

From the foreword to the third edition.

...The first publication of my book took place in the December 2007 issue of the "Numismatic Herald" magazine in the Russian Federation. The first part of the book was printed with the expectation that the remaining text would be divided into 4 parts and printed in 2008.

After the publication, I received a great deal of congratulations from collectors, friends, and acquaintances. Everyone was waiting for the continuation, but it was not destined to happen because the editorial office notified me that they were not interested in continuing to print my book, "as it did not fit their profile."

Through friends, I learned that the real owners of the company—former high-ranking Communist Party officials—interfered in the matter and categorically instructed the chief editor not to allow further publications of this kind, especially from citizens of the United States.

Therefore, I decided to publish the book independently, finding a printing house in New York. Rather, my parents took care of this matter, spending several months until they found a printer that satisfied my requirements—after all, the book was written in Russian. At the end of 2010, the book, with an edition of 250 copies, was finally printed.

I received a lot of congratulations again, and even a subscription for the second edition was launched. But this was not destined to happen either, as military actions by Russian Federation began on the territory of Ukraine. First, the occupation of Donbass, and then Crimea. I want to remind readers that I was born in Khmelnytsky, Ukraine—so, I stopped the subscription until better times.

In the first, Russian-language edition, texts by Julius Mader, Gunter Vermusch, and Georgy Polskoj were included, with my annotations exposing communist propaganda. But in the English editions of 2021 and 2024, I decided to remove this part, as it is absolutely uninteresting to modern readers.

Instead, I significantly expanded and corrected the text with data obtained from The New York Times (in the "Dollars and Other Currencies" section) and

re-examined materials posted by Lawrence Malkin and Herbert Friedman (a recognized expert in Psychological Operations and Psychological Warfare).

Special attention was given to the meticulous study of historical documents. During the preparation of the first edition, after reviewing the archive published on Malkin's website, my goal was not to provide the texts of the documents. I simply aimed to demonstrate that these documents were not fictitious, including only scans of their first pages in the book.

Now, I set myself a different task: to acquaint readers with the full texts of these documents. The work proved to be very laborious, and I spent a lot of time literally reconstructing the text of these documents, deciphering illegible words letter by letter...

And I was rewarded for my diligence. In these texts, I found a large amount of previously unknown or additional information. For example, in Jacobson's 1945 interview Jacobson testified that he was able to smuggle out a £50 banknote, which he handed over to investigators, with serial number 53/18812 dated April 15th, 1935.

As it turned out, this series, starting with "18," was not listed in Pam West's ciphers inventory. I am very pleased to have been able to fill this gap.

I also drew from numerous publications by Murray Teigh Bloom (author of 13 books, founder and longtime leader of The American Society of Journalists and Authors) and Peter Bower—a recognized expert in paper money research. Also, the publications of Pam West, Stefano Poddi, and Joseph E. Boling.

I would like to mention the "Forging Secrets," published by the Spungen Foundation. I have only one word to express my admiration for this book - "WOW!". I believe that it is already a work of art.

The phenomenal research work of the entire team of authors (the book consists of several novellas written by different authors) deserves the admiration of future generations.

With respect,

Dim Litvak

New York, May 9, 2024.

(On this day, May 9, 1942, "Operation Bernhard" began)