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SUMMARY

FORGED 5000 DINAR BANKNOTES OF THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA ISSUED ON 1 MAY 1963

Among the most successful, most widespread and best-known forgeries of Yugoslav banknotes were those of 5000 dinars of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (issued on 1 May 1963).

In Yugoslavia, and especially in Croatia, forgeries of this banknote appeared in circulation in the summer of 1968. The forgery was assessed as good and a danger. It was difficult for non-experts to recognise it and distinguish it from the real 5000 dinar banknote of SFR Yugoslavia (1963). The police acted fast and efficiently organising a widespread action, prevented the spreading of the 5000 dinar (1963) forgeries and arrested many persons linked with moving the forgeries across the border from Western Germany and the Republic of Austria to Yugoslavia, and releasing them into circulation. After expert examination of the paper and the print of the forgeries in Yugoslavia and abroad, in Western Germany and Austria, the definite conclusion was reached that

the forged 5000 dinar banknote of SFR Yugoslavia (1963) was produced in flat offset print abroad, somewhere in Western Europe. International police cooperation soon led to the discovery of the printing house in which the forgeries were being made in the Kingdom of Belgium, in Brussels, and the Belgian forgers were arrested. Crime literature states that a total of 24,600 forged 5000 dinar banknotes of SFR Yugoslavia (1963) were discovered and seized.

The author describes and shows all the differences between the real and the forged banknote. The forged 5000 dinar SRF Yugoslavia (1963) banknote differed from the real banknote in several details: it was printed in flat offset print, unlike the real banknote which was in deep print, and on ordinary, somewhat thicker and rougher (less smooth) whiter paper of poorer quality than that of the real banknote, - the drawings and letters on the forgery were not in relief (protruding) or sharp enough, so they look blurred, - the colour of the forgery is not the same as that of the real banknote, it is noticeably paler, - the printed red numbers on the forgery are rougher, - the two-letter serial mark on the forgeries is visibly smaller than the numeration numbers, and visibly smaller than the two-letter serial mark in the numeration on the real banknotes, - the numbers are of the same type but are not identical and a difference can be noticed, and they are about half a millimetre bigger on the forgery, and – on the forgery, the dot is missing above the first letter “i” in the signature of the Governor of the National Bank of Yugoslavia, Nikola Miljanić.

To the best of our knowledge, the serials AL, AU, BP, CA, DE, EC and EP of the 5000 banknote of SFR Yugoslavia (1963) were forged, and 27 different serial numbers.

Numismatic catalogues and literature rarely mention the forged banknote of 5000 dinars of SFR Yugoslavia (1963), and then only briefly with sometimes some incorrect data. The forged 5000 dinar banknote of SFR Yugoslavia (1963) was published very rarely in criminalistic and numismatic literature. Although the forgeries of this banknote were numerous, today they are rarely found in numismatic collections.