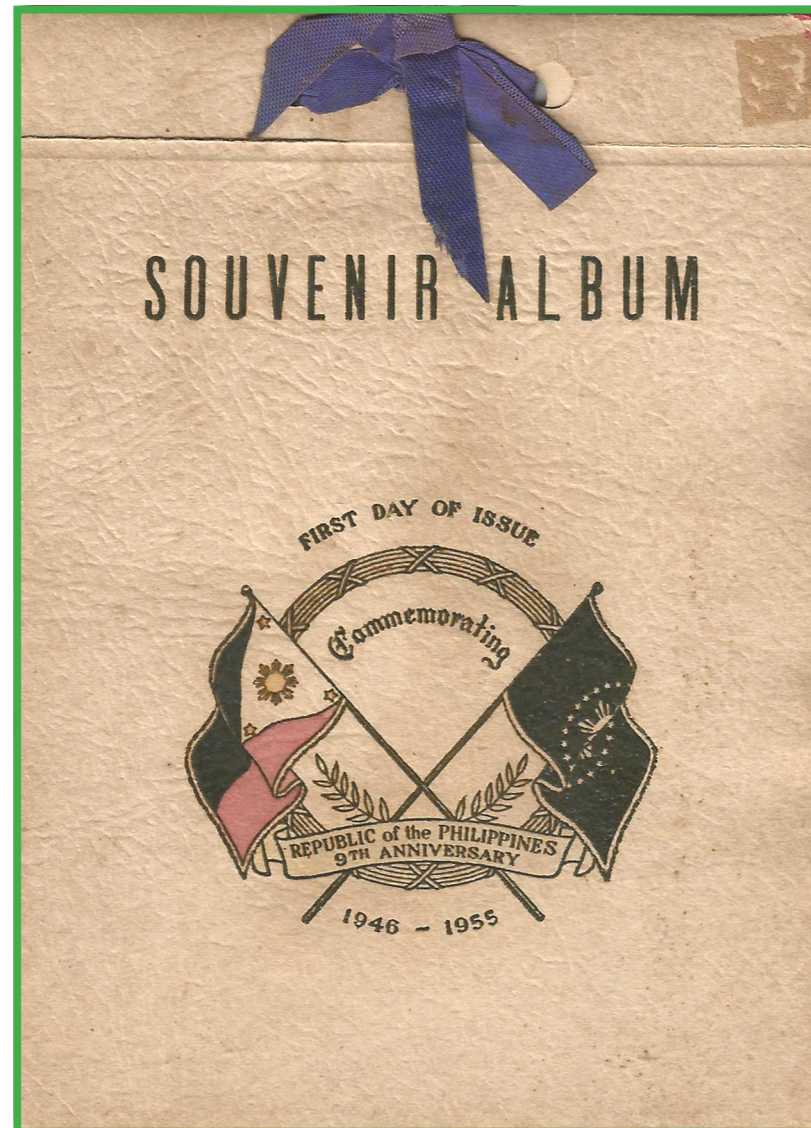


July 4, 1955
9th ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



STAMPS COMMEMORATING THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

We may recall the big events that occurred before we really secured the freedom long sought by our forefathers. We back in 1521 when Magellan first set foot in the archipelago and placed the islands under the dominionship of Spain, evidence of an innate love for freedom was revealed. As a result Magellan was killed in a battle led by Lapu-Lapu. Again, several revolts took place during the Spanish Era and in 1898, as an aftermath of the Philippine Revolution, the First Philippine Republic was proclaimed. The republic however, was cut short by the American occupation of the Islands. A different form of independence was granted the Filipinos during the second world war, when under the rule of the Japanese the people did not enjoy the true freedom.

Fortunately in 1945 the country was liberated by the American forces. The following year the country was given the independence it had been yearning for. On July 4, 1946, Paul V. McNutt, then ambassador of the United States to the Philippines, lowered the American flag and a republic came into being with the late Manuel A. Roxas as its first President.

Today, the Philippine Republic is celebrating its ninth anniversary. Under the leadership of its youthful and energetic President, Ramon Magsaysay, the country is continuing its fight against the enemies of the economic and political freedom.

In commemoration of this important event, the Bureau of Posts is issuing a set of stamps featuring the bust portrait of the President of the Philippines, Ramon Magsaysay. The stamps in three denominations, 5c blue, 20c red and 30c green, were designed by the philatelic designer Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr. and printed by Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd. of London.

