



A PHILATELIC TRIBUTE TO THE FLAG, ALASKA AND HAWAII

"THE STARS IN THEIR COURSES"

AN HISTORIC COLLECTION
OF
UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS

1957 1959 1960

ISSUED TO HONOUR

THE AMERICAN FLAG

AND

THE NEW STATES OF ALASKA AND HAWAII

ALASKA—THE 49TH STATE

A DISTRICT

1867—1912
 Organized Territory
 Since 1912
 Statehood acquired by
 Presidential Proclamation
 January 3, 1959
 Capital—Juneau
 (Population 7200)
 First Governor
 William Eagan, Democrat
 Principal Cities
 Anchorage—35,000
 Fairbanks—12,000



JUNEAU

AREA

586,000 Square Miles
 Our Largest State
 (More than twice the
 size of Texas.)
 Included are about 150
 Aleutian Islands
 strung out 1000 miles
 along S. W. Coast.
 Population 223,000
 (About 30,000 Eskimos)
 Mount McKinley
 Highest Point in
 North America.

Alaska was discovered by Captain Vitus Bering, a Dane in the employ of Russia, in 1741. He had found the Bering Strait in 1728.

Imperial Russia made Kodiak its first capital, later moving operations to Sitka. For a century they engaged in fishing and trading, principally timber and furs.

In 1855 Russia enquired if United States would care to purchase Alaska. Negotiations were begun in 1859 when President Buchanan suggested a price of \$5,000,000, which Russia rejected.

Our Western fishermen, in 1866 urged Washington to try again, and Mr. William H. Seward, Secretary of State under President Andrew Johnson, bought the territory for \$7,200,000. The Treaty was signed March 30, 1867; formal transfer* taking place at Sitka, October 18.

President Johnson and Secretary Seward encountered strong criticism for the deal, called by the critics "Seward's Folly". How wrong can people be? The price paid worked out at approximately 2¢ per acre!

Today, the assessed value of town and city property alone exceeds \$300,000,000. And, in the 93 years since Alaska was acquired, we have added nearly a billion dollars to our wealth from the Territory's minerals alone!

U.S. Government records covering the year 1957, list these imposing ANNUAL production figures:

Timber	\$250,000,000
Fishing	85,000,000
Minerals	25,000,000
Furs	7,000,000
Agriculture	4,500,000

At least \$40,000,000 per annum is derived from Tourism and Sports.

**In our Washington archives is this interesting document: "To the Treasurer of the United States, Greeting. Pay to Edward de Stockle, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the Emperor of Russia, or order, out of the appropriation named in the margin, Seven million two hundred thousand dollars, being in consideration of certain territory ceded by the Emperor of Russia to the United States as described in Treaty of 30th March, 1867."*

Government and private surveys of coal and oil deposits point to substantial potential wealth in these basic Materials. Commercial quantities of oil were discovered in July, 1957, only 40 miles from Anchorage.

Coal deposits—bituminous and anthracite—are substantial, reserves estimated at 95 billion tons.

Electricity is in abundant supply and the potential for further development of hydroelectric power is enormous—in excess of 16 million KW.

Alaska's forests alone could supply one half of the world's need for newsprint.

Now, for some of the more "cultural" data on this fabulous state. Superlatives are in order, for Alaska abounds in awe-inspiring grandeur and beauty. It has just about everything that any other part of the Northern Hemisphere can offer—mountains and lakes as imposing and beautiful as those of Switzerland, Fjords and the Midnight Sun to compete with Norway, some twenty million acres of prime forest, a profusion of alpine and arctic wild flowers of a wide variety of shades, and many, many types and varieties of wild animals, birds and fish.

About half way between Alaska's two largest cities — Anchorage and Fairbanks—rises the majestic Mt. McKinley to the height of 20,320 feet, the highest point in North America. Four other peaks rise more than 15,000 feet, and there's the steaming volcano, Mt. Wrangel, 14,000 feet.

From these sky-piercing summits extend many large and active glaciers which become the source of innumerable streams below. Most famed of the glaciers is the Mendenhall, near Juneau, some 17 miles in length, over 2 miles in width at its face.

