

Lesotho B Diamond CULLINAN (II) DIAMOND Letny Diamond

Contributed by Administrator
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Lesotho B Diamond. This large rough weighing 527 carats was one of the three largest diamonds ever found in Lesotho. It was discovered in 1965 and bought by Mr. E. J. Serafini of Bloemfontein and Maseru for \$162,400. The Lesotho B was later resold to an unknown American dealer in Antwerp. Present disposition is not known.

Lesotho C Diamond. Discovered at the Kau diggings, Lesotho, in 1969, this large brown rough weighing 338 carats was initially sold for \$54,740. It was reportedly cut into 10 stones in Amsterdam of which the largest gem

is a 24-carat marquise. The whereabouts of these diamonds is unknown today.

Star of Africa Diamond. See

CULLINAN (II) DIAMOND.

Lestergem. Trade name for synthetic spinel.

Letny Diamond. A 46.36-carat rough found in Mirnyy, Yakutiya, Siberia, sometime after 1955. Now in the Russian Diamond Fund at the Kremlin.

Letseng-la-Terai pipe. Diamond bearing kimberlite pipe in the Drakensberg Mountains of north-eastern Lesotho. Highest diamond diggings in the world at over 10,200 feet where snow covers the area for about three months a year and temperatures plunge to sub-zero. Some-

times spelled Letseng-la-Draai. The surface area of the pipe is about 20 hectares and is covered with a thin layer of black soil. Smaller satellite pipes surround the deposit. Several large diamonds have been reported found at Letseng-la-Terai, significant among these are the pale brown colored 601.25-carat Lesotho Diamond discovered in 1967, a 147-carat stone

in 1969, and a 155-carat off-white octahedron found in 1973.