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JAPAN

AND THE PACIFIC RIM

FIFTH EDITION



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JAPAN

AND THE PACIFIC RIM

FIFTH EDITION

Dr. Dean W. Collinwood

University of Utah

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Japan and the Pacific Rim

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Cataloging in Publication Data

Main Entry under title: Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim. 5/E

1. East Asia—History—20th century—. 2. East Asia—Politics and government—20th century—. I. Title: Japan and the Pacific Rim. II. Collinwood, Dean W., comp.

ISBN 0-07-024948-2

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Fifth Edition

Printed in the United States of America

1234567890BAHBAH5432109

Printed on Recycled Paper

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JAPAN

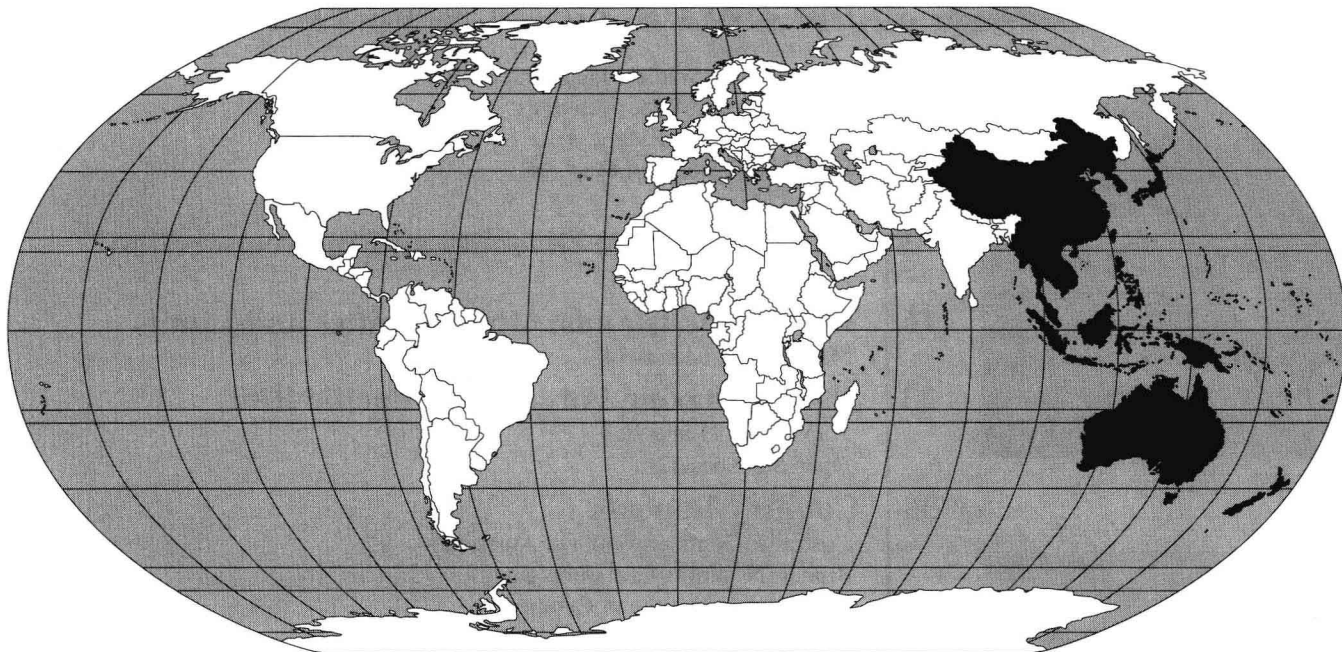
AND THE PACIFIC RIM

FIFTH EDITION

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Japan and the Pacific Rim



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Using Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim

THE GLOBAL STUDIES SERIES

The Global Studies series was created to help readers acquire a basic knowledge and understanding of the regions and countries in the world. Each volume provides a foundation of information—geographic, cultural, economic, political, historical, artistic, and religious—that will allow readers to better assess the current and future problems within these countries and regions and to comprehend how events there might affect their own well-being. In short, these volumes present the background information necessary to respond to the realities of our global age.

Each of the volumes in the Global Studies series is crafted under the careful direction of an author/editor—an expert in the area under study. The author/editors teach and conduct research and have traveled extensively through the regions about which they are writing.

In this *Japan and the Pacific Rim* edition, the author/editor has written regional essays on the Pacific Rim and the Pacific Islands and country reports for each of the countries covered, including a special report on Japan.

MAJOR FEATURES OF THE GLOBAL STUDIES SERIES

The Global Studies volumes are organized to provide concise information on the regions and countries within those areas under study. The major sections and features of the books are described here.

Regional Essays

For *Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim*, the author/editor has written two narrative essays focusing on the religious, cultural, sociopolitical, and economic differences and similarities of the countries and peoples in the region: “The Pacific Rim: Diversity and Interconnection,” and “The Pacific Islands: Opportunities and Limits.” Detailed maps accompany each essay.

Country Reports

Concise reports are written for each of the countries within the region under study. These reports are the heart of each Global Studies volume. *Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim, Fifth Edition*, contains 20 country reports, including a lengthy report on Japan.

The country reports are composed of five standard elements. Each report contains a detailed map visually positioning the country among its neighboring states; a summary of statistical information; a current essay providing important historical, geographical, political, cultural, and economic information; a historical timeline, offering a convenient visual survey of a few key historical events; and four “graphic indicators,” with summary statements about the country in terms of development, freedom, health/welfare, and achievements.

A Note on the Statistical Reports

The statistical information provided for each country has been drawn from a wide range of sources. (The most frequently referenced are listed on page 215.) Every effort has been made to provide the most current and accurate information available. However, occasionally the information cited by these sources differs to some extent; and, all too often, the most current information available for some countries is dated. Aside from

these difficulties, the statistical summary of each country is generally quite complete and up to date. Care should be taken, however, in using these statistics (or, for that matter, any published statistics) in making hard comparisons among countries. We have also provided comparable statistics for the United States and Canada, which can be found on pages x and xi.

World Press Articles

Within each Global Studies volume is reprinted a number of articles carefully selected by our editorial staff and the author/editor from a broad range of international periodicals and newspapers. The articles have been chosen for currency, interest, and their differing perspectives on the subject countries. There are 29 articles in *Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim, Fifth Edition*.

