

in the present war as proclaimed by the President or by a concurrent resolution of the two Houses of Congress”, and, in penultimate paragraph, substituted “Administrator of General Services” for “Director of Contract Settlement”.

**CHAPTER 25—COUNTERFEITING AND FORGERY**

- Sec. 470. Counterfeit acts committed outside the United States.
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- 492. Forfeiture of counterfeit paraphernalia.
- 493. Bonds and obligations of certain lending agencies.
- 494. Contractors’ bonds, bids, and public records.
- 495. Contracts, deeds, and powers of attorney.
- 496. Customs matters.
- 497. Letters patent.
- 498. Military or naval discharge certificates.
- 499. Military, naval, or official passes.
- 500. Money orders.
- 501. Postage stamps, postage meter stamps, and postal cards.
- 502. Postage and revenue stamps of foreign governments.
- 503. Postmarking stamps.
- 504. Printing and filming of United States and foreign obligations and securities.
- 505. Seals of courts; signatures of judges or court officers.
- 506. Seals of departments or agencies.
- 507. Ship’s papers.
- 508. Transportation requests of Government.
- 509. Possessing and making plates or stones for Government transportation requests.
- 510. Forging endorsements on Treasury checks or bonds or securities of the United States.
- 511. Altering or removing motor vehicle identification numbers.
- 511A. Unauthorized application of theft prevention decal or device.
- 512. Forfeiture of certain motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts.
- 513. Securities of the States and private entities.

- Sec. 514. Fictitious obligations.

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-56, title III, §§374(e)(4), 375(d)(4), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340, 341, substituted “, stones, or analog, digital, or electronic images” for “or stones” in items 474 and 481.

1996—Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(f) [title VI, §648(b)(2)], title II, §2603(b)(2), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-314, 3009-368, 3009-470, amended analysis identically, adding item 514.

1994—Pub. L. 103-322, title XII, §120003(b)(1), title XXII, §220003(d)(2), title XXXIII, §330010(14), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2022, 2077, 2144, added item 470, struck out extraneous period after “money” in item 491, and added item 511A.

1992—Pub. L. 102-550, title XV, §1553(b), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4071, added item 474A.

1990—Pub. L. 101-647, title XXXV, §3513, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4922, substituted “or paper used as money.” for “used as money or similar to coins” in item 491, “matters” for “entry certificates” in item 496, and “stamps, postage meter stamps,” for “stamps” in item 501.

1986—Pub. L. 99-646, §31(b), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3598, redesignated second item 510, relating to securities of the State and private entities, as item 513 and substituted “States” for “State”.

1984—Pub. L. 98-547, title II, §201(b), Oct. 25, 1984, 98 Stat. 2770, added items 511 and 512.

Pub. L. 98-473, title II, §1105(b), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2145, added second item 510 “Securities of the State and private entities”.

1983—Pub. L. 98-151, §115(c), Nov. 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 977, added item 510, relating to forging endorsements.

1965—Pub. L. 89-81, title II, §211(b), July 23, 1965, 79 Stat. 257, struck out “Gold or silver” before “Coins or bars” in item 485.

1958—Pub. L. 85-921, §2, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1771, substituted “Printing and filming of United States and foreign obligations and securities” for “Printing stamps for philatelic purposes” in item 504.

1951—Act July 16, 1951, ch. 226, §5(c), 65 Stat. 122, struck out “; publisher’s illustrations excepted” in item 489.

**§470. Counterfeit acts committed outside the United States**

A person who, outside the United States, engages in the act of—

- (1) making, dealing, or possessing any counterfeit obligation or other security of the United States; or
- (2) making, dealing, or possessing any plate, stone, analog, digital, or electronic image, or other thing, or any part thereof, used to counterfeit such obligation or security,

if such act would constitute a violation of section 471, 473, or 474 if committed within the United States, shall be punished as is provided for the like offense within the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 103-322, title XII, §120003(a), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2021; amended Pub. L. 107-56, title III, §374(a), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-56, §374(a)(2), in concluding provisions, substituted “shall be punished as is provided for the like offense within the United States” for “shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 107-56, §374(a)(1), inserted “analog, digital, or electronic image,” after “plate, stone.”.

SHORT TITLE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-550, title XV, §1551, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4070, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle E

(§§ 1551–1554) of title XV of Pub. L. 102–550, enacting section 474A of this title and amending sections 474 and 504 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Counterfeit Deterrence Act of 1992.’”

