

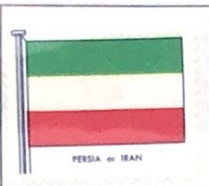
PARAGUAY



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## PERSIA or IRAN

The KINGDOM OF IRAN, or PERSIA (636,293 sq. mi.; pop. 20,000,000; cap. Tehran) was anciently the heart of one of history's greatest empires. Persians fought Greeks at Thermopylae and Marathon (5th century B.C.). Their empire was conquered successively by Greeks, Saracens, Mongols, Afghans, Turks, etc. The corrupt regimes ended when an army general seized power (1921), became hereditary Shah, introduced reforms, and began modernization. The present Shah is his son. Iran has enormous strategic importance: it blocks Russia's ambition to own seaports on the Indian Ocean. Also, it virtually floats on a sea of oil, ranking 6th in world production. It is evident that the traditional struggle of great powers for influence in Iran will continue for many years.



COAT OF ARMS



PERSIA or IRAN





**PERU**

The Republic of PERU (496,222 sq. mi.; pop. 10,525,000; cap. Lima) stretches from the Pacific coast up across the gigantic Andes and down to the dense jungle of the western Amazon, with climates ranging from equatorial to Alpine as the altitude changes. In Peru's lofty mountain valleys flourished the ancient Inca Empire: some six million Indians whose civilization was overthrown and looted in 1523 by the adventurer Pizarro with 183 men, 37 horses — and firearms! Today half the people are still pure Indians, poor, landless and illiterate; the rest, including the ruling class, are mostly mestizo. Peruvian mines, still fabulously rich, yield copper, gold, silver and vanadium; there are valuable oil fields; and exports include cotton, sugar, wild rubber, quinine, ivory nuts, mahogany, guano, and vicuna wool.



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PERU



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## PHILIPPINES



Tops of a submerged chain of volcanic mountains, the 7,100 Philippine Islands (115,707 sq. mi.; pop. 24,000,000; cap. Quezon City, a suburb of Manila) were named in honor of Philip II of Spain. The Filipinos live on plains amidst the mountains, and produce enormous tonnages of rice, copra, manila hemp and other tropical products. Ceded to the U. S. after the Spanish-American War, the islands enjoyed increasing welfare and prosperity; were granted limited independence as a Commonwealth in 1935, and full independence as a republic in 1945. "No people in history," said President Quezon, "coming under a foreign flag, have ever been treated so generously." The Filipinos enthusiastically learned the language, sports and customs of the U. S., and served as brave and loyal allies during the war with Japan.

COAT OF ARMS

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PHILIPPINES



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PHILIPPINES



PHILIPPINES



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PHILIPPINES



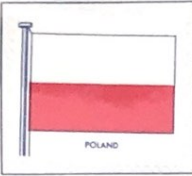
PITCAIRN ISLANDS



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## POLAND

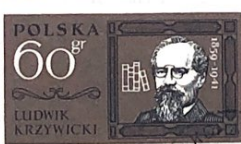
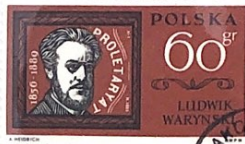


POLAND ("Land of Plains"; 120,359 sq. mi.; pop. 30,000,000; cap. Warsaw) has been bloodied by almost incessant warfare. In the 16th century its domain reached from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Declining thereafter, set upon and divided by Russia, Prussia and Austria, Poland disappeared for 123 years (1705-1918) from the map of Europe! The national spirit burned fiercely beneath this historic outrage, and after World War I Poland proclaimed its independence. Destroyed again by Germany during World War II, Poland reappeared in 1945 as a dictatorial Communist Republic dominated by Soviet Russia. A leading agricultural nation, Poland also stands 6th in world production of coal, 9th in iron, and is rapidly becoming industrialized. Postage stamps picture its great men and reflect its stormy history.

COAT OF ARMS


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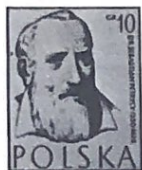
POLAND



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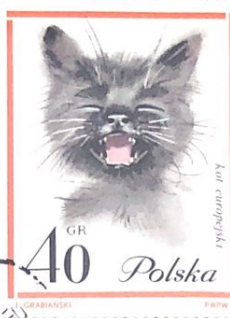
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POLAND



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Semi - Postals • Airmails • Postage Dues • Officials • German Occupation Stamps



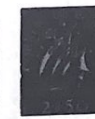
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# PORTUGAL



The dictatorial REPUBLIC OF PORTUGAL (35,495 sq. mi.; pop. 8,981,000; cap. Lisbon) is a land of vineyard-covered hillsides, warm sunshine, good food and wine, inexpensive living, picturesque villages and a friendly people. Agriculture (whose goddess Ceres appears on many of their stamps) is the principal occupation. Cork, wine and sardines are the national exports. In the 15th century, dauntless Portuguese navigators (Magellan, Vasco da Gama, Cabral, etc.) went on those marvelous voyages of exploration, conquest and trade which won for little Portugal one of the world's largest empires. Left over from those great years, and protected for them in modern times by British sea-power, the Portuguese still control an enormous empire — a collection of colonies more than 23 times the size of their homeland.