The articles section is preceded by an annotated table of contents as well as a topic guide. The annotated table of contents offers a brief summary of each article, while the topic guide indicates the main theme(s) of each article. Thus, readers desiring to focus on articles dealing with a particular theme, say, environment, may refer to the topic guide to find those articles.

WWW Sites

An extensive annotated list of selected World Wide Web sites can be found on the facing page (ix) in this edition of *Global Studies: Japan*. In addition, the URL addresses for country-specific Web sites are provided on the statistics page of most countries. All of the Web site addresses were correct and operational at press time. Instructors and students alike are urged to refer to those sites often to enhance their understanding of the region and to keep up with current events.

Glossary, Bibliography, Index

At the back of each Global Studies volume, readers will find a glossary of terms and abbreviations, which provides a quick reference to the specialized vocabulary of the area under study and to the standard abbreviations (NIC, ASEAN, etc.) used throughout the volume.

Following the glossary is a bibliography, which lists general works, national histories, and current-events publications and periodicals that provide regular coverage on Japan and the Pacific Rim.

The index at the end of the volume is an accurate reference to the contents of the volume. Readers seeking specific information and citations should consult this standard index.

Currency and Usefulness

Global Studies: Japan and the Pacific Rim, like other Global Studies volumes, is intended to provide the most current and useful information available necessary to understand the events that are shaping the cultures of the region today.

This volume is revised on a regular basis. The statistics are updated, regional essays and country reports revised, and world press articles replaced. In order to accomplish this task, we turn to our author/editor, our advisory boards, and—hopefully—to you, the users of this volume. Your comments are more than welcome. If you have an idea that you think will make the next edition more useful, an article or bit of information that will make it more current, or a general comment on its organization, content, or features that you would like to share with us, please send it in for serious consideration.

Selected World Wide Web Sites for Japan and the Pacific Rim

(Some Web sites continually change their structure and content, so the information listed here may not always be available. Check our Web site at: <http://www.dushkin.com/online> —Ed.)

GENERAL SITES

- CNN Online Page—<http://www.cnn.com>—U.S. 24-hour video news channel. News is updated every few hours.
- C-SPAN ONLINE—<http://www.c-span.org>—See especially C-SPAN International on the Web for International Programming Highlights and archived C-SPAN programs.
- International Network Information Center at University of Texas—<http://inic.utexas.edu>—Gateway has pointers to international sites, including Japan, China, and Taiwan.
- I-Trade International Trade Resources & Data Exchange—<http://www.i-trade.com>—Monthly exchange-rate data, U.S. Document Export Market Information (GEMS), U.S. Global Trade Outlook, and the CIA Worldfact Book.
- Political Science RESOURCES—<http://www.psr.keele.ac.uk/psr.htm>—Dynamic gateway to country sources available via European addresses.
- ReliefWeb—<http://www.notes.reliefweb.int>—UN's Department of Humanitarian Affairs clearinghouse for international humanitarian emergencies.
- Social Science Information Gateway (SOSIG)—<http://sosig.esrc.bris.ac.uk>—Project of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). It catalogs 22 subjects and lists developing-countries' URL addresses.
- United Nations System—<http://www.unsystem.org>—The official Web site for the United Nations system of organizations.
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)—<http://www.info.usaid.gov>—Graphically presented U.S. trade statistics related to Japan, China, Taiwan, and other Pacific Rim countries are available at this site.
- U.S. Central Intelligence Agency Home Page—<http://www.odci.gov/cia/>—This site includes publications of the CIA, current Worldfact Book, and maps.
- U.S. Department of State Home Page—<http://www.state.gov/index.html>—Organized alphabetically: Country Reports, Human Rights, International Organizations, etc.
- World Bank Group—<http://www.worldbank.org/html/Welcome.html>—News (i.e., press releases, summary of new projects, speeches), publications, topics in development, countries and regions. Links to other financial organizations.
- World Health Organization (WHO)—<http://www.who.ch/>—Maintained by WHO's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, uses Excite search engine to conduct keyword searches.
- World Trade Organization—<http://www.wto.org>—Topics include legal frameworks, trade and environmental policies, recent agreements, etc.
- WWW Virtual Library Database—<http://conbio.rice.edu/vl/database/>—Easy search for country-specific sites that provide news, government, and other information.

ASIA

- Aseanweb—<http://www.asean.or.id>—Menu includes "What's New?" and data on economics, politics, security, and print publications on the nations of ASEAN—the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.
- Asia Gateway—<http://www.asiagateway.com/index.html>—Country profiles, including lifestyles, business, and other data. Look in "What's New" for news highlights.
- Asiatour—<http://asiatour.com/index.htm>—Travel and historical information for many Asian countries.
- Asia-Yahoo—<http://www.yahoo.com/Regional/Regions/Asia/>—Specialized Yahoo search site permits keyword search on Asian events, countries, or topics.
- NewsDirectory.com—<http://www.newsdir.com/web/about/>—This site, a Guide to English-Language Media Online, lists over 7,000 actively updated papers and magazines.
- Orientation Asia—<http://as.orientation.com>—Links to specific countries, late-breaking news.
- Signposts to Asia and the Pacific—<http://jsa-44.hum.uts.edu.au/signposts/index.html>—Databases, news, key country contacts, articles, and links to other relevant sites.
- South-East Asia Information—<http://sunsite.nus.sg/asiasvc.html>—Excellent gateway for country-specific research. Information on Internet Providers and Universities in Southeast Asia, links to Asian online services.

CHINA

- Chinese Security Home Page—<http://members.aol.com/mehampton/chinasec.html>—Information is listed under Chinese Military Links, Data Sources on Chinese Security Issues, Key Newspapers and News Services, and Key Scholarly Journals and Magazines.
- Inside China Today—<http://www.insidechina.com>—The European Information Network is organized under Headline News, Government, and Related Sites, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan.
- Internet Guide for China Studies—<http://sun.sino.uni-heidelberg.de/igcs/index.html>—Coverage of news media, politics, legal and human-rights information, as well as China's economy, philosophy and religion, society, arts, culture, and history may be found here.

