

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF NEW YORK

At-En. No. 10343

April 19, 1990

Counterfeit U. S. Treasury Checks

*To All Depository Institutions, and Others Concerned,
in the Second Federal Reserve District:*

The U.S. Secret Service has recently uncovered significant counterfeit U. S. Treasury check activity in the Twelfth (West Coast) Federal Reserve District. Corporate accounts have been opened at banks in the Seattle area with counterfeit U.S. Treasury checks. To date, eight such checks totaling more than \$14 million (each check in excess of \$1 million) are known to have been negotiated. Funds in these accounts have been transferred, principally by wire, to other accounts, some of which are in Hong Kong and Canada.

The counterfeit U.S. Treasury checks that have been discovered are keypunched on the old blue-green card stock that was discontinued on December 31, 1985. Corporate names used in negotiating the checks include Westpack Sales Ltd., Westpack Ltd., and Barclay Trading Corp. In addition, the MICR encoding line is faulty, requiring manual processing.

Any U. S. Treasury checks dated later than December 1985 that are printed on blue-green card stock and keypunched are suspect. If you detect questionable U.S. Treasury checks, please immediately contact Anthony N. Sagliano, Regional Manager of our Jericho Office (Tel. No. 516-997-4500).

ROBERT A. O'SULLIVAN,
Vice President.