

July 4, 1958
12th ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES -
FEATURING PRESIDENT CARLOS P. GARCIA

STAMPS COMMEMORATING THE 12th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC

Twelve years ago today, Rizal's dream of a Free Philippines came into reality. That "Glorious Fourth" marked the climax of our 400-year struggle for independence. As the "Philippine National Anthem" was played solemnly, the proud Filipino Flag was slowly raised by the late President Manuel A. Roxas (first President of the Republic). Amidst the splendor of the newly acquired freedom, the Filipino people was to face very soon the problems of rising from the debacles of war.

The early years of the republic marked an era of rehabilitation. Strides were also made in the development of agriculture and industry.

With the death of Pres. Manuel A. Roxas, Vice-President Elpidio Quirino became the second president of the new republic. He was to encounter numerous political problems, especially the one concerning the disturbance of the peace and order situation by the dissident elements. His Secretary of National Defense then, the late Pres. Ramon Magsaysay, was principally instrumental in slowing the peace and order problem. Magsaysay rose very rapidly to popularity and later defeated Pres. Quirino in the presidential election of 1953. The third president of the Republic, the late Pres. Ramon Magsaysay, did not have any time to spare for he was to find the country overshadowed by another problem: the struggle for economic stability. In March 1957, the beloved President met his gloomy death in an airplane crash which claimed the lives of many public officials. The then Vice-Pres. Carlos P. Garcia succeeded him. In the election of 1957, the presidency of Pres. Carlos P. Garcia was reaffirmed, winning by a wide margin over the closest of his three rivals.

President Carlos P. Garcia has patterned his career from his philosophy of life: "Life is what you make it." Starting as a public school teacher, Pres. Garcia had been the representative of the third district of Bohol for six years; Governor of Bohol for nine years; and Senator for three terms until his election to the vice-presidency in 1953. Just back from a very successful mission in the United States. Pres. Garcia's administration is one on which will rest the economic future of our country.

In connection with the twelfth anniversary of the Philippine Republic, having for its theme: "Stability through greater productivity", the Bureau of Posts is issuing a commemorative stamp in two denominations with the bust portrait of the incumbent President Garcia designed by the philatelic designer Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr.