JAPAN

- Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs—<http://www.mofa.go.jp>—"What's New" lists events, policy statements, press releases. Foreign Policy section has speeches; archive; information under Countries and Region, Friendship.
- Japan Policy Research Institute (JPRI)—<http://www.nmjc.org/jpri/>—Headings include "What's New" and Publications before 1996.
- The Japan Times Online—<http://www.japantimes.co.jp>—This daily online newspaper is offered in English and contains late-breaking news.

The United States

GEOGRAPHY

Area in Square Miles (Kilometers):

3,618,770 (9,578,626)

Capital (Population): Washington, D.C.
(567,100)

Environmental Concerns: air pollution resulting in acid rain generating from fossil fuels; water pollution from runoff of pesticides and fertilizers

Geographical Features: vast central plain, mountains in the west, hills and low mountains in the east; rugged mountains and broad river valleys in Alaska; volcanic topography in Hawaii.

Climate: temperate

PEOPLE

Population

Total: 267,954,800

Annual Growth Rate: 0.89%

Rural/Urban Population Ratio: 24/76

Major Languages: predominantly English; a sizable Spanish-speaking minority; many others

Ethnic Makeup: 73% white; 12% black; 10% Latino; 5% Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut

Religions: 55% Protestant; 36% Roman Catholic; 4% Jewish; 5% Muslim and others

Health

Life Expectancy at Birth: 73 years (male); 80 years (female)

Infant Mortality Rate (Ratio): 6.55/1,000

Average Caloric Intake: 138% of FAO minimum

Physicians Available (Ratio): 1/381

Education

Adult Literacy Rate: 97.9% (official)
(estimates vary widely)

Compulsory (Ages): 7–16; free

COMMUNICATION

Telephones: 1 per 1.6 people

Daily Newspaper Circulation: 228 per 1,000 people; approximately 63,000,000 circulation

Televisions: 1 per 1.2 people

TRANSPORTATION

Highways in Miles (Kilometers):

3,906,960 (6,261,154)

Railroads in Miles (Kilometers): 149,161 (240,000)

Usable Airfields: 13,387

Motor Vehicles in Use: 200,500,000

GOVERNMENT

Type: federal republic

Independence Date: July 4, 1776

Head of State: President William ("Bill") Jefferson Clinton

Political Parties: Democratic Party; Republican Party; others of minor political significance

Suffrage: universal at 18

MILITARY

Military Expenditures (% of GDP): 3.8%

Current Disputes: none

ECONOMY

Per Capita Income/GDP: \$28,600/\$7.61 trillion

GDP Growth Rate: 2.4%

Inflation Rate: 3.0%

Unemployment Rate: 5.4%

Labor Force: 13,943,000

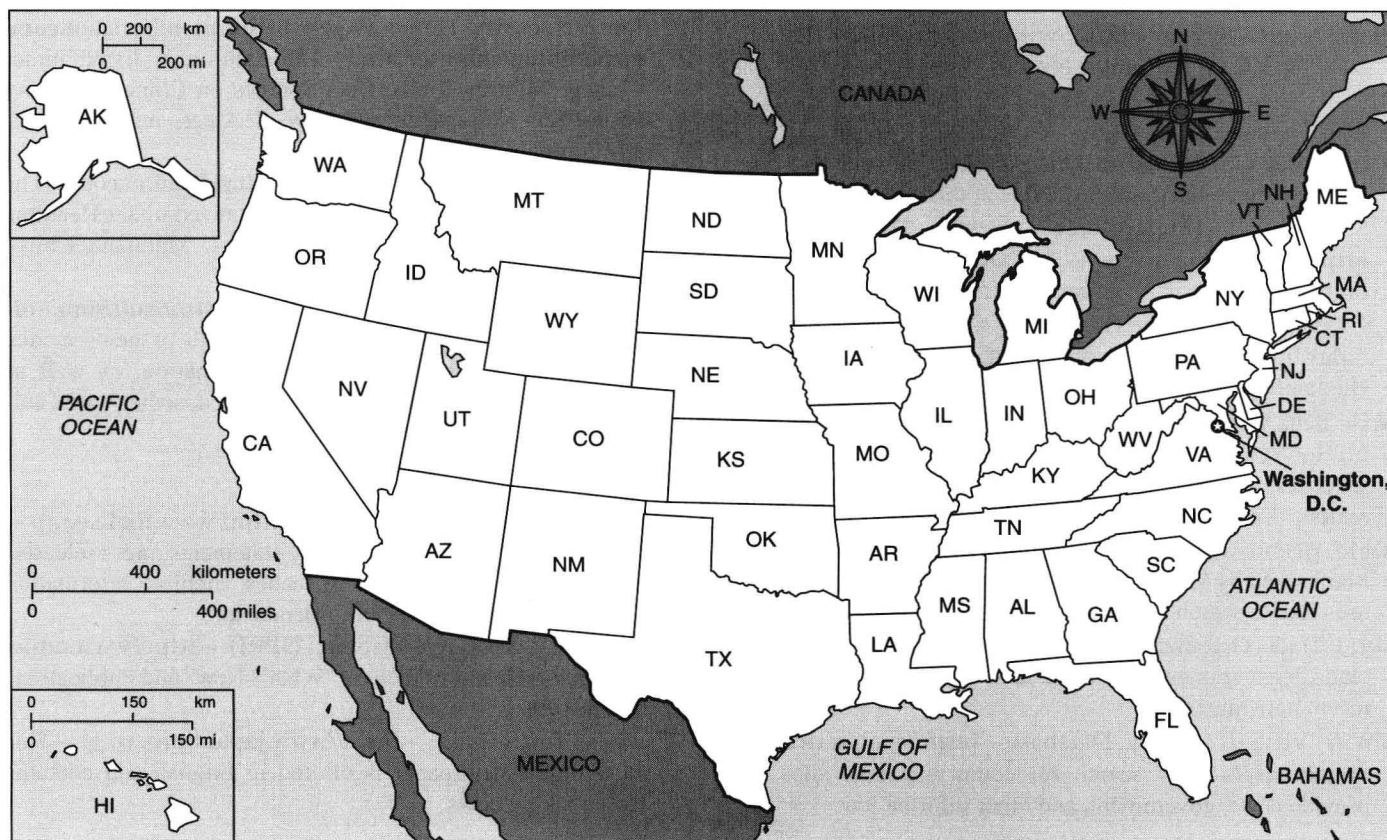
Natural Resources: metallic and nonmetallic minerals; petroleum; arable land