The great River Yukon, arising in Canada, swings across Alaska for 1500 miles—navigable for 1200 in summer.

The warming Japanese Current makes for a wide area of equable climate. Average temperature at Juneau 42°; at Anchorage 35°; at Fairbanks, 26°. All experience 80 degree weather in the summer.

The people are friendly and neighborly; as proud of their state as Texans are of theirs! One of their great citizens was James Wickersham of Juneau. First, a U. S. District Judge, then Delegate to Congress; one of the founders of the University of Alaska, near Fairbanks.

Alaska is separated from the Soviet Union by only 55 miles across Bering Strait. This amusing card is displayed in some stores: "In the event of atomic attack, be calm; complete your purchase; pay your bill; then run like Hell!"



HAWAII—THE 50TH STATE

Our First Overseas State
A Group of twelve Islands
in the North Pacific Ocean,
about 2000 miles
from San Francisco,
eight of which are inhabited:

HAWAII
KAHOOLAWE
MOLOKAI
KAUAI
MAUI
LANAI
OAHU
NIIHAU

Total Area
6434 Square Miles
(Our smallest State,
except for Rhode Island)
Total Population 603,000



An independent Kingdom
from 1790 to 1893
A Republic
from 1894 to 1898
Annexed by United States
July 7, 1898
An Organized Territory since
June 14, 1900
Statehood Acquired by
Presidential Proclamation
August 21, 1959
Capital—Honolulu
(On Oahu)
Population 312,000
First Governor
William F. Quinn
Republican

These Islands are said to have been discovered in 1542 by Gaetano — re-discovered in 1778 by the famed British Navigator, Captain James Cook, who called them the “Sandwich Islands.” He lost his life there the following year during an uprising of the natives. It is thought that Polynesians settled in the islands as long ago as 500 AD.

In 1790, Kamehameha formed the Islands into one Kingdom. Its independence was guaranteed in 1843 by France and England.

From 1874 to 1891 King Kalakaua ruled, and, on his death, his sister, Liliuokalani, became Queen. During these reigns, there was much internal strife, and Queen Liliuokalani was dethroned.

In 1887, the United States was given the exclusive right to use Pearl Harbour as a naval coaling and repair station.

In 1893, a Provisional Government was set up, with annexation to the U. S. as its aim.

On July 4th, 1894 a Republic was established, with Mr. Sanford B. Dole as its first President. In spite of local revolts, this Government remained in power until July 7, 1898, when annexation was accepted by joint resolution of the United States Congress. Mr. Dole continued in office as the Governor.

On June 14, 1900 Hawaii became an Organized Territory. In 1903 the Territorial Legislature made its first request to Congress for Statehood. It made many subsequent pleas; and, since 1947, the Territorial Legislature passed Resolutions at every session.

In the United States Congress, since 1921, no less than 49 Bills for Hawaiian Statehood were introduced, but action always deferred. However, after Alaska received Statehood in 1959, the objective was attained. The Senate voted Hawaii in on March 11, by a vote of 76 to 15; The House, on March 12, by a vote of 323 to 89. The President signed the Act March 18. It was voted on by the Islands, 132,938 to 7,854. The Island of Niihau voted “NO” 70-18.

President Eisenhower’s formal Proclamation of August 21, 1959, made Hawaii our 50th State, and ordered a 50 star flag, effective July 4, 1960.

Hawaii is economically the richest Territory to enter the Union. Its Capital, Honolulu, is the crossroads of the Pacific. It receives approximately 1400 ships a year; handling about 12,000,000 tons of freight. Passenger Lines carry about forty thousand passengers annually. The

major Air Lines average 20 flights a day (in and out).

Business volume has passed the two billion mark per annum. Sugar and pineapples are the largest productions, but Tourism brings nearly \$100,000,000 a year to the Islands. Other industries are growing rapidly —including such “basics” as Oil and Steel. About \$200,000,000 is being spent annually on Construction.

Bank Assets totalled \$480,000,000 in 1958. Taxes paid to Washington that year were \$166,000,000. The per capita income is \$1800.

