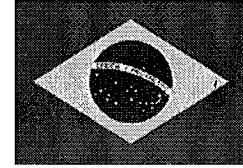
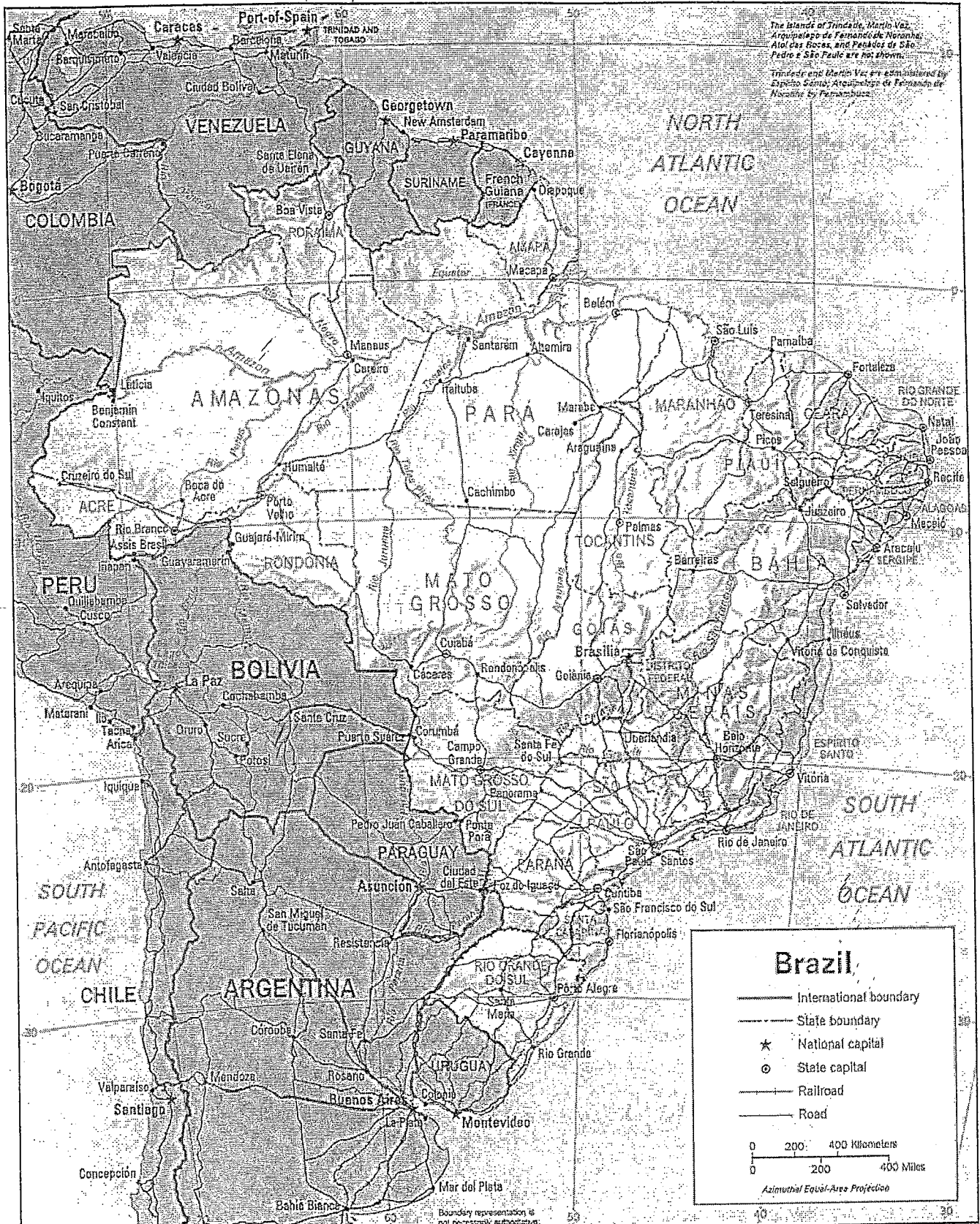


## The History of Brazil

### Important Dates



1500	Pedro Álvares Cabral (Portugal) commanded a fleet that officially “discovered” Brazil. They landed in Porto Seguro.
1538	The first shipment of African slaves arrived in Brazil.
1600-1900	Brazil maintained a sugar-based economy.
1700	The first Gold Rush in Minas Gerais.
1727	The first coffee bush is planted in Brazil by Francisco de Melo Palheta. Brazil eventually becomes one of the world’s largest producers of coffee.
1800s	Millions of slaves are brought over from Africa to work the coffee plantations.
1807 - 1889	Napoleon invaded the Iberian Peninsula and King João VI fled from Portugal to Brazil. Monarchies of King João VI, Dom Pedro I, Dom Pedro II.
1888	On May 13, 1888, the ‘Golden Law’ abolished slavery with these wimple words: “From the date of this law slavery is declared extinct in Brazil.” Brazil was the last country in the Western Hemisphere to abolish slavery.
1889	Disgruntled landowners united with the military to overthrow monarchy by a military coup. Brazil’s first republican government was founded on November 15, 1889.
1917	Brazil is the only country in Latin America involved in World War I on the side of the Allies.
1942	President Getulio Vargas supported the Allies during World War II, although many of Brazil’s leading politicians were divided between ‘pro-USA’ and ‘pro-Axis’ factions.
1945	In the years following Nazi regime in Germany, thousands of Nazis fled to South American Countries, including Brazil, to find sanctuary.
1964-1985	After a military coup in 1964, Brazil had a series of military governments. Humberto Castello Branco was the first of five generals to lead Brazil in twenty years of military rule. He was followed by Artur Costa e Silva, Emilio Médici, Ernesto Geisel, and João Figueiredo.
2002	President Luis Ignacio <i>Lula</i> da Silva came into office and focused on economic, political and social reform.
2011	First woman president of Brazil, Dilma Rousseff, began in office. She narrowly won the reelection in 2014, and was impeached in 2016 for manipulating government funds and laws to secure her reelection.
2016	Michel Temer stood in as acting president pending Rousseff’s impeachment.



CIA World Factbook, 1994.