Agriculture: food grains; feed crops; oil-bearing crops; livestock; dairy products

Industry: diversified in both capital- and consumer-goods industries

Exports: \$584.7 billion (primary partners Canada, Western Europe, Japan, Mexico)

Imports: \$771.0 billion (primary partners Canada, Western Europe, Japan, Mexico)



Canada

GEOGRAPHY

Area in Square Miles (Kilometers):

3,850,790 (9,976,140) (slightly larger than the United States)

Capital (Population): Ottawa (1,000,000)

Environmental Concerns: air pollution and resulting acid rain severely affecting lakes and damaging forests

Geographical Features: permafrost in the north hinders development, mountains in the west, central plains, and a maritime culture in the east

Climate: from temperate in south to subarctic and arctic in north

PEOPLE

Population

Total: 30,337,400

Annual Growth Rate: 1.13%

Rural/Urban Population Ratio: 23/77

Major Languages: both English and French are official

Ethnic Makeup: 40% British Isles origin; 27% French origin; 20% other European; 1.5% indigenous Indian and Eskimo; 11.5% mixed

Religions: 46% Roman Catholic; 16% United Church; 10% Anglican; 28% others

Health

Life Expectancy at Birth: 76 years (male); 82 years (female)

Infant Mortality Rate (Ratio): 5.7/1,000

Average Caloric Intake: 127% of FAO minimum

Physicians Available (Ratio): 1/464

Education

Adult Literacy Rate: 97%

Compulsory (Ages): primary school

COMMUNICATION

Telephones: 1 per 1.7 people

Daily Newspaper Circulation: 189 per 1,000 people

Televisions: 1 per 1.5 people

TRANSPORTATION

Highways in Miles (Kilometers): 637,104 (1,021,000)

Railroads in Miles (Kilometers): 48,764 (78,148)

Usable Airfields: 1,139

Motor Vehicles in Use: 16,700,000

GOVERNMENT

Type: confederation with parliamentary democracy

Independence Date: July 1, 1867

Head of State/Government: Queen

Elizabeth II; Prime Minister Jean Chrétien

Political Parties: Progressive Conservative Party; Liberal Party; New Democratic Party; Reform Party; Bloc Québécois

Suffrage: universal at 18

MILITARY

Military Expenditures (% of GDP): 1.53%

Current Disputes: none

ECONOMY

Currency (U.S. Equivalent): 1.53

Canadian dollars = \$1

Per Capita Income/GDP: \$25,000/\$721 billion

Inflation Rate: 1.4%

Total Foreign Debt: \$253 billion

Labor Force: 15.1 million

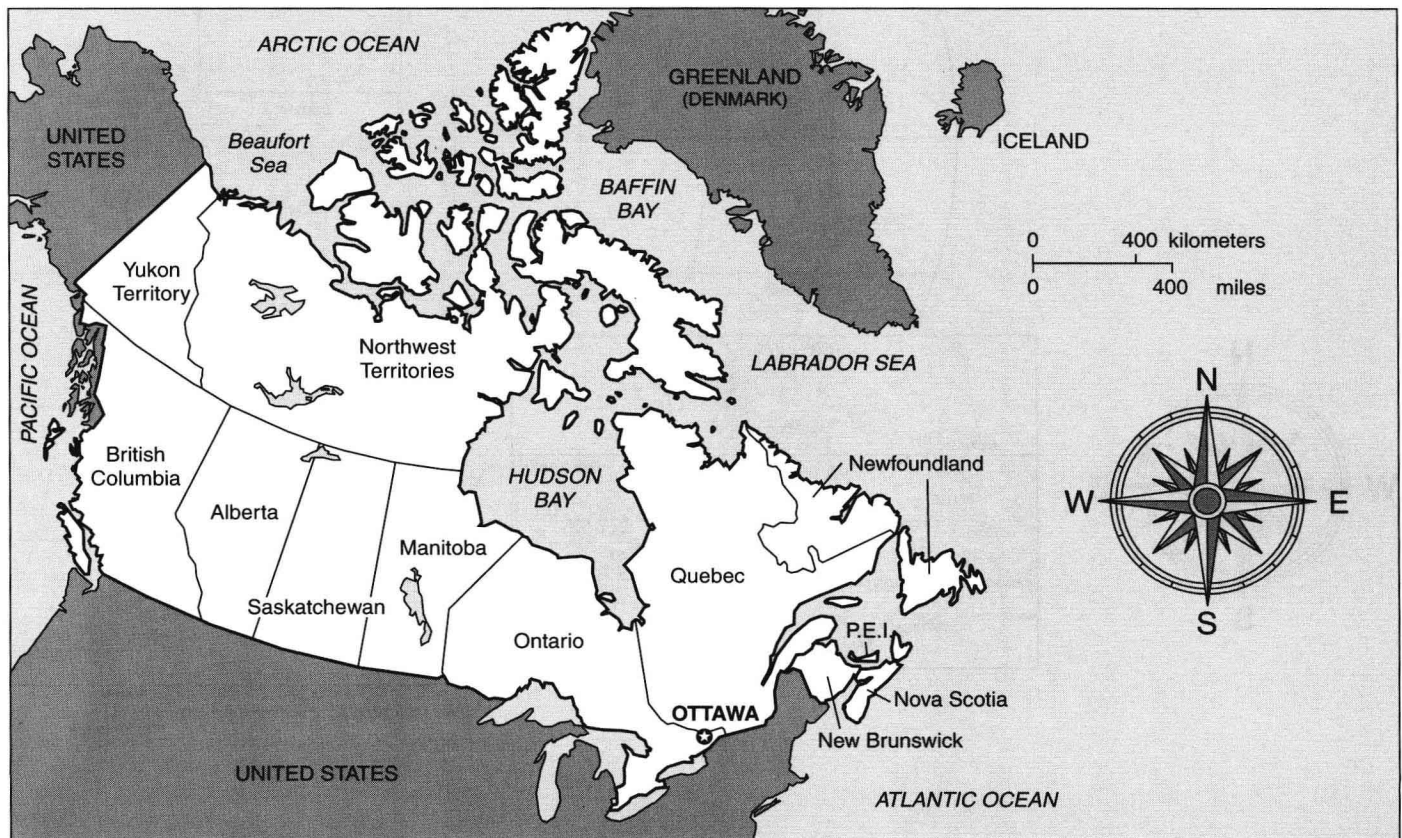
Natural Resources: petroleum; natural gas; fish; minerals; cement; forestry products; fur

