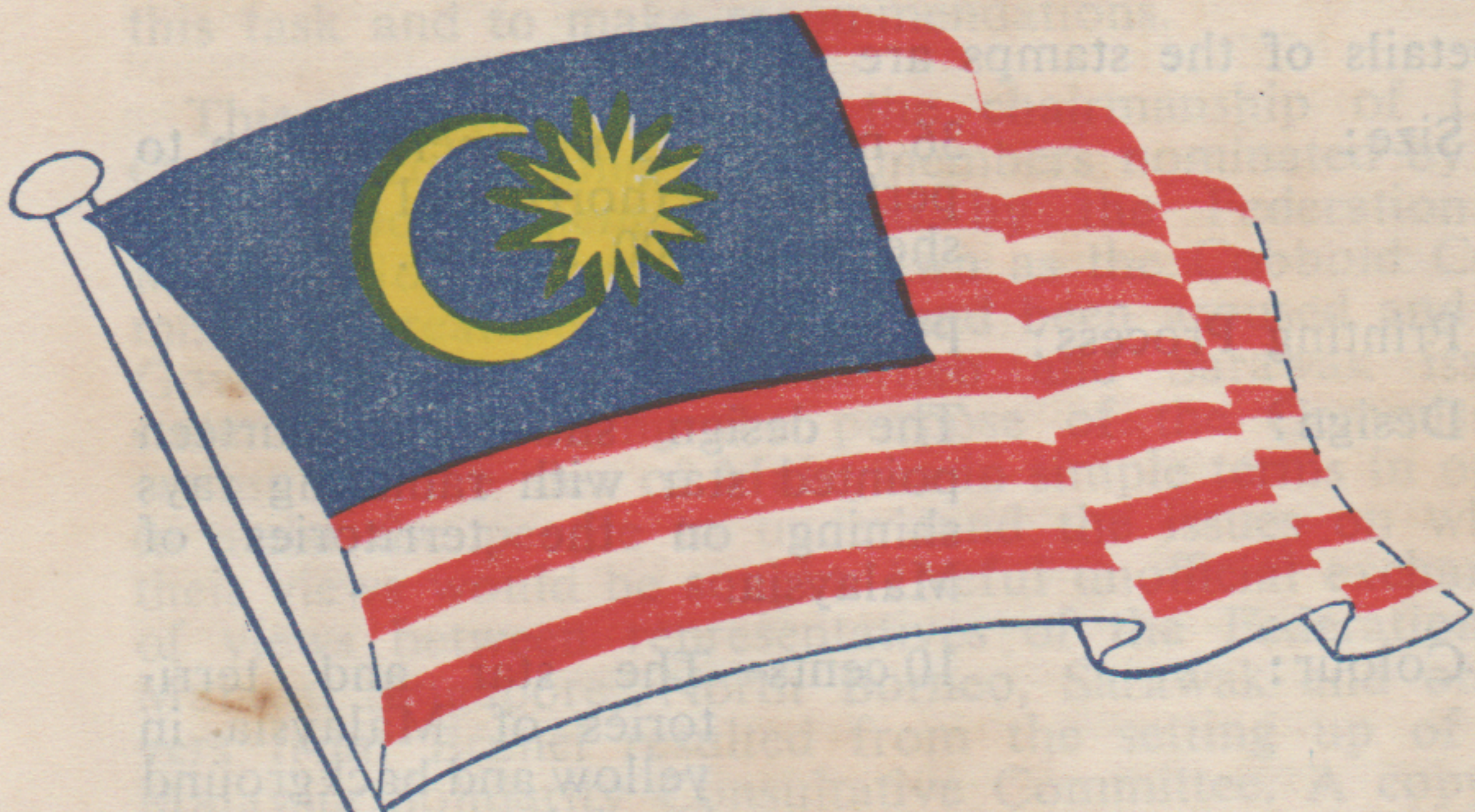
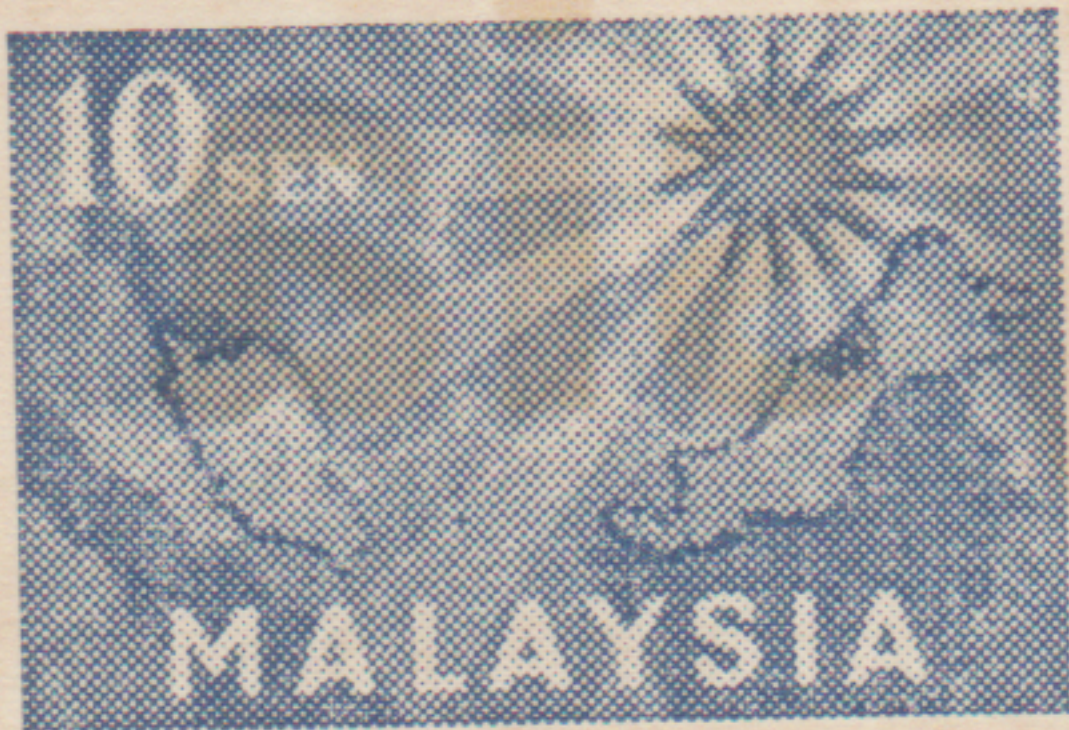


