e land and

most islands in the Tawi-Tawi chain are a scant 24 kilometers from the northeastern coast of Borneo. From west to east at its widest, the archipelago to 50 north of the equator. The northernmost is land of Y'ami in the Batanes group lies only 241 kilometers from southern Taiwan. The southernisland-groups in the world, stretch 1,840 kilo-meters from north to south, from 21 latitude down HE Philippine Republic is a cluster of islands breaking off the northern portions of Borneo and Sulawesi and scattering below the island of Tawan. The 7,100 islands, silets, rocks and sand-bars that form the archipelago, one of the largest

On a wider projection, the Philippines lies in the Western Patific, 800 kionneters from Manhand Southeast Asia and II. 300 kionneters from San Francisco. To the west, the archipelago is bounded by the South China Sea, to the east by the Pacific, to the south by the Salu and Celebeas Seas and to the morth cut off by the Bashi Chamel from Tawan. Channels and straits separate the different islands at their nearest points, while inland seas form larger gaps between local landfalls. The total coastline of 17,500 kilometers is twice that of the

square klometers. Ninetysak percent of this is taken up by 11 large islands: Luzon, Madhano, Samar, Negres, Palawan, Panny, Mindoro, Leyis, Cebu, Bo-hol and Matshate, Luzon (104,607 square kilometers) and Mindanao (14,532 square kilometers) are by far the largest islands, Matshate is only 3,266 square kilometers. The total land area of the country is 300,780

Its land area makes the Philiprines a medium-sized country, a little larger than the British Isles, or New England and New York State put together, and about two-shirts the zero of Spain. Convention, ally, the archipolago is divided into three main groups of liands; Luxon and Mindoro to the north; the Visayas—Samar, Leye, Cebu, Masbate, Bohol, Vigros, Panay and Palsawas—forming the central is-main, and the southern group composed of Mindo-no and the much smaller islands of Baslain and the Salu and Tave-Flown exchipelagoos.

famous Galleon Trade with Mexico and the jumping-off point of Carbbic missionairs venturing into China, Jupan and Indochina. During the American Occupation, the Philippines continued to be an im-portant commercial and military base in the Western sea between the Pacific and the Indian Ocean and between Australia and the Asian meinland. Manila Bay, with a circumference of 193 kilometers, is con-sidered the finest natural harbor in Southeast Asia. Strategic location.

HE Philippines is situated on the historic crossroads of Asia. The country occupies a strategic
position on the eastern rim of what has been called
the "Asiatic Mediterranean"—the warm and shallow From the seventeenth to the nineteenth century, Spanish Manila was both the western anchor of the

lines is the Mandana Trough, just east of the north-ern point of Mindanao Island. It has a recorded depth of 10,670 meters, the world's second-deepest trank, Geologically, Mindanao itself is actually a series of perinaista jound together by pleteaus and lowland strips, Four north-south range streeme the island, with extinct volcanoes scattered along the range lines Beveen the porthaular range systems are tays and gulfs, Mindanao has three great allo-val plains: the Aquasan, Davos and Cotabiots valleys, In both Agusan and Cotabato there are also extensive marshlands.

known of these, Mayon Volcano in Albay Province, has a nearly perfect come and is a national tourist attraction. Manila Bay and a large nearby lask, Laguna de Bay, are actually the remains of a shallow Teriany sea that once covered much of Central Laguna de Say. Luzon preents an entirely different geological picture, though like Mindanso it is an clongated system of peninsulas/joined together. The southern peninsula, the Biool Region, consists of rough to hilly terrain crowned with volcanoes. The best zon. This region is now a broad plain, the country's largest single stretch of lowland. Beyond the Central Plain to the north is Cordillera country, elevations

averaging 1,524 meters topped by peaks above 2,438 meters. The tallest of Northern Luzon mountains is Mount Pulog (2,924 meters), the secondhighest peak in the Philippines.

southern Mindanao to Celebes. An older land link second land corridor joined Borneo to Mindanao. From the evidence of plant life, scientists believe to the southward extension of Palawan and intro-duced Bornean flora and fauna into the island. A URING the last glacial epoch, 500,000 years ago, the level of the sea between the island of Borneo and the southern parts of the Philippines sank to 73,15 meters (the present level is about 91), exposing highlands-land bridges-which linked Bornec Land bridges to Asia.