Agriculture: grains; livestock; dairy products; potatoes; hogs; poultry and eggs; tobacco

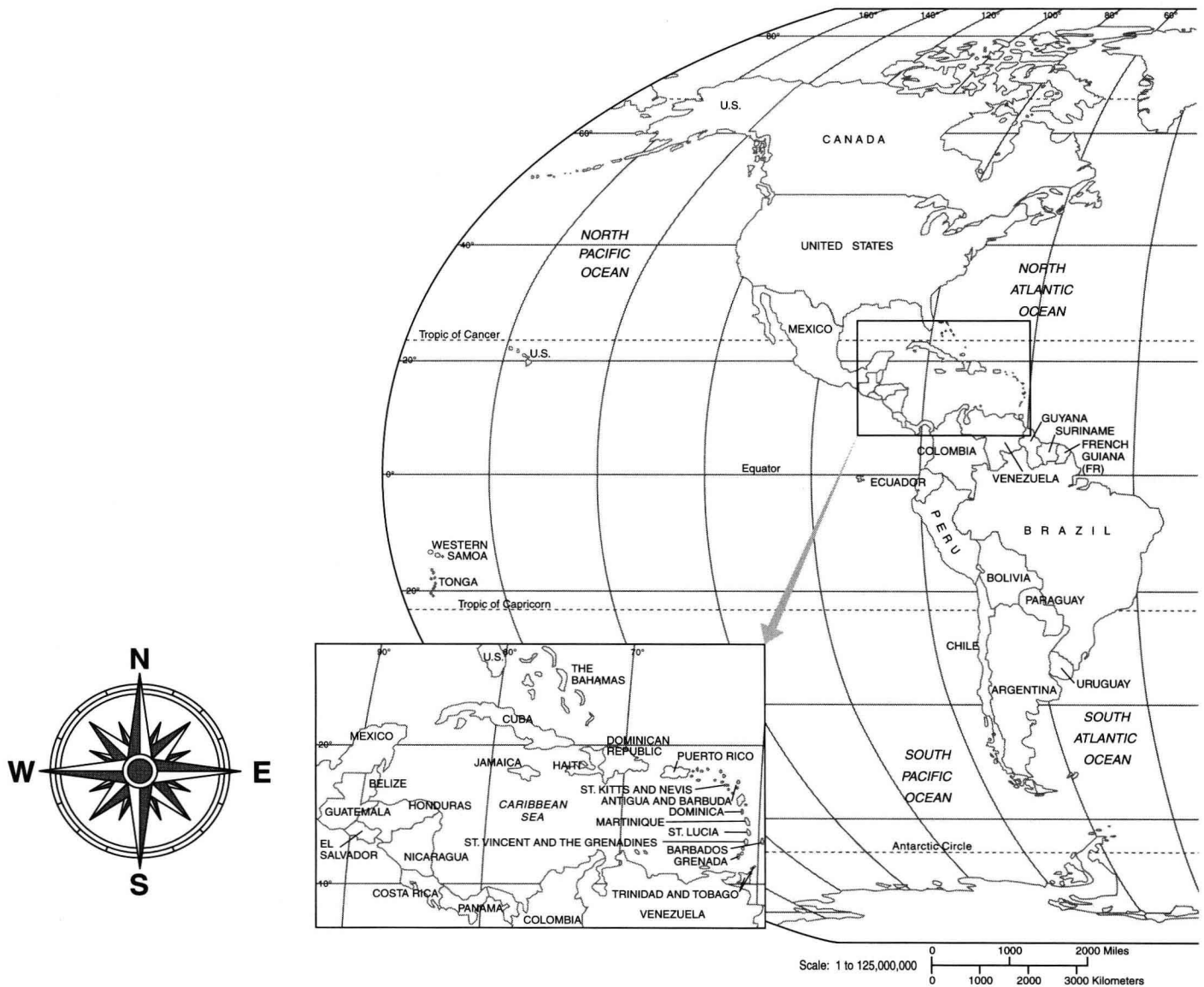
Industry: oil production and refining; natural-gas development; fish products; wood and paper products; chemicals; transportation equipment

Exports: \$195.4 billion (primary partners United States, Japan, United Kingdom, Germany, South Korea, Netherlands, China)

Imports: \$169.5 billion (primary partners United States, Japan, United Kingdom, Germany, Mexico, Taiwan, South Korea)



This map is provided to give you a graphic picture of where the countries of the world are located, the relationships they have with their region and neighbors, and their positions relative to the superpowers and power blocs. We have focused on certain areas to illustrate these crowded regions more clearly.



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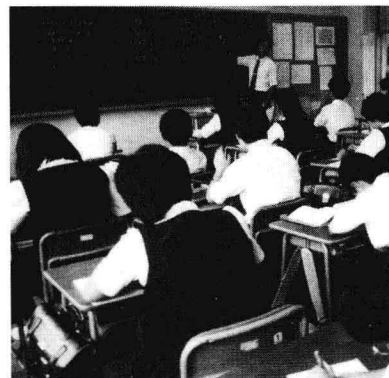
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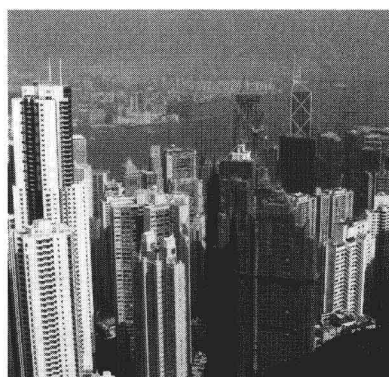


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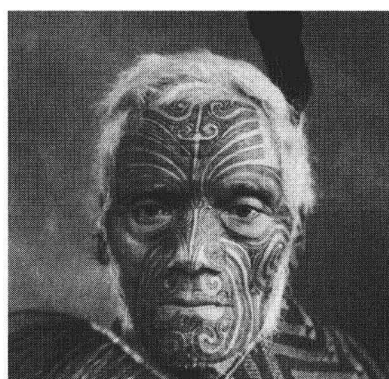


