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define multiplication by: $(a+I) \cdot (b+I) = (a \cdot b) + I$

it is well-defined where if

$$a + I = a' + I$$

$$b + I = b' + I$$

then $a - a' = i_1$ & $b - b' = i_2$ for some $i_1, i_2 \in I$

$$a \cdot b - a' \cdot b' = a \cdot (b - b') + (a - a') \cdot b' = a \cdot i_2 + i_1 \cdot b' \in I$$

$$\text{thus } a \cdot b + I = a' \cdot b' + I$$

theorem: If $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of the ring

$(R, +, \cdot)$ then $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is a ring called

quotient ring of R by I .

proof: it is enough to know that the zero

element is the coset $0 + I = I$ & the inverse

$$\text{takes the form } -(a+I) = (-a) + I$$