which existed around the middle of the Pheistocene, some 500,000 years ago, joined Northerin Luzon with Taiwan, which in furn was connected to Asia. Through this northern corridor, the Himalayian pine found its way to Northern Luzon, So did mammals now extinct, among them the stegodon, a pygmy elephant whose fossils have been found in Taiwan, Northern Luzon, the central island of Panay and Mindanao, Both Philippine animal and plant life reflect these ancient alliances with East and Southyears up, as the climate warmed, sea levels rose; the last cornior disappeared herath the waves 10,000 years up, by that period, however, a pygmy Negroid people from the Andaman Islands and the forests of Malaya had found its way into the Philip pines. These aboriganal Negritos have no knowledge whatever of nevironiams. east Asia. The land bridges to Asia are estimated to have lasted for close to 60,000 years. Some 20,000



The rice terraces of Banawe, proof of a po

bestos, magnesile, rock asphalt and gypsum. The re-cent discovery of oil in nearby countries has since 1973 stimulated extensive exploration, particularly in the offshore areas of Palawan and the Sulu Archipelago. as the precious metals gold and salver. Its deposits of manganes and nickel are among the largest in the world. The country is also one of the ten major gold producers. Major nonmetallic resources include timestone, marble, feldspar, refractory clay, cost, silica sand, pyrite, guano, perlite, sulfur, quartz, as-

the tidal areas of Iloilo Pro Fisheries Development Cen a major occupation in the southern region. Off three have a variety of com help has encouraged Muslim Filipino entrepreneurs to farm a species of seaweed, extracts from which islands in the Sulu and Taw ditional diet. Recently, seaweed farming has become bonito, mullet and sea bass. Fish and rice is the trabeen identified in Philippine Being insular, the country has a profusion of marine resources. Some 2,000 species of fish have hrimps and prawns. Since least Asian trade, Philippin urce of pearls, black coral, and industrial uses. In ace, the Southeast Asia has undertaken the

deans.

Are have been a fill who exosite houses lies on the clause, shark fins and other exchapelago lies on the clause. The Philiphine archipelago lies on the limit of the points has a warm tirely in the topical zone. The country has a warm tirely in the state of the clause of the from 32 to 40 inches. In other regions the average rainfall may be as low as 15 inches. The country lie in the world's severest tropical cyclone belt. From 1900 until 1972 the Manila Weather Bureau record tirely in the trop climate, with dis are generally the wettest, erage annual rainfall of

and the small olive-green birds of the family Whi Eyes (Zosteropidae) are Celebes forms that have penetrated the Philippines. Most of the resident bird species are also represented in Borneo

Sanatra, Borneo and the Malay Pennisala, Also found in the Philippines are Australian types, which stop short in Luzon, hardly filtering into Talwan. Of floral species in the country, some 60 percent are indigenous. The Philippines and Borneo Stane 60 species, the majority of these found in Mindanao, Palawan and Mindono, Bornean species are hardly represented in either Luzon or the Visyras, again suggesting geological discontinuities. It is, however, with Celebes and the Moluccau that the Philippines Dipterocarpaceae, the great wood which forms the primary forests of the Philippines, Thailand, Indochina and Indonesia. The Philippines has about 50 The largest plant groupings are the Polypodiaceae and allied ferns, and the Orchidaceae. A unifying Plant life shares many characteristics of the flora of Western Malaysia: the islands of Java and element in the great forests of Southeast Asia is th shares the larger part of its plant and tree forms. The most beautiful flowers to be found in the

underiona Rechh, f.-was discovered in Mudano in 1882. The first specific reference to Philippine or chids was made by the Jesuit hotanist Gong Josef Kamel, who lived as a missionary to M.-mill. Philippines are rarely glimpsed, for they are blooms of deep forest trees rising to great heights. It is also these wild environs that are the Philippine orchid pine orchids distributed throughout the archipelago, with about 790 of these endemic. The acknowledge country. There are more than 940 species of Philip-

1974 estimated at below 16 years only in fully recent years hat the government feet compelled to embark on a population moderation program. Though
this has caught on in the cities; it still has to make
an impact on the overall hirthrate. A demographic
survey in 1973 indicated a sight decline in fertility
among women 25 years and older. The national
child-dependency load is about 55 children per hantered adults. Failip 35 percent of all Fullpinos are betered adults. Failip 35 percent of all Fullpinos are below 20 years of age, while only three percent are above 65. The sex ratio is 17.9 males to 17.6 females, or almost exactly one to one. The average ing, though still high (one of every two deaths is of a child six years or below), and the average age of the population is being lowered, with the median in rising. At birth it is 56.65 years for men and 60.35 per thousand, the population should double about every 23 years. At the same time, life expectancy is highest), and with a crude birthrate above 40 per thousand, while the crude deathrate is about 12 crease, calculated by most authorities at slightly over three percent annually (one of the world's in mortality has been brought about by effective public health programs. At the present rate of in-Particularly since World War II, a dramatic decline bitants, the population has more than quintupled only 1.79 million. Since the Americans conducted their first census in 1903, reporting 7,635,426 inha placed the total population at 36,684,486. The est mate for 1975 is 42 million. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, the total population was