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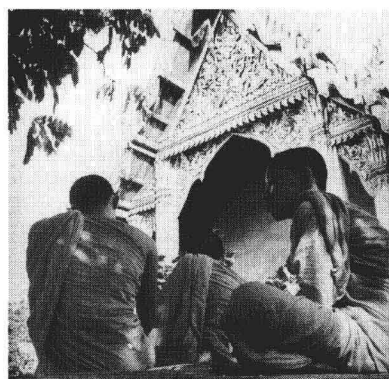
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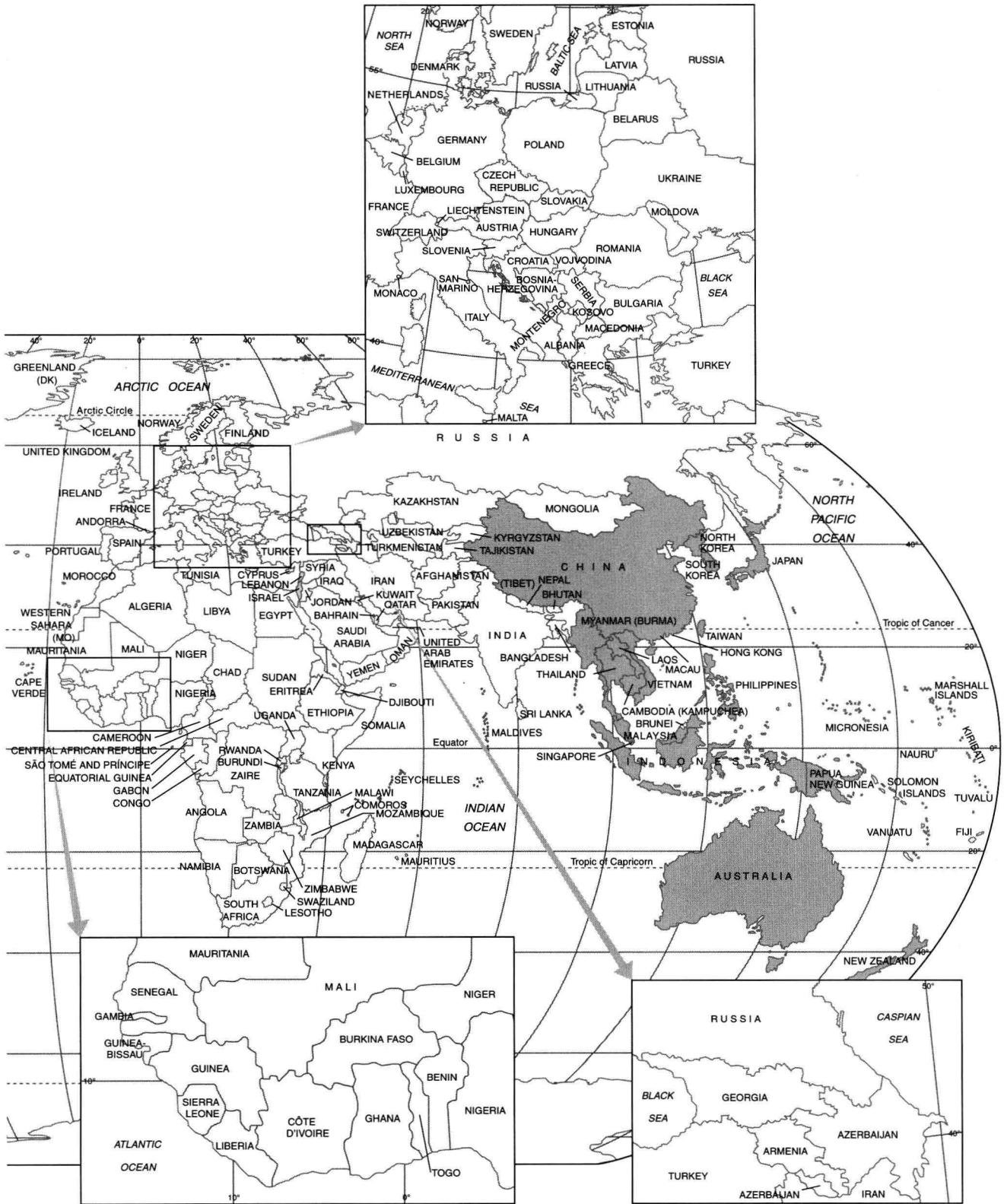