Culturally, too, Hawaii is the most advanced Territory to have entered the Union. This is due, in part, to the fact that, in 1820, American Missionaries began coming to Hawaii. And, within forty years, they gave the Hawaiian people literacy and the rudiments of a common school education. They taught them, also, something of domestic science.

Today, there are nearly 140,000 students attending more than 200 schools. This is a higher rate of school attendance than our national average. The University of Hawaii at Honolulu enrolled 7,000 students in 1958. There are two other colleges in Honolulu — Jackson and Chaminade. The Library of Hawaii is considered one of the finest in the United States.

Hawaii’s great beauty, unique physical features, strategic location, and importance as a defense center, make this State unusually interesting to all Americans. Fine weather prevails the year ’round. The Hawaiian Visitors’ Bureau claims it has a “12 Month Season, operating on a 24 hour welcoming basis.” There are volcanic mountains, huge craters, exquisite lush valleys, and miles and miles of white surf-crested coast lines and sandy beaches.

Among its many fine citizens, there is Walter F. Dillingham, now 84, a native son of a Mass. skipper. Engaged in large business operations.

Richard Smart is the largest landowner. He has a 300,000 acre cattle ranch and is also a noted actor and singer.

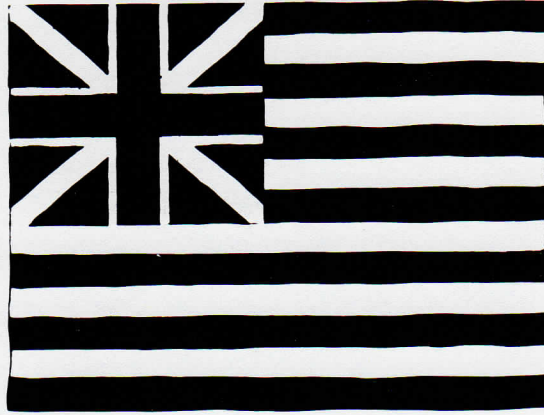
Henry J. Kaiser, industrialist, now 78, is now a resident, active in many ways.

Hawaiians number about 21% of the population; Japanese 35%; Philipinos 12%; Caucasians 25%; all others about 10%.



ISSUED AUGUST 21, 1959

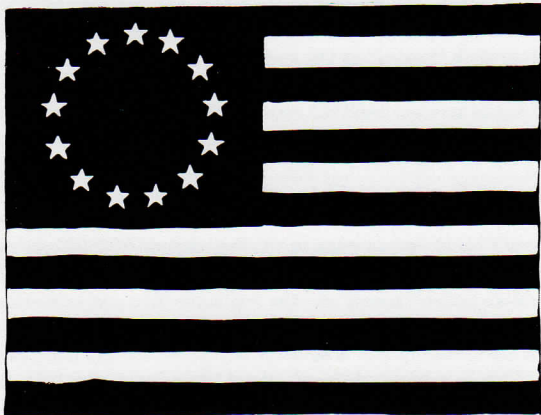
THE EARLIER FLAGS



THE GRAND UNION FLAG

Benjamin Franklin designed this Flag, at the start of the American Revolution. The Union Jack symbolized our tie with England, but the thirteen stripes foretold the coming independence, and the birth of a new nation.

It was the immediate predecessor of the Stars and Stripes. It was hoisted by General Washington in January, 1776, at Cambridge, Mass., as the Standard of the Continental Army.



THE FIRST STARS AND STRIPES

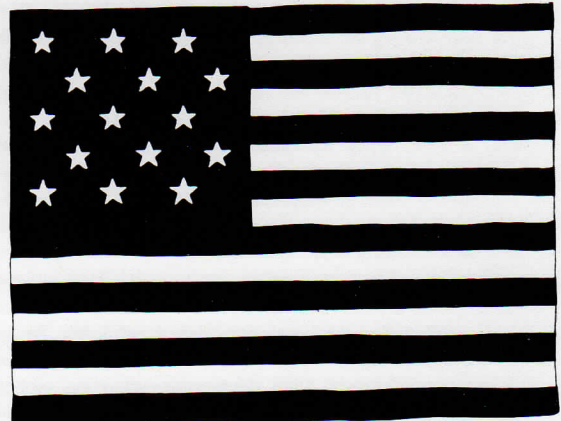
This is the Flag that was adopted by the following Resolution of the Continental Congress, June 14, 1777:

“That the Flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternately red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”

Many Americans still believe that Betsy Ross made the first Flag, although historians dispute the story.