tion density of 1,529 persons per square kilometer. Kalinga-Apayao Province in the mountains of North ern Luzon has only 19.3 inhabitants per square square kilometer in 1970, one of the highest in the world; together with its suburbs, the primate city has a density of 15,000. Among the 70-odd pro-The average density of 90.3 persons per square kilometer in 1960 had increased to 123.1 by 1970. Inner Manila had a density of 34,750 persons per vinces, Rizal east of Manila has the highest popula-

oular system, gastroenteritis and colitis, diseases of the heart, bronchitis, malignant neoplasm, avitami-nosis and other nutrition deficiencies are the leading causes of mortality. The deathrate is 73 per In 1970 the total number of births was 1,005,504, and the total number of deaths, 248,251. Life expectancy in the Philippines is generally higher

still live in rural areas. Eight cities have population more than 200,000. These are Manila (1,330,788), Quezon City (754,452), Davao (392,473), Cebu (347,166), Caloocan (274,453), Makati (264,918). Iloilo (209,738) and Pasay (206,283). There is a great deal of internal migration, outward from the Urbanization. Fully 80 percent of all Filipinos

Manila has for centuries been a hub of transportation routes to and from Southeast Asia. The city also, just on the major fourts across the Pacific. From Manila, Hongtong is only one hour and 40 minutes by let's Sugapore is three hours away, Sydney 7 1/2 hours. Europe is 17 hours away and the American West Coast 18 hours, Some 20 intermational airlies fit, go Manila regularly. American defense perimeter in the Western Pacific.

of several international organizations. Among these are the World Health Organization, the Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Center, the Asian Development Bank and the Philippinent Heart Center for Asia, The Welk-Rowen International Riese Research Institute and the Southeast Asia Research Center for Agriculture are both struated in Los Bans, Lagum Province. Since the restoration of political and occial stability in the 1972, several multinational companies have established responsible multinational companies have established responsible. Manila is the seat of the Asian regional offices multinational companies have establis headquarters in Metropolitan Manila.

Seology and land forms.

EXCEPT for the two large islands of Luzon and Mindana, the islands of the archipetage are actually the crests of submerged mountain ranges. The islands are separated by shallow waters, except for the land system run northward from east Borneo through the Sulu Archipelago into Western Mindanao, Negros and Cebu; and from west Borneo through Palawan into Luzon, forming extensions of the island arcs of Southeast Asia. Because of these geological lines, most of the islands have a simple north-south alignment. The smaller islands are often but a single deeper Sulu Sea. The structural ranges forming the ismountain range and its foothills. Beyond Luzon, the

island are tipper off toward lawar.

The mountain over are of generous rocks, the frontulin over are of generous rocks, the frontulin belts characterized by Tertiary formations which are back to 860 million years ago. On the frether was the other toward on Mindoro stand goes back to the Evener 48 million years ago. On top of the Fritary schinerist are often found deposits of allowin. Thus, allowing land cocus in parties around most of the Philippine shands, the larger truck in esturies, editing and cocus in parties around most of the Philippine shands, the larger truck in esturies, edited and cocus in parties out the region of the Philippine shands, the larger truck in esturies, edited have been out their geological history, the stands have been subjected to crustal changes, while the general confi-guation of the exclinelacing has also altered with the lowering and sings of sa levels throughout the last milnon years. As a result, cord formations may be found even in places like Bagino City in Northern Luzon, 1,224 metres above the sa. Southward from the binds of Ceth, many of the islands contain patches of coral investone updated above the water by upheavals eons ago.

Another feature of Philippine topography is its vulcanism. The highest elevations in the archipelago are volcanic peaks, a number of which rise above 130 meters. The highest peak, Mount Apo, rises 5/955 meters. The county as about a dozen active volcances, which are most. Found along fracture zones that run longitudinal-

east Asia. The land bridges to Asia are estimated to have listed for close to 60000 years. Some 20,000 years 40, as the climate warmed, sea levels rose; the list cornford climates warmed, sea levels rose; the list cornford climate well between the waves to 0,000 years 400. By that period, however, a pygmy Negroid people from the Andrama Islands and the forests of Malaya had found its way into the Philipping. These abolighant Negrois since the Chilippines. These abolighant Negrois since he having whatsoever of navigation.

