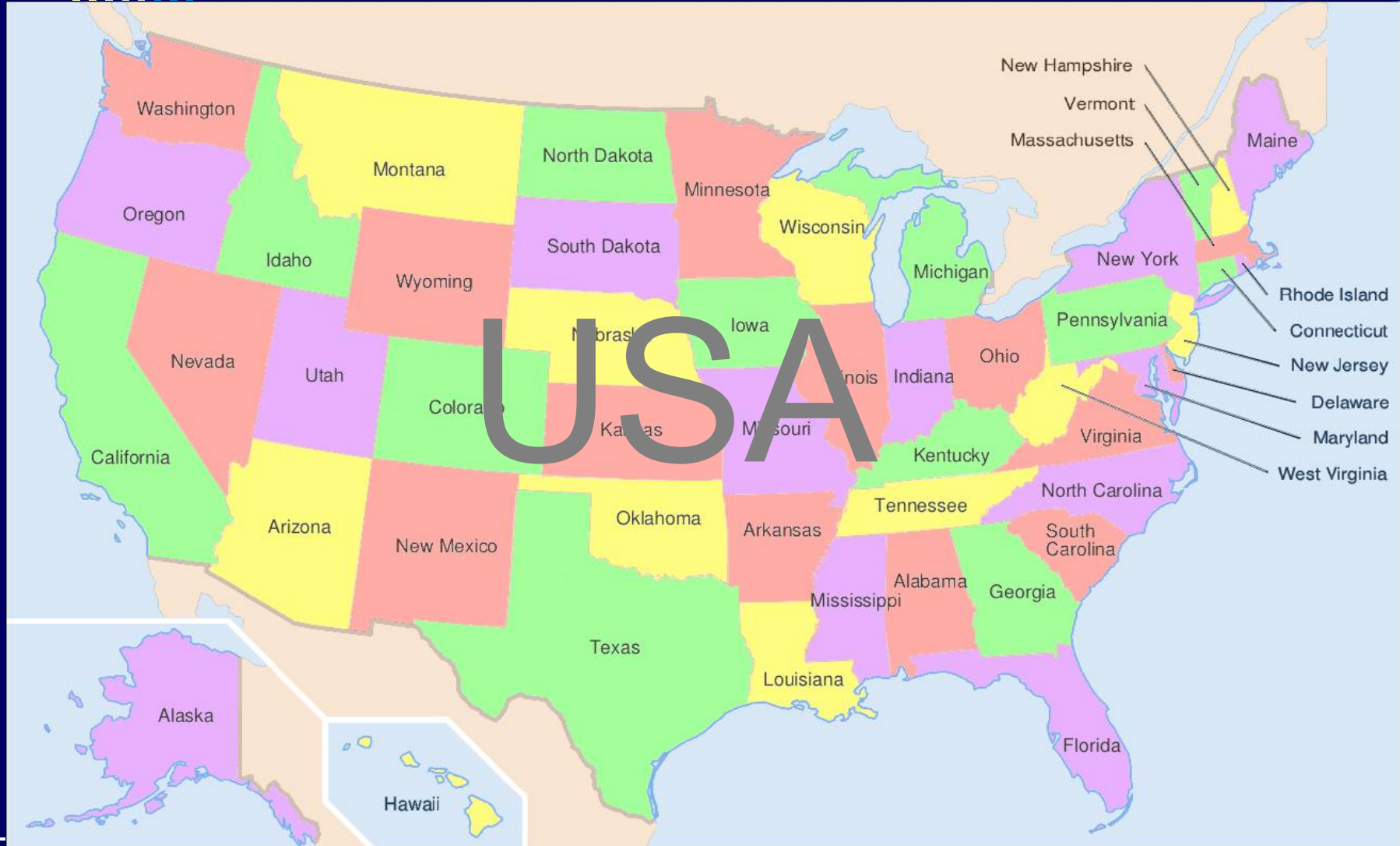


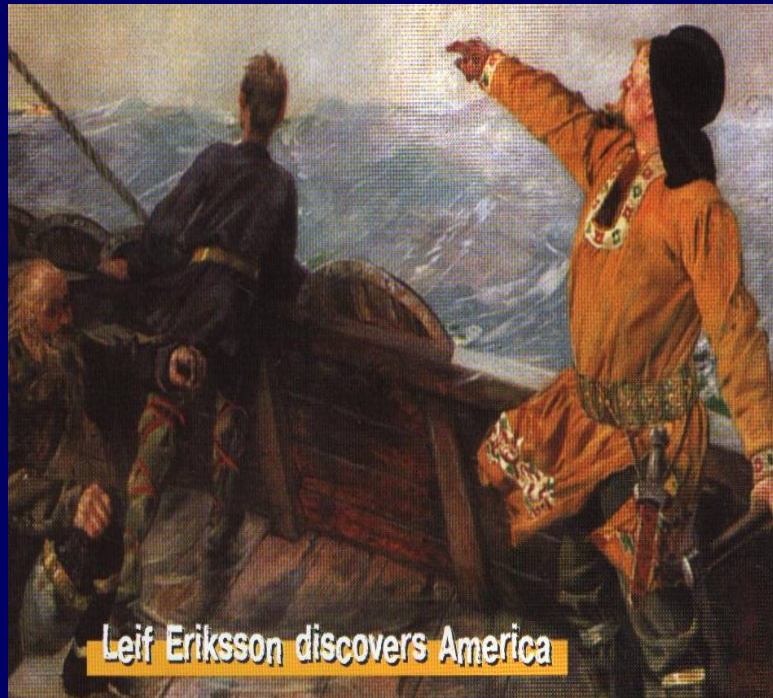
The geographical map of the USA





Fact files:

- ❑ Official name: The United States of America
 - ❑ Status: A federal republic, a union of 50 states
 - ❑ Area: 9,364,000 squ. km.
 - ❑ Population: about 250 mln. people (2006)
 - ❑ Capital: Washington, D.C.
-



- Who discovered America? The answer is: nobody knows. North America may have been discovered by Vikings under Leif Eriksson, but Europeans didn't know about its existence until Columbus' voyages. In **1492** three ships- the "Santa Maria", the "Pinta", the "Nine" under Columbus landed the continent. In **1507** Amerigo Vespucci explored the area of South America and introduced a new land to the world. This continent was called after him - "America".



Some facts from the history of The USA:

- ❑ In **1620** the first people from England arrived in America. They left England because of religious problems.
- ❑ In **1776** after the war with Britain, America became an independent country. Americans wrote the Declaration of the Independence and designed a new flag – **The Stars and Stripes**.

4th July – The Day of Independence (a national holiday)

- ❑ After the war in **1861-1865** between the northern and the southern states (south lost) the government stopped slavery .
 - ❑ **1969** – the first people on the moon were three astronauts: Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Ed Collins.
-

Nationalities: white Americans - 83,5 %
Africans - 12,4%
immigrants from Asia - 3,3%
native Americans (Indians, Aleuts, Eskimos) – 0,8 %



Natural sights of the USA



- The Niagara Falls – a waterfalls on the river Niagara (51 meters high). It is situated on the boarder between the USA and Canada. The waterfalls was discovered by the expedition of R. Lassal. There is always a rainbow over it.
-



The Mississippi – “Old man river” together with its tributaries the Missouri and the Ohio is the longest river in the world. The history of this river is described in the book “Life on the Mississippi” by M. Twain.



- The USA is divided into 50 states. Hawaii became the 50th state in 1959. Alaska is separated from Russia by the Bering Strait. It is the biggest and the coldest state of the country.
- Each of the states has its own capital, government and symbol.

Washington (D.C) was named in honour of the first American president (1789-1796).



George Washington, “the father of his country”.

He was an example of bravery and approved the fight against slavery. General Henry Li wrote : “Washington was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen”

The capital of the country, a state, a lake, an island, a mount, a canyon, some universities and colleges, streets and squares are named after him. In 1888 the Washington Monument was established in the capital (169 m. high)



22nd of February – birthday of J. Washington, a national holiday in the USA.



