

August 16, 1955
FAMOUS FILIPINOS - V - LAPU-LAPU

STAMPS HONORING LAPU-LAPU

The year 1521 was perhaps the most significant phase in the history of the Philippines, not only because it was a step in the evolution of this nation, but also because it revealed to the world the gallantry and heroism inherent in her people. Lapu-Lapu pioneered a long struggle for freedom when he disproved the invulnerability of the Spaniards when Spain was at the height of her glory.

Magellan and his men disembarked at Homonhon at dawn of March 17, 1521. A powerful chieftain at Cebu. Rajah Humabon was soon converted to Christianity. Confident of that victory that had never failed them, the invaders, led by Magellan set forth an expedition to Mactan to subdue its belligerent chieftain, Lapu-lapu. In the ensuing encounter, Magellan and many of his men were slain while the rest were driven back to their ships.

In honor of the first Filipino to lead an armed resistance against Spain, the Bureau of Posts is issuing a stamp, fifth of the "Famous Filipinos Series", in 20-centavos denomination. The stamp was designed by the philatelic designer Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr. and printed by Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd. of London.

