we made the Netherlands," say the Dutch, who for six centuries have built dikes around flooded areas, pumped out the water (formerly with windmills, lately with motors) and used the resulting land to support an important dairy industry, grain-fields, lush truck gardens, and the celebrated tulip and hyacinth farms. Other well-known Dutch products are cut diamonds from Amsterdam, ships built at Rotterdam, herring from the North Sea fisheries, and those competent business men who have made their little kingdom a leading nation.

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NETHERLANDS



NETHERLANDS



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NETHERLANDS (concluded)



NEWFOUNDLAND



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NEWFOUNDLAND · NEW GUINEA · NEW HEBRIDES · NEW SOUTH WALES



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NEW ZEALAND



Special-ville
NEW ZEALAND



NEW ZEALAND

Isolated New Zealand (103,740 sq. mi.; pop. 2,300,000; cap. Wellington) relies upon British sea power for its protection, on British markets for its prosperity. North Island is noted for hot springs, geysers, and volcanic mountains. South Island has the beautiful Southern Alps. The terrain and mild ocean climate make both islands ideal for grazing, so that New Zealand exports, mostly to Great Britain, enormous tonnages of wool, butter, cheese, frozen lamb and mutton. The tall, brown-skinned, intelligent Maoris, who colonized New Zealand in the mid-14th Century, today comprise 7% of its population. The islands were discovered and named by the Dutch navigator Tasman in 1642. Great Britain annexed them in 1840. The story of New Zealand is beautifully illustrated on its postage stamps.

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NICARAGUA



Largest, least populous of Central American republics is NICARAGUA ("Land of Nicara'o", an early Indian chief; 57,145 sq. mi.; pop. 1,380,000; cap. Managua.) Its people are 69% mestizo, 17% white, 9% negro, 5% Indian. Negroes and Indians dwell along the hot swampy "Mosquito Coast" of the Caribbean, producing timber and bananas. The northwest highlands have cattle and gold. A narrow volcanic belt, between the Pacific Ocean and Lake Managua and Lake Nicaragua, contains most of the population, and fertile land yielding coffee and food crops. In 1902 a Nicaraguan stamp, picturing smoking Mt. Momotombo and captioned "an official witness of volcanic activity in Nicaragua" was mailed to every U.S. Senator, and switched enough votes to change the proposed canal route from Nicaragua to Panama!

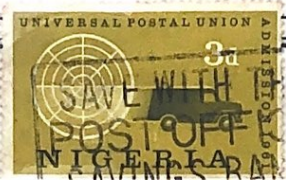
COAT OF ARMS



NICARAGUA



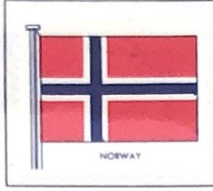
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NORFOLK ISLAND • NORTH BORNEO • NORTHERN NIGERIA
 NORTHERN RHODESIA • NORTHWEST PACIFIC ISLANDS • NOSSI-BE • NOVA SCOTIA



NORWAY



The democratic kingdom of NORWAY or NORGE ("Northern Way": route of the ancient Vikings raiding England; area 149,166 sq. mi.; pop. 3,510,000; cap. Oslo) is a great seafaring nation. It has the world's 4th largest merchant fleet. Fishing is the national industry. Its coastline, penetrated by deep fjords, has an overall ocean front of 12,500 miles. In a land which is largely uninhabitable, the Norwegians live in narrow valleys and along the shores of lakes and fjords. Many work in the forests which cover one-fourth of their country. Norway is often called "The Land of the Midnight Sun" because much of its area lies above the Arctic Circle, where in summer the sun never sets, and in mid-winter the nights are 18 hours long. Yet ocean currents give Norway a surprisingly mild climate and ice-free harbors.

COAT OF ARMS



PAKISTAN

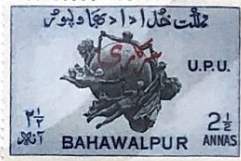


World's 7th most populous country is the REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN (365,037 sq. mi.; pop. 86,000,000; cap. Karachi) comprising the former Moslem areas of British India. Its name, interpreted as meaning "Land of the Pure," was coined from letters representing its most important regions: P for Punjab; A for Afghan regions; K for Kashmir, which was subsequently seized by India; I for Islam, the national religion; and stan, last syllable of Baluchistan. East Pakistan on the Bay of Bengal, with 56% of the population, and West Pakistan on the Arabian Sea, with 85% of the area, are separated by 850 intervening miles of Hindu India! Inhabited by a war-like people, but poor in industry and natural resources, Pakistan is mainly an agricultural nation now engaged in a struggle for modernization.

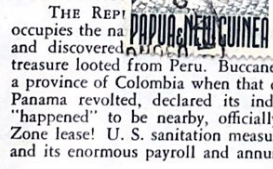


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PAKISTAN (including BAHAWALPURI)



PALESTINE • PAPUA and NEW GUINEA • PENRYHN ISLAND



PANAMA
 (28,753 sq. mi.; pop. 1,025,000; cap. Panama City)
 occupies the narrow isthmus connecting N. & S. America. Balboa hacked his way across in 1513 and discovered the Panama Canal. Panama became the route of trans-shipment for Inca treasure looted from Peru. Buccaneers raided its ports and gold ships. In 1903 Panama was a province of Colombia when that country refused to authorize U. S. construction of a Canal. Panama revolted, declared its independence, was protected by U. S. naval forces which "happened" to be nearby, officially recognized—and promptly granted the desired Canal Zone lease! U. S. sanitation measures stamped out yellow fever; the great Canal was built; and its enormous payroll and annuity payments became Panama's chief assets.

COAT OF ARMS

