

BANK OF BOTSWANA

PRESS RELEASE

Counterfeit Banknotes in Circulation

The Bank wishes to inform the public that a number of forged P50 banknotes of the series bearing the portrait of former President Sir Seretse Khama have recently been found in circulation. The forged banknotes discovered so far bear the serial number F/24 803318. The forgeries can be distinguished from other genuine P50 banknotes as they do not have a silver metallic security thread but a silver line drawn intermittently on the notes. On a genuine banknote, the security thread should be visible as a shiny metallic line woven through the note. The print on the genuine banknotes has a slightly raised or rough feel, whereas the forged notes are smooth. Furthermore, the forged notes have no watermark.

While the number of forgeries reported to the Bank is not significant, the public is urged to be vigilant when accepting any banknotes, especially old and worn out ones, and should check for the specified security features. Any doubtful banknotes discovered should be immediately reported to the Police or to Bank of Botswana offices in Gaborone or Francistown.

The Bank is working with the Police to identify the source of these forgeries. The Bank also wishes to reassure the public that it is continually making improvements in the security features in the design of Pula banknotes in order to ensure confidence in the value of the currency at all times.

January 12, 2005

For Further Information Please Contact:

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