area (which also includes portions of the Rodney, Papakura and Franklin Districts) had a population of 1,319,352—nearly one-third of the country's total population. It has the largest Polynesian population of any city in the world.

During the first half of the 20th century Auckland became the country's undisputed commercial capital. Despite a drift of the head offices of large firms to Sydney in recent years, it remains the pre-eminent commercial city in New Zealand. It is also a key manufacturing centre, an important port, and the principal international airport of the country, as well as the centre of overseas communications.

In October 2007 a Royal Commission on Auckland Governance was appointed to examine and make recommendations on future local and regional government arrangements for the greater urban area extending from Wellsford to Tuakau. It was due to report its findings and recommendations in December 2008.

Auckland promotes itself as the 'City of Sails.' Each year on the Monday nearest to the provincial anniversary day, 29 January, a huge regatta—reputed to be the biggest in the world—is held on the Waitemata Harbour. Because of the immense popularity of yachting the Waitemata Harbour was the setting for the America's Cup (q.v.) races in 2000 and 2003.

Australia New Zealand Malayan Region (ANZAM). ANZAM was established in 1949. ANZAM was an informal and semi-confidential agreement between the Australian, British and New Zealand governments to coordinate defence for the eastern Indian Ocean, south-east Asia, and the south-west Pacific. It was formed largely as the result of an Australian initiative and was based on Australian defence arrangements. British and New Zealand forces were involved through their liaison officers in Australia.

**Australia, Relations With** Starting as a dependency of New South Wales in 1859, New Zealand has traditionally had a close relationship with Australia and there is still provision in the Australian Federal Constitution for New Zealand to join as an original state. The early relationship was reinforced by the ANZAC (q.v.) experience at Gallipoli (q.v.) in 1915. In more recent times differences in foreign policy have emerged from time to time which as the decision of the Australian government to withdraw its forces from the Middle East during World War II (q.v.) to defend the Pacific after New Zealand maintained its forces there. Another major difference