It is recorded that the first Stars and Stripes displayed in the face of an armed enemy was at Fort Stanwix, N. Y., August 3, 1777.

Highest honours are rendered to the National Flag by all branches of military, naval and air services.



FIFTEEN STARS AND STRIPES

Following an Act of Congress on January 13, 1794, this was our Flag, from 1795 until 1818. The addition of the two stars and two stripes came with the admission of Vermont, March 4, 1791, and Kentucky, June 1, 1792, into the Union. This Flag figured in many stirring episodes. It inspired Francis Scott Key to write the “Star-Spangled Banner” at Fort McHenry. (Where the new, 50 star Flag will be raised for the first time officially, at 12:01 AM, Monday, July 4th, 1960.)

Fearing that too many stripes would spoil the true design of the Flag, Congress passed a law on April 4, 1818, returning the Flag to its original design of thirteen stripes, and providing for a new star to be added to the blue field as additional States came into the Union.

“This Flag which we honour, and under which we serve, is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. The choices are ours. It floats in majestic silence above the hosts that execute those choices, whether in peace or in war. And yet, though silent, it speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us, and of the records they wrote upon it.”

Woodrow Wilson.

“I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS,
ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.”

PHILATELY SALUTES OLD GLORY, ALASKA AND HAWAII! INDEPENDENCE DAY ISSUES • JULY 4, 1957 • 1959 • 1960

THE FIFTY STAR FLAG STAMP

Marking Hawaii's admission as the 50th State.

SCOTT NO. 1153—MINKUS NO. CM 462
PERFORATED 11—SHEETS OF 50

Printed on the Giori Press.

Designed by Stevan Dohanos. Plate Nos. 26639, 40, 47 & 48.

On August 21, 1959, President Eisenhower proclaimed Hawaii the 50th State. At ceremonies at the White House on that date, the President unfurled the new 50 Star Flag, which he ordered to become official on July 4, 1960.

Hawaii was discovered in 1778 by Britain's famed Navigator and Explorer, Captain James Cook. It was ruled by native Kings (and one Queen) until 1893, when it became a Republic and voted annexation to the United States. It became a U. S. Territory June 14, 1900.

Our 50th State is historically colourful and exotically beautiful—in land area, somewhat smaller than New Jersey. The population is about 600,000.

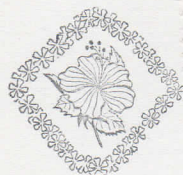
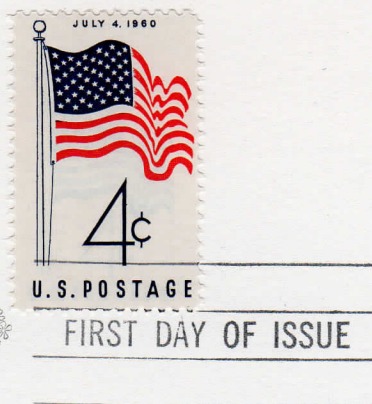
Honolulu is the Capital, and, coinciding with the President's Executive Order, the 50 Star Flag Stamp is having its First Day Sale here on July 4, 1960.

SCOTT NO. 1132—MINKUS NO. CM 441
PERFORATED 11—SHEETS OF 50

This 49 Star Flag was also printed on the Giori Press. It marked the admission of Alaska as the 49th State. By Executive Order, dated Jan. 3, 1959, the 49th Star was added to the flag, effective July 4, 1959.

Auburn, N. Y., the birthplace of Wm. H. Seward, Secretary of State, was chosen for the First Day Sale, because it was he who concluded the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867.