COAT OF ARMS



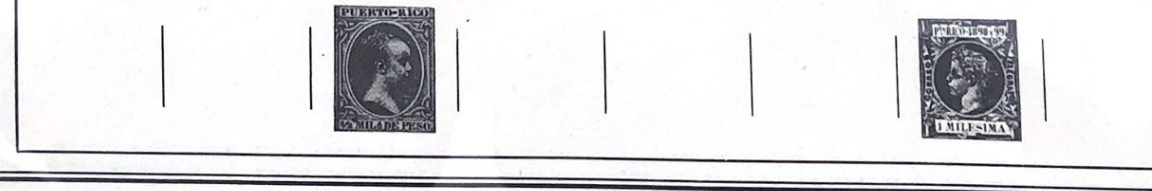
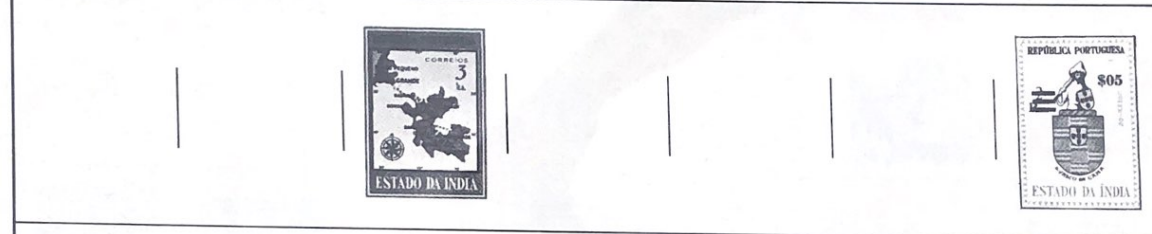
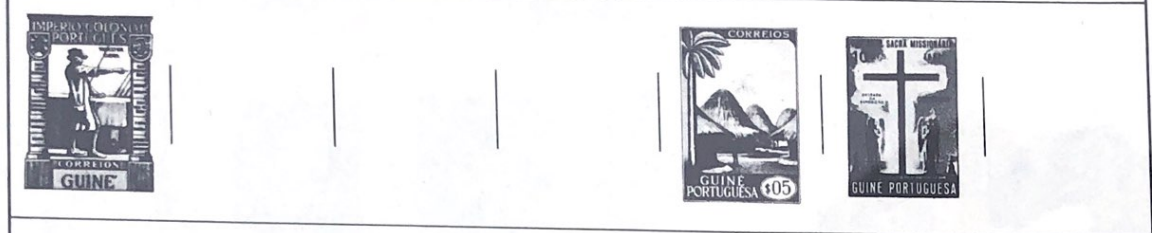
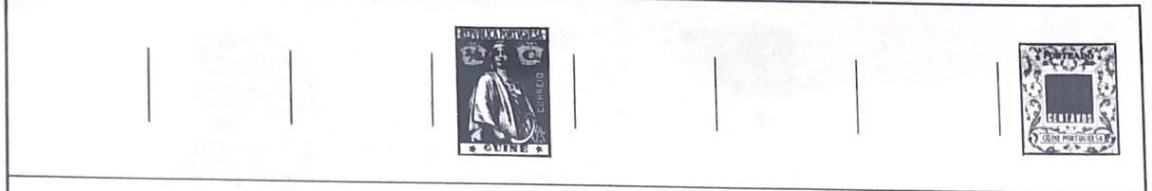
PORTUGAL



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 RHODESIA and NYASALAND



RIO DE ORO · RIO MUNI · ROUAD



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## ROMANIA

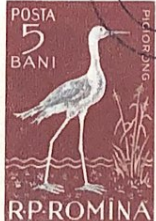


**RUMANIA** or **ROMANIA** ("Land of Romans"; 91,699 sq. mi.; pop. 18,060,000; cap. Bucharest or Bucuresti) was named from a colony of Romans settled there in 106 B.C. The principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia united in 1861 to form modern Rumania, which was thereafter run for the personal profit of its princes, politicians and landowners — while the peasants remained landless, poor, illiterate and crushed by taxation. "Rumania," huffed Tsar Nicholas II, "that's not a country — it's a profession." The kingdom ended in 1947 when Russia forced the abdication of King Michael I and set up the usual "People's Republic" — giving land to the peasants and then collectivizing it back again! Rumania's fertile plains yield rich harvests of grain, while its oil fields at Ploesti are Europe's second best source of petroleum.

COAT OF ARMS



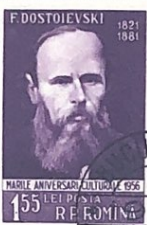
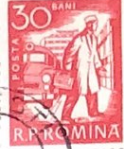
ROMANIA



ROMANIA



ROMANIA



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## RUSSIA or SOVIET UNION



World's largest country is the UNION OF SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLICS or U.S.S.R. (in Russian, C.C.C.P.) (8,650,069 sq. mi.; pop. 209,000,000; cap. Moscow), whose 15 republics are "united" by force; "socialist" in that mines, farms, factories, etc. are state-owned and politically controlled; and "soviet" in that government is presumably by means of freely elected soviets or councils. In practice this vast empire is ruled by the Communist Party (4% of the population) through its Congress, Presidium, and Secretary General or reigning dictator. Occupying by itself 1/4th of the world's land surface, Russia also dominates Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania; and strives incessantly to create, in other countries, Communist governments subservient to Moscow.



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RUSSIA or SOVIET UNION



RUSSIA or SOVIET UNION



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