



Special Alert

FIL-16-96
March 25, 1996

TO: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SUBJECT: *Forged Bank Instruments*

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency has advised us that forged bank instruments purportedly issued by Banco del Estado are in circulation. These instruments include checks of exchange, certificates of deposit, "pre-advice" of standby letters of credit, and confirmations of blocked funds. The instruments' total disclosed amount is \$967 million (U.S. dollars).

Banco del Estado is headquartered at Carrera 10a, No. 18-15, Santa Fe de Bogotá D.E., Colombia, South America.

If you have any information about this matter, please contact Banco del Estado or the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Special Activities Section, 550 17th Street, N.W., Room F-612, Washington, D.C. 20429.

Nicholas J. Setcha Jr.
Director

Distribution: FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

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