COMBATTING INTERNATIONAL COUNTERFEITING OF  
UNITED STATES CURRENCY

Pub. L. 104–132, title VIII, § 807, Apr. 24, 1996, 110 Stat. 1308, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘Secretary’), in consultation with the advanced counterfeit deterrence steering committee, shall—

“(1) study the use and holding of United States currency in foreign countries; and

“(2) develop useful estimates of the amount of counterfeit United States currency that circulates outside the United States each year.

“(b) EVALUATION AUDIT PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop an effective international evaluation audit plan that is designed to enable the Secretary to carry out the duties described in subsection (a) on a regular and thorough basis.

“(2) SUBMISSION OF DETAILED WRITTEN SUMMARY.—The Secretary shall submit a detailed written summary of the evaluation audit plan developed pursuant to paragraph (1) to the Congress before the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 24, 1996].

“(3) FIRST EVALUATION AUDIT UNDER PLAN.—The Secretary shall begin the first evaluation audit pursuant to the evaluation audit plan no later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

“(4) SUBSEQUENT EVALUATION AUDITS.—At least 1 evaluation audit shall be performed pursuant to the evaluation audit plan during each 3-year period beginning after the date of the commencement of the evaluation audit referred to in paragraph (3).

“(c) REPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit a written report to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services [now Committee on Financial Services] of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate on the results of each evaluation audit conducted pursuant to subsection (b) within 90 days after the completion of the evaluation audit.

“(2) CONTENTS.—In addition to such other information as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate, each report submitted to the Congress pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include the following information:

“(A) A detailed description of the evaluation audit process and the methods used to develop estimates of the amount of counterfeit United States currency in circulation outside the United States.

“(B) The method used to determine the currency sample examined in connection with the evaluation audit and a statistical analysis of the sample examined.

“(C) A list of the regions of the world, types of financial institutions, and other entities included.

“(D) An estimate of the total amount of United States currency found in each region of the world.

“(E) The total amount of counterfeit United States currency and the total quantity of each counterfeit denomination found in each region of the world.

“(3) CLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—To the greatest extent possible, each report submitted to the Congress under this subsection shall be submitted in an unclassified form.

“(B) CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED FORMS.—If, in the interest of submitting a complete report under this subsection, the Secretary determines that it is necessary to include classified information in the report, the report shall be submitted in a classified and an unclassified form.

“(d) SUNSET PROVISION.—This section shall cease to be effective as of the end of the 10-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 24, 1996].

“(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—No provision of this section shall be construed as authorizing any entity to conduct investigations of counterfeit United States currency.

“(f) FINDINGS.—The Congress hereby finds the following:

“(1) United States currency is being counterfeited outside the United States.

“(2) The One Hundred Third Congress enacted, with the approval of the President on September 13, 1994, section 470 of title 18, United States Code, making such activity a crime under the laws of the United States.

“(3) The expeditious posting of agents of the United States Secret Service to overseas posts, which is necessary for the effective enforcement of section 470 and related criminal provisions, has been delayed.

“(4) While section 470 of title 18, United States Code, provides for a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years as opposed to a maximum term of 15 years for domestic counterfeiting, the United States Sentencing Commission has failed to provide, in its sentencing guidelines, for an appropriate enhancement of punishment for defendants convicted of counterfeiting United States currency outside the United States.

“(g) TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR CONCURRENT CREATION OF OVERSEAS POSTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall—

“(A) consider in a timely manner the request by the Secretary of the Treasury for the placement of such number of agents of the United States Secret Service as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate in posts in overseas embassies; and

“(B) reach an agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury on such posts as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than December 31, 1996.

“(2) COOPERATION OF TREASURY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall promptly provide any information requested by the Secretary of State in connection with such requests.

“(3) REPORTS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State shall each submit, by February 1, 1997, a written report to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate explaining the reasons for the rejection, if any, of any proposed post and the reasons for the failure, if any, to fill any approved post by such date.

“(h) ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR INTERNATIONAL COUNTERFEITING OF UNITED STATES CURRENCY.—Pursuant to the authority of the United States Sentencing Commission under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the Commission shall amend the sentencing guidelines prescribed by the Commission to provide an appropriate enhancement of the punishment for a defendant convicted under section 470 of title 18 of such Code.”

[For transfer of the functions, personnel, assets, and obligations of the United States Secret Service, including the functions of the Secretary of the Treasury relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 381, 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.]

#### § 471. Obligations or securities of United States

Whoever, with intent to defraud, falsely makes, forges, counterfeits, or alters any obligation or other security of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 705; Pub. L. 103–322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994,