Solis and vegeritor. The misor out types are podoulie red entities allowing and manh solis Because both temperatures and stanfall are relatively high roals tend to be highly beached. The is particularly true of rice-paidly soil, thought it less within the solitered Asian region of Henries Soils of this type, when subjected to cultivation over bing periods, become day and action. This is why Philippine farming requires a steady mput of fertilizers. Manh soil is count in only a few places, in many regions, the arth periodically receives a new layer of unweathered soil is usually rich and extremely productive when cultivated.

cultivated are those of the Philippines are often toor. Booght the earth is enriched by the rapid decay of vegetation, it is also subsected to unreast learning by rain and the high-altitude sun. Once cleared, the soil cover rapidly loses its fertility. Of the total land are of nearly 30 million hectares, nearly half still is forest, and some 35 percent its cultivated. Forest types range from the diptencarp (or wood rees) to the mostsy line, and the maniformation of all inther stands are of prime mahogany. The Philippines is one of the world's largest exporters of all inther stands are of prime mahogany. The Philippines is one of the world's largest exporters of all inthe changes are proposed to the condens of the transfer and half in the stands are of prime mahogany. The Philippines is one of the world's largest exporters of clear and half and in the concern of policymakers is the repid rate of forest denudation,

resources of the Philippines include iron, nickel, chromium, copper, molybdenum, manganese, mer-cury, platinum, lead, cadmium and uranium, as well Mineral and marine resources. The rich minera

We have 111 linguistic, cultural and racial groups.

onsoon bears its load of n. September and Octo-which bring fine and cool weather to the Manila arta. The average tempera-ture around the primate cityle \$2.705 C. During these two months it drops to around 18.33 C. The hottest months of the dry æason are April and May, Average in the world's severest tropical cyclone belt. From 1900 until 1972 the Mania Weather Bureau recorded ,533 typhoons—an average of 21 a year. Typhoons moisture from the Indian Occ rainfall may be as low as 15 generally occur during the ember, when the southwes

HE Philippines is home to some of the world's rarest animal and marine forms. These include the world's largest eagle, the Monkey-Eating Eagle cats, palm civets and wildcats; squirrels, flying squir-rels, tris, mice and potropines; the scally anteater; le-mun; taisers and monkeys; sweetal species of pigs, the mouse deer (or chevrolam), several genera and species of deer, the tamarau and carabao; the dugong (or sea cow). Pithecophaga Jefferyu), which can have a wing span of ten feet; and the smallest freshwater fish, the nine millimeter Pandaka pygmaa, found in the Malabon River off Manila Bay, 'The nine orders of Philippine fauna include the shrews; the flying lemurs, at least seven bat families; the skunks, clawless otters, civet Plant and animal life.

What can be said of Philippine aimal life can also be said of the country's floral alliances within the So suitesart Asian hearth. Annual followed the movement of plants and trees from the learnth of Surtheast Asian hearth. Annual followed the hearth of Surtheast Asian first into Burnos and the more of the surtheast Asian first into Burnos and the number of the more on the followed asian the largety Burnos and the surtheast of any and also the provided as a surtheast and the surtheast found in Plants and the surtheast of the followed on the surtheast of the sur

of a "horsehead" decention on a pice of Luon potenty database Model (ADD) cent. The tamean (Anot mindorately, a type of mail, wild water buffalor (ound only on Mindoo Idand, appare) to be a unique Philippine animal its ancetor was related to the curp too, its dimmatter sac is oved to its mealur solabiton. But the rurest of Philippine animal life is the saldomese unball-quide "cloud" at "that inhabits the mountains of Northern Lucon, Mindoor and Otley Beyer differs about the horse, on the evidence

be Bur Oyes effect the pattern of named distri-bution. In terms of confithodogical geography, the Philippines is clearlied as enbregion (along with Malaysis and the Austra-Deffmink area of the Orien-tal region Only in the Pattern area is band file cha-ter form (and proposed proposed proposed pro-ments, Some 33,000 bed specimens representing syne 34 to Orma have been callected from the Patt-span Andreas and the Pattern and Pattern approaching syne 34 to Orma have been callected from the Patt-span Andreas and Pattern and Pattern approaching syne Andreas and Pattern and Pa

county, nate are most nam way species of Fringpine orchids distributed throughout the archipolago,
with about 790 of these enables. The acknowledged
queen of these orchids—the winterwing, or Fonda
anderina Reich, J.—was discovered in Mindamo in
1882. The first specific reference to philippine orchids was made by the feast botanist Georg Josef
Kamel, who lived as a missionary in Manila at the
turn of the eighteenth century, and after whom the
camelia flower was anated. The definitive book on
the flowers of the Philippines was written by another predicts should alwane Blanco in 1832. The
best-known of the orchids of the Philippines are the
Tiger Orchid (Philianopias schillerianus, the Fonda
Lizonome, the Butterfor Orchid Information
Lizonome, the Butterfor Orchid Information
Lizonome, and Butterfor Orchid Information
Lizonome, and Butterfor Orchid Information



Another exotic representative of Philippine

animal life is the seashell, the most colorful of which are to be found in Philippine waters. The rarest of these include the Imperial Volute and the Glory of the Sea cone.

