

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF NEW YORK

June 18, 1975

COUNTERFEIT FOOD COUPONS

To All Banking Institutions
in the Second Federal Reserve District:

This Bank has recently received a number of counterfeit food coupons from banks located in New York City and Northern New Jersey (in addition to the coupons described in our March 27, 1975 letter on the subject). The counterfeits are in all denominations (\$1, \$5 and \$10) of the new series. All three types of counterfeits are of poor quality and can be easily identified by the following common characteristics:

1. All three denominations bear the same serial number (E03629856G) and check letter (C2);
2. The raised printing indicative of genuine coupons is not evident;
3. The color varies noticeably from genuine coupons-- the \$1 denomination is a lighter brown, the \$5 denomination a brighter blue, and the \$10 denomination a brighter green;
4. The paper color is whiter than the genuine coupon;
5. The insets (\$1 - picture of the Declaration of Independence, \$5 - portrait of Jefferson, \$10 - portrait of Hamilton) lack fine shading and detail-- areas of dense coloration are noticeable;
6. The inset borders and denomination seals are poorly executed, exhibiting dense areas of coloration and lacking the finely detailed scrollwork of genuine coupons; and
7. The \$1 denomination counterfeit has parts of the letters O,C,U,L and T missing from the words "OF AGRICULTURE" at the bottom of the coupon.

(Over)

We would appreciate your cooperation in notifying your employees and your depositors of these new counterfeits. Please note that any counterfeit coupons received by this Bank will be treated in the same manner as counterfeit currency and charged back to the depositing bank's account.

All instances of suspected counterfeit food coupons should be reported to the nearest office of the United States Secret Service and the local Food and Nutrition Service Field Office.

Additional copies of this letter will be furnished upon request.

ALFRED HAYES,
President.