

ALERT 98 - 15

Type: Suspicious Transactions
Subject: Banca Populara Ardealul
Date: April 21, 1998

TO: Chief Executive Officers of all National Banks; all State Banking Authorities; Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Conference of State Bank Supervisors; Deputy Comptrollers (Districts); Assistant Deputy Comptrollers; District Counsel and Examining Personnel

RE: Banca Populara Ardealul
Bistrita, Romania

Information has been received that the subject entity has issued \$650 million (U.S.) face value check form instruments. Further, the subject entity has not been authorized by the government of Romania to conduct a banking business. Extreme caution is advised relative to any involvement with these instruments.

Any information which you may have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
Enforcement & Compliance Division
250 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20219
Fax (202) 874-5301

Daniel P. Stipano
Director
Enforcement & Compliance Division

Attachment