Malaysia



Commemorative Postage Stamps



MALAYSIA

Special postage stamps of the 10 cents, 12 cents and 50 cents denominations will be issued on Malaysia Day to mark the birth of Malaysia.

Details of the stamps are as follows:

- Size:** 36 mm × 25 mm perforation to perforation (horizontal format) in sheets of 100 stamps.
- Printing Process:** Photogravure.
- Design:** The design shows a fourteen pointed star with radiating rays shining on the territories of Malaysia.
- Colour:**
- 10 cents—The star and territories of Malaysia in yellow and background in violet.
 - 12 cents—The star and territories of Malaysia in yellow and background in green.
 - 50 cents—The star and territories of Malaysia in yellow and background in dark red-brown.
- Paper:** PTM watermarked paper.
- Printed by:** Harrison & Sons Ltd, London.
- Period of Sale:** Three months from the date of issue or until stocks are exhausted, whichever is earlier.

The practical possibility of a political association between the Federation of Malaya, Singapore and the three Borneo States of North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei was first proposed by the Honourable the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-haj on the 27th May, 1961, in a speech at a Press Luncheon in Singapore. This proposal was well received by the British Government and an invitation was made to Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Abdul Rahman to visit London in November, 1961, for discussions with the object of

reaching an understanding on the broad issues and to prepare the way for consultation with the Borneo States.

A joint statement by the British and the Federation of Malaya Governments was issued. It declared that the two Governments were convinced that the establishment of Malaysia was a desirable aim and that the views of the peoples of North Borneo and Sarawak should be ascertained. A Commission was then set up to carry out this task and to make recommendations.

This Commission under the chairmanship of Lord Cobbold, comprising of two members nominated by the British Government and two by the Federation of Malaya Government, was known as the Cobbold Commission. Great public interest had been aroused and the Governments of North Borneo and Sarawak issued statements explaining the purpose of the Commission setting out the idea of Malaysia in simple terms in order to assist the people to understand the issues on which their views would be sought. Useful unofficial exchanges of views between representatives of the Federation of Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo, Sarawak and observers from Brunei resulted from the setting up of the Malaysia Solidarity Consultative Committee. A copy of the Committee's "Memorandum on Malaysia" dated 3rd February, 1962, was submitted for consideration by the Commission.

The Cobbold Commission began its hearing at Kuching on the 18th February, 1962. All persons who wished to make representations written or oral to the Commission, were invited to do so. Town Boards, District Councils, Associations, Political Parties, Chambers of Commerce, Trade Unions, Religious Leaders, Members of Executive and Legislative Councils, Territorial Chiefs, Community Leaders and large numbers of individual members of the public came forward to state their views by letters and memoranda. Some 2,200 letters and memoranda were received. 50 hearings were held at 35 different centres all of which were conducted in private. The Cobbold Report was published on the 1st August, 1962, and it was unanimously agreed that Malaysia would be in the best interests of North Borneo and Sarawak. In the light of this Report and of the agreement on merger reached with the Government of Singapore, the British and the Federation of Malaya Governments decided in principle subject to the necessary legislation, Malaysia should be brought into being by 31st August, 1963.

The Federation of Malaya and the British Governments decided to establish an Inter-Governmental Committee on which the British, Federation of Malaya,

North Borneo and Sarawak Governments would be represented. Its task was to work out the future constitutional arrangements, including safeguards for the special interests of North Borneo and Sarawak to cover such matters as religious freedom, education, representation in the Federal Parliament, the position of the indigenous races, control of immigration, citizenship and State Constitutions. The Inter-Governmental Committee put up a report recommending the appropriate constitutional and administrative arrangements, providing safeguards for the special interests of the new States forming Malaysia without derogating from the concept of a strong and effective Central Government. The Report was accepted and agreed to by the Governments concerned and the recommendations in the Report formed the basis for the admission of the Borneo States into Malaysia.

Concurrently negotiations were going on with Singapore for the merger of Singapore with the Federation of Malaya and its inclusion as a State within Malaysia. A constitutional framework with the appropriate division of State and Federal responsibilities, with Singapore enjoying a degree of local autonomy was agreed to. These arrangements had, however, again been made without prejudice to the basic principle that there should be a strong and effective Central Government.

The climax to all these was the signing of the agreement on Malaysia in London on 8th July, 1963. This brings together the 11 States of the Federation of Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo (on Malaysia day to be known as Sabah) and Sarawak into the new federation formally known as Malaysia. The formation of Malaysia is in effect the combining together of States and peoples who have jointly decided to do so and to pool their resources and potentialities for their common good.

The creation of Malaysia will in effect mean realisation of the hopes of millions of people in the component States of Malaysia for a stable and peace loving nation, firmly believing in parliamentary democracy and at the same time ensuring to them a richer and fuller way of life. Malaysia will take its place amongst the comity of free nations dedicated to the cause of international co-operation and understanding and subscribing to the international effort to eliminate ignorance, poverty, strife and hunger which are the inherent enemies of mankind.