

'Power Bouncing'

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The Colombian One Thousand Pesos Banknote

The banknote designer has the last word and his interpretation of the pictures used.



Fidel Castro, February 1948



Back:

Artistic interpretation of a Gaitán image, saluting the people, on the day he started his presidential campaign as a candidate on September 23, 1945. It could be an 'anacronistic mounting' because Castro was not in Bogotá in 1945.

What reason was there for the banknote designer, José Antonio Suárez, to include Fidel Castro's picture?

Castro arrived in Bogotá on March 31, and returned to Cuba on April 13. He met with Gaitán on April 7. Gaitán invited a young Fidel, and his friend Rafael de Pino, to assist with the audience at noon April 8. on the judgement of the Lieutenant Jesús Cortés. They met once again on April 9 at 3:00 PM.

The University Student Federation designated Fidel Castro and Rafael de Pino as their representatives to the Peronist Student Congress, first visiting Venezuela, Panamá and Colombia. When he was in Bogotá, Castro met and impressed Dr. Jorge Eliecer Gaitán "with his words, gestures, height and carisma" (Ramón Conte)

Conte also wrote: "For the first time in his life Fidel Castro used his second given name, Alejandro, unknown to everyone until that moment, for his clandestine activities for the USA intelligence. The assigned mission, investigating if there were any plan for an attempt against the USA State Secretary, George Marshall, who will be at the time at Bogotá, being part of the Ninth Chancellor Conference. Entering the Latin American Peronist student movement and to decode the upcoming event of the congress at Bogotá." Curious thing is that Gaitán's agenda called for a meeting with Fidel Castro and not Alejandro Castro.



His first wedding at the end of 1948



No date.



Gaitán drawing based on a picture by Sady González at the Nutibara Hotel, Medellín.

There is no explanation for this 'Fidel' that appears on the back of the banknote. On the new banknote presentation brochure, by Banco de la República, page 12. Fidel appears on the banknote's back facing right.



On 1950, he graduated with a Diplomatic Rights & Laws..



1948

1953

The first issue of the banknote honoring Gaitán, dated August 7, 2001, began to circulate on 2002, with a printing size of 140 mm x 70 mm. There were 9 emissions. Starting in 2006, the size was reduced to 130 mm x 65 mm, with 14 emissions, the last one dated June 10, 2011, and it began circulating on February 27, 2012.



Fidel Castro in 1947, 21 years old.

(High fidelity sources claim that a new 1000 pesos coins is ready. The story of Fidel on the banknote has been very diffused by radio, press, televisión and international agencies. As soon the new coin starts to circulate and slowly the 1000 pesos banknotes start to cease to circulate, the story of Fidel Castro being on a banknote of Colombia will increase. Anyway over 2300 millions of banknotes of those notes has circulated on 10 years.)

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