Designed by Stevan Dohanos. Plate Nos. 26344, 54, 66 & 68.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

SCOTT NO. 1094—MINKUS NO. CM 406
PERFORATED 11—SHEETS OF 50

This 48 Star Flag is the first American Stamp printed on the Giori Press. It was also our first 4¢ commemorative.

Designed by V. S. McCloskey, Jr.
Plate Nos. 25711, 12, 13 & 20.

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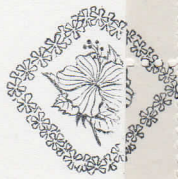
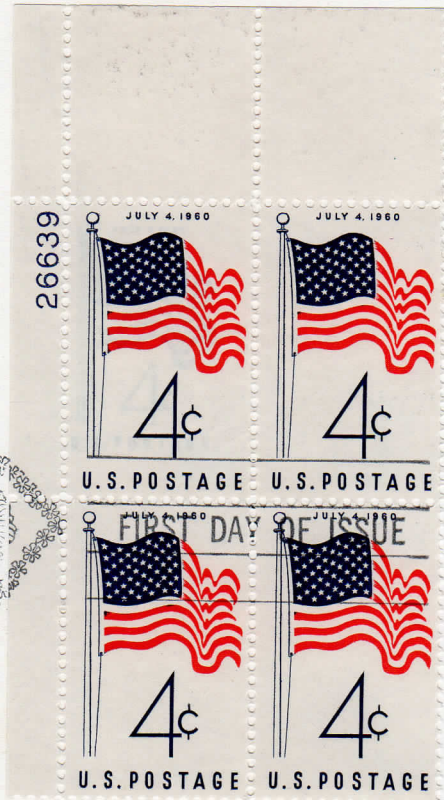
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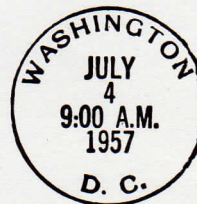
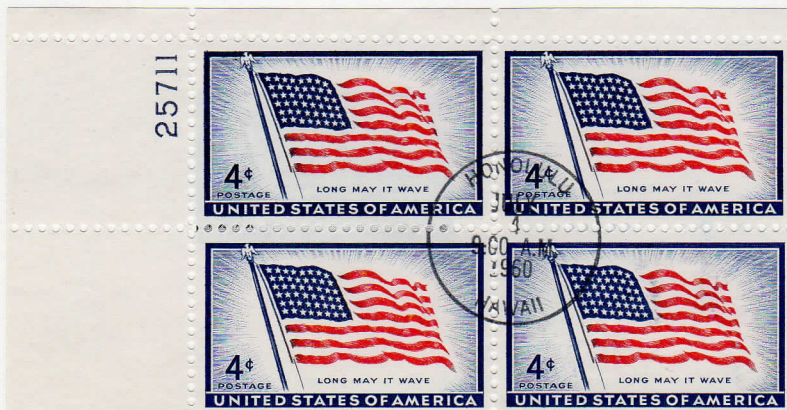
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THE FLAG

This truth is manifest. The perfect Symbol of American Unity and American Liberty is the Flag.

It is a sacred Symbol; held always in the highest esteem by all of our citizens. Not to the President, nor to the Congress, nor to the Supreme Court, but to the Stars and Stripes, does the American, naturally and devotedly, pay his most reverent respect.

In its own way the Flag is a History of the Country. Each star records the story of a great event; the entrance of a sovereign state into the Union. The thirteen red and white stripes represent the original Thirteen Colonies, recalling the long and bitter eight years struggle in which those Thirteen Colonies fought side by side for American Liberty.

The RED in our Flag proclaims the COURAGE that inspires men to face danger and do what is right.

The WHITE stands for LIBERTY, marking it the emblem of the Land of The Free.

The BLUE stands for LOYALTY—
the blue of the Heavens—The True Blue.

Washington once made these interesting observations: "We take the Stars from the Heavens, the Red from the Mother Country, separating it by White stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her. And the White stripes shall go down to posterity, representing Liberty."

The Flag of the United States was adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.

*"Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"*