Portrait of Filipinos

which tend to show that long before the short, dark skinned and kinky-haired straggler from mainland his remotest genetic lines back to an Australoid and Mongolian stock, from whom descended not Southeast Asia found his way through the Bornean land bridges into the islands, the Cagayan Valley of Northeast Luzon had already seen the footprint of only the Filipino but also the Southern Chinese, the Thats, some Burnese, Malays and Indonesians. The Negitio, a prgmy Negroid, is generally believed to have been the first man on the archipelago. This bit of conventional anthropological wisdom is only now being put to some doubt by present-day excavations, Homo erectus-possibly a contemporary of Peking D EMOGRAPHY. and Java Man.

The oldest traces to far of flow univers in the Philipotes were found at the Thom Caves of Palawan in 1962. These are fossils of at least three individuals, carron-dated to 22,000 k. C. Tabon Woman has been tentatively identified as Australiod. Neutrin magnitions of Nonpoloid types from South Christ and the Tookin delta in the second millimming. Compatibly the earther traits of an incipert childration stall found among the hill an incipert childration stall found among the hill an incipent many the country. In historic times, from the thriteenth and the stackenth century, following the bestkup of the martitine empires of St-Vijaya and Maijapahit and the coming of Islam, migations from the southern Indonesian Islands began filtering into the archipelago. These coastal Malays extited the alluvial plans and pusited the earlier teenth to the late nineteenth century, added a tiny minority of mixed bloods, but did not disturb the ethnic Malay identity. The present-day Filipino also has a sprinking of Chinese, Indian, Arabic and Cargroups of migrants into the interior. Spanish coloni-zation, which lasted from the middle of the six-

The census of 1970 blood. Population characteristics.

The result difficient to the argue case forecast produces and 1970. So processes to front a processes forecast the same of the processes forecast the control of the processes of err Varies, flore, each more soons impacts than mer. There is east solitaritist impation of sidiled workers and professionally. Border 1975, for intrans-cion 33,000 Jugano, sockers left the country to work in the University Canada, Mexico and and for its county decis. Each time have provided some task a 200,000. However we want to 13,37,351. Queene Che 174,453, Eurose CSQ-2173, Colo. (1971,163, Colonom (774,453, March 134,914. Robe (200, 738) and Pass (200, 28%) free a s-part dual of salernal magneton, carbonic from the sent propoless areas to the frontier regions, and Cohmitmeton, Publy 10 percent of all Pilipa on in renal series. Eight utter have proposition

Chaire, come second, with 3.2 percent (1.4 millions) followed by the Montania, 4.9 percent (1.5 million). (The Poinstant, 3.5 percent 176, 1991; its Talman Cristo, modere Philippine set, with one percent (2.76, 1941; the Buckhata, nonthe Caines, set). All percent [19,431], and wither sengent, 3.1 percent in the Philippines, constituting \$11 percent of the food population for the 1996 occurs counting 2.26 million Catholics. The Aglicyane amond after the founded of the foundation of the propulation of the productions of the production of the production of the productions of the production of t Religion. The Roman Catholics pin

that are self-processor to the Miligipoins appealing to a self-processor to the Miligipoins appealing to a self-processor to the Miligipoins appealing to the Miligipoins appealing to the Miligipoins appealing to the Miligipoins appealing to the Miligipoins and a self-processor to the self-processor to the Miligipoins and a self-processor to the self-Languages. There are some 111 linguistic, or

When he are a second to the control of the Chinese population centers of the Philipsines. The Chinese population centers of the Philipsines, the Chinese population centered at 200 OOT speak the women slight for Chinese speaked by Publishers and Cardonese. A small believe community each point family of Publishers and Cardonese. A small believe community each point family of Publishers and the Postagora in the Postagora and Statement and Philipsian. saloped contact languages or pases. These are the fermissie in Mania: the Chabasano and Ternatelio to Certin, an old Spanish need status, and the Cotabatano, Daesa Chabacaso and Zemboanguelo