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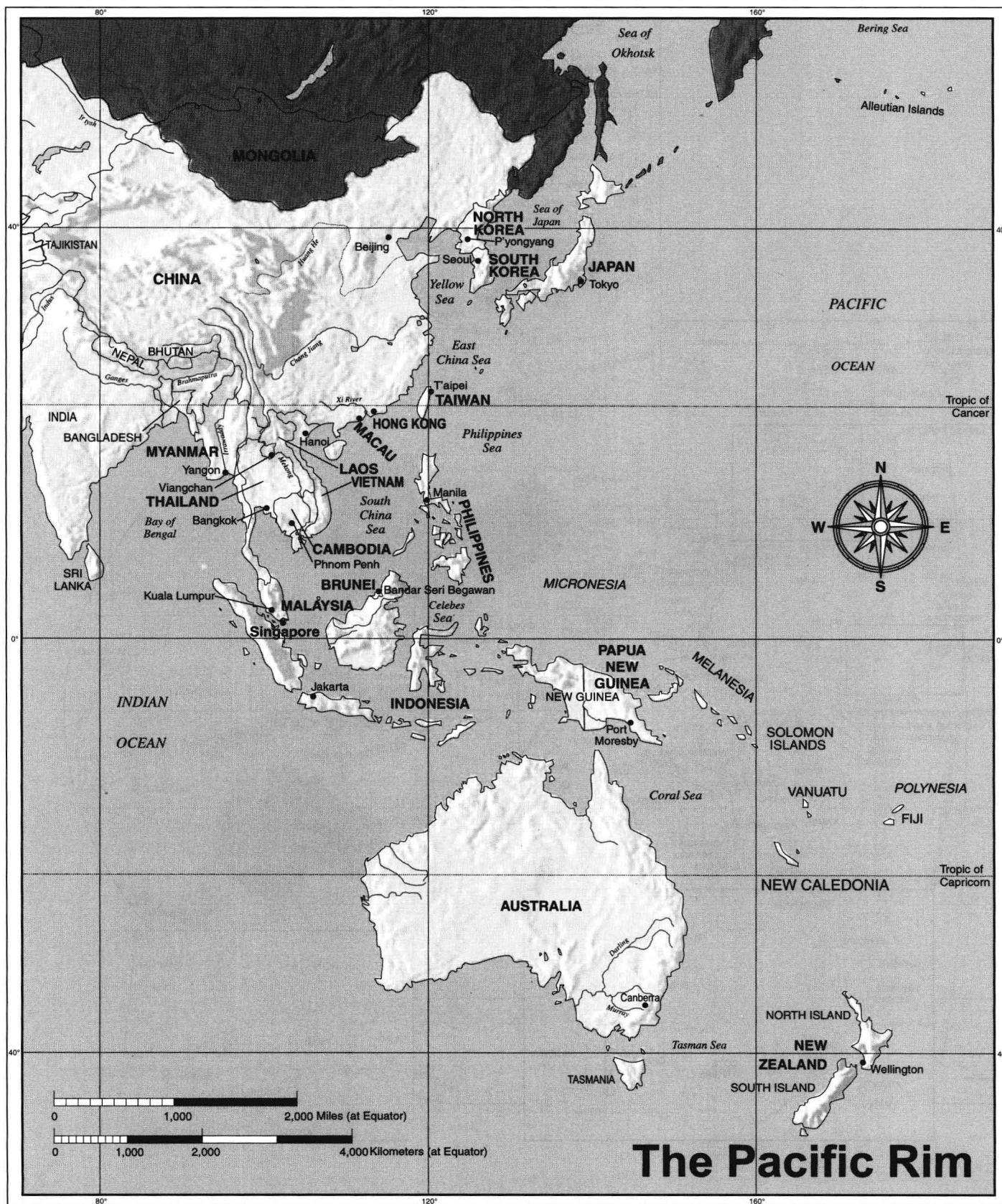


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Pacific Rim Map



The Pacific Rim: Diversity and Interconnection

WHAT IS THE PACIFIC RIM?

The term *Pacific Rim*, as used in this book, refers to 20 countries or administrative units along or near the Asian side of the Pacific Ocean, plus the numerous islands of the Pacific. Together, they are home to approximately 30 percent of the world's population and produce about 20 percent of the world's gross national product (GNP).

It is not a simple matter to decide which countries to include in a definition of the Pacific Rim. For instance, if we were thinking geographically, we might include Mexico, Chile, Canada, the United States, Russia, and numerous other countries that border the Pacific Ocean, while eliminating Myanmar (Burma) and Laos, since they are not technically on the rim of the Pacific. But our definition, and hence our selected inclusions, stem from fairly recent developments in economic and geopolitical power that have affected the countries of Asia and the Pacific in such a way that these formerly disparate regions are now being referred to by international corporate and political leaders as a single bloc.

Most people living in the region that we have thus defined do not think of themselves as "Pacific Rimmers." In addition, many social scientists, particularly cultural anthropologists and comparative sociologists, would prefer not to apply a single term to such a culturally, politically, and sociologically diverse region. It is true that many of the countries in question share certain cultural influences, such as Buddhism and rice cultivation. But these commonalities have not prevented the region from fracturing into dozens of societies, often very antagonistic toward one another.

For more than 2 decades, something has been occurring in the region that seems to be having the effect of uniting the area in a way it has never been united before. If current trends continue, it is likely that the entire Pacific Rim will one day share a single economic system (some version of free market, or at least state capitalism) and some fundamental lifestyle values (materialism and consumerism). There will also be a common awareness of the value of peaceful interdependence of the various nations to guarantee a steady improvement in the various nations to guarantee a steady improvement in the standard of living for all, and the capacity of the region to, for the first time in history, supply the basic survival needs of its inhabitants.

What are the powerful forces that are fueling these trends? There are many, including nationalism and the rapid advances in global communications. But the one that for the past 2 decades has stood out as the defining force in the region is the yen—the Japanese currency—and its accompanying Japanese business strategy. For more than 20 years, Japanese money has been flowing throughout the Pacific Rim in the form of aid and investment, while Japan's high-tech, export-oriented approach to making money has been facilitating development and helping other regional countries to create their own engines of economic growth in a way that none of them had experienced before.

It is true that, during the 1990s, Japan's economy stagnated and the yen weakened in value. It is also true that Japan's

banking sector suffered heavy losses during those years, due to sloppy lending and bad loan management. Those events led some observers to speculate that Japan's role as the economic engine of the Pacific Rim is coming to an end; they predicted that other countries, like China, would assume the lead in the future. Those predictions are probably wrong, and certainly premature; for even after a decade of recession, Japan remains the second-largest economy in the world (after the United States), and its economic output continues to dwarf all other Pacific Rim economies *combined*. Moreover, many Japanese corporations still make large profits, even during these hard times, and the government continues to provide economic aid to many Asian countries. Furthermore, the long-term effects of Japan's multi-billion-dollar investments in Asia will remain for years to come.

In the 1960s, when the Japanese economy had completely recovered from the devastation of World War II, the Japanese looked to North America and Europe for markets for their increasingly high-quality products. Japanese business continues to seek out markets and resources globally; but, in the 1980s, in response to the movement toward a truly common European economic community as well as in response to free trade agreements among North American countries, Japan began to invest more heavily in countries nearer its own borders. The Japanese hoped to guarantee themselves market and resource access should they find their products frozen out of the emerging European and North American economic blocs. The unintended, but not unwelcome, consequences of this policy were the revitalization of many Asia-Pacific economies and the solidification of lines of communication between governments and private citizens within the region. Recognizing this interconnection has prompted many people to refer to the countries we treat in this book as a single unit, the Pacific Rim.