The Sights of Washington



The White House is the Residence of the American President



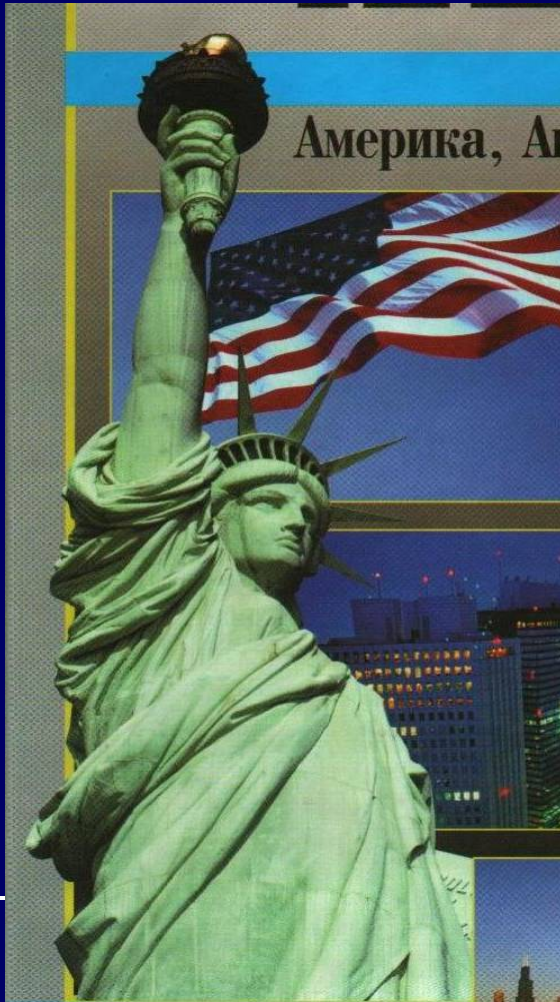
The Capitol is the highest building in W., where laws are made.

No building in the city may be more than 40 meters high.



- Washington National Cathedral (St. Peter and St. Paul's Church Cathedral) – was built in a gothic style. The first stone was laid by Th. Roosevelt (the 26th president) in 1907. Finally it was rebuilt in 1990.

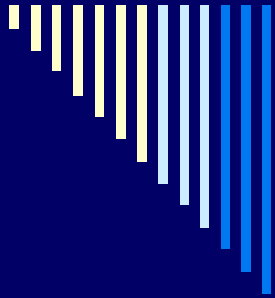
New York (New York) is the city of contrasts, financial and business centre of the USA. It was founded some three hundred years ago. It is situated in the mouth of the Hudson . Its nickname is “A big apple”, because everybody wants to bite it.



The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of New York.

- At the entrance to New York Harbour you can see a great statue which is called the Statue of Liberty. It is 46 meters high excluding the pedestal.

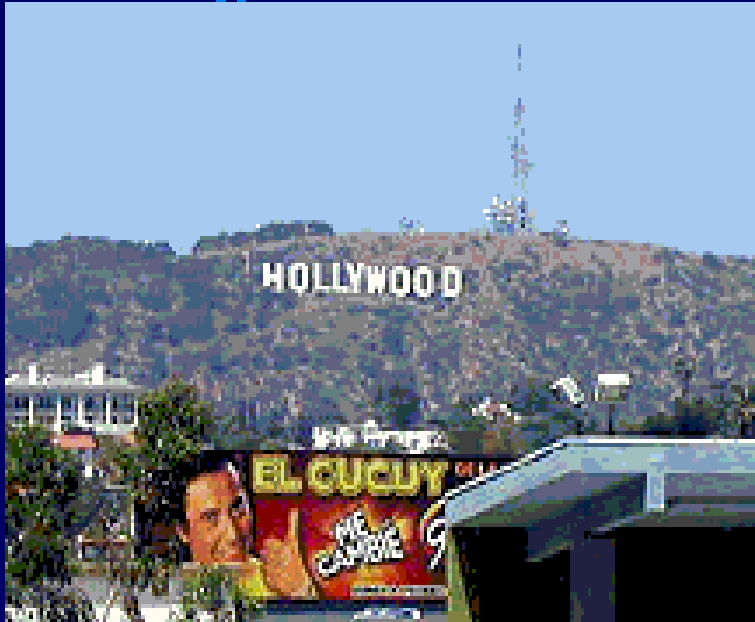
The Statue was designed by Bartholdy, a French sculptor, who worked ten years at it. In 1876 the statue was taken to pieces and shipped across the Atlantic as a gift from the French government to the USA for its democratic views.



**Chicago ,the second capital
of the USA, stands on the
banks of Lake Michigan
(was founded in 1833)**

- Chicago – the second economical center
in the USA after New York.**
 - The biggest river port in the world.**
 - The biggest airport in the world.**
 - 200 colleges, 5 universities are situated
here.**
 - The home of the first skyscrapers.**
-

Los Angeles (California) – the nation's third largest city. It leads the USA in production of aircraft. This city is the world capital of filmed entertainment. The first cinema house in the country was opened here in 1902.



Hollywood – the centre of the US film industry. In 1913 the first film was made there. The biggest film companies are here: MGM, Paramount, 20th century Fox, Columbia Pictures, Warner Bros.



The star avenue