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CURRENT TYPE OF COUNTERFEIT 500-PISO NEW DESIGN SERIES NOTE

BSP MEMORANDUM, October 11, 1999

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The Cash Department has recently received and confiscated a number of counterfeit 500-piso New Design Series notes considered as "deceptive". This type of counterfeit has the following distinguishing features:

1. It bears a simulated security thread made up of a lightgray ink printed at the face of the note.

2. It has a simulated watermark portrait of Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. formed by a very light impression at the "blank space" which becomes visible when light is placed behind the note.

3. It has no security fibers, but instead, small colored fiber-like lines are seen at the face and back of the note.

4. The lines forming the details of the lacework design, vignette and portrait are flat and are not well-defined. The eyes and other designs at the vignette are made up of solid mass instead of fine lines.

5. When the note is exposed to ultra-violet light, the serial numbers, the simulated security fibers and the numerical value at the center, glow almost like the genuine. However, the numerical value is relatively thinner and have more space in between the numbers than in the genuine. Furthermore, unlike in the genuine, all other orange colored designs in front and at the back of the note react under the ultra-violet light.

6. The general appearance of the note is dull due to lack of sharpness and clarity of the main prints and the background design.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE YOU TAKE HOLD OF THIS TYPE OF COUNTERFEIT

Examine all doubtful notes especially those with dull general appearance as you may be holding a counterfeit. In this case, communicate with the Currency Analysis and Redemption Division or Investigation Staff, Cash Department, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Tel. Nos. 524-27-77, 523-98-06; 524-70-11 Locals 2296 and 2388, or the nearest Bangko Sentral Regional Office/Sub-Regional Office/Cash Unit.

Adopted: 11 Oct .1999

(SGD.) AMANDO M. TETANGCO, JR.
Deputy Governor

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