TROUBLES IN THE RIM

In the 1980s, media images of billionaire Japanese businesspeople buying up priceless artworks at auction houses and pampered chauffeur-driven Hong Kong Chinese far overshadowed the harsh realities of life for most people in the Rim. For the most part, Pacific Rim countries have not met the needs of their peoples. Whether it is the desire of affluent Japanese for larger homes and two-car garages, or of rice farmers in Myanmar (formerly called Burma) for the right to sell their grain for personal profit, or of Chinese students to speak their minds without repression—in these and many other ways, the Pacific Rim has failed its peoples. In Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia, for example, life is so difficult that thousands of families have risked their lives to leave their homelands. Some have swum across the wide Mekong River on moonless nights to avoid detection by guards, while others have sailed into the South China Sea on creaky and overcrowded boats (hence the name commonly given such refugees: "boat people"), hoping that people of goodwill, rather than marauding pirates, will find them and transport

them to a land of safety. Despite the cut-off of refugee-support funds from the United Nations (UN), thousands of refugees remain unrepatriated, languishing in camps in Thailand, Malaysia, and other countries. Thousands of villagers driven from their homes by the Myanmar Army await return. Meanwhile, the number of defectors from North Korea has been increasing steadily.

Between 1975 and 1994, almost 14,000 refugees reached Japan by boat, along with 3,500 Chinese nationals who posed as refugees in hopes of being allowed to live outside China. In 1998, the Malaysian government, citing its own economic problems, added to the dislocation of many people when it began large-scale deportations of foreign workers, many from Indonesia. Many of these individuals had lived in Malaysia for years. This "Operation Get Out" was expected to affect at least 850,000 people. These examples, and many others not

mentioned here, stand as tragic evidence of the social and political instability of many Pacific Rim nations and of the intense ethnic rivalries that divide the people of the Rim.

Warfare

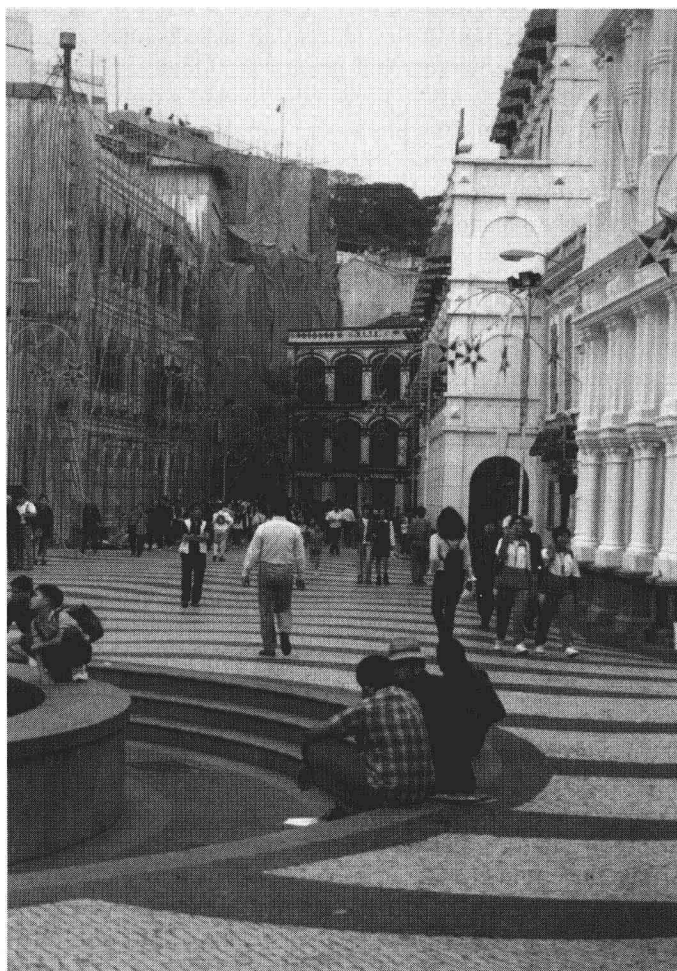
Of all the Rim's troubles, warfare has been the most devastating. In Japan and China alone, an estimated 15.6 million people died as a result of World War II. Not only have there been wars in which foreign powers like Britain, the United States, France, and the former Soviet Union have been involved, but there have been and continue to be numerous battles between local peoples of different tribes, races, and religions.

The potential for serious conflict remains in most regions of the Pacific Rim. Despite international pressure, the military dictators of Myanmar continue to wage war against the Karens and other ethnic groups within its borders; Japan remains locked in a dispute with Russia over ownership of islands to the north of Hokkaido; Taiwan and China still lay claim to each other's territory, as do the two Koreas; and it was not so long ago that Vietnam and China were engaged in battle over their mutual boundary. The list of disputed borders, lands, islands, and waters in the Pacific Rim is very long; indeed, there are some 30 unresolved disputes involving almost every country of Asia and some of the Pacific Islands.

Of growing concern is a 340,000-square-mile area of the South China Sea. When the likelihood of large oil deposits near the rocks and reefs of the Spratly Islands was announced in the 1970s, China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Brunei instantly laid claim to the area. By 1974, the Chinese Air Force and Navy were bombing a South Vietnamese settlement on the islands; by 1988, Chinese warships were attacking Vietnamese transport ships in the area. Both China and Vietnam have granted nearby oil-drilling concessions to different U.S. oil companies, so the situation remains tense, especially because China claims sovereignty over almost the entire South China Sea and has been flexing its muscles in the area by stopping, boarding, and sometimes confiscating other nations' ships in the area.

In addition to these national disputes, ethnic tensions—most Asian nations are composed of hundreds of different ethnic groups with their own languages and religions—are sometimes severe. In Fiji, it is the locals versus the immigrant Indians; in Southeast Asia, it is the locals versus the Chinese or the Muslims versus the Christians; in China, it is the Tibetans and most other ethnic groups versus the Han Chinese.

With the end of the cold war in the late 1980s and early 1990s, many Asian nations found it necessary to seek new military, political, and economic alliances. For example, South Korea made a trade pact with Russia, a nation that, during the Soviet era, would have dealt only with North Korea; and, forced to withdraw from its large naval base in the Philippines, the United States increased its military presence in Singapore. The United States also began encouraging its ally Japan to assume a larger military role in the region. However, the thought of Japan re-arming itself causes consid-



(Photo by Lisa Clyde)

The small island of Macau was acknowledged by China as a Portuguese settlement in 1557. The Portuguese influence is obvious in the architecture of the downtown plaza pictured above. Today Macau is a gambling mecca, drawing an enormous number of avid fans from Hong Kong. This last outpost of European colonial power is scheduled to be returned to Chinese control on December 20, 1999.