

Poland arrests euro counterfeiters ring

by UPI

WARSAW, Poland -- Polish police said they arrested 27 members of an international ring of counterfeiters who were distributing forged euro banknotes.

About 300 agents of the Polish Central Bureau of Investigation were involved in the operation that ended with the apprehension of the alleged head of the gang, Radoslaw B., a 29-year-old man from the central Polish town of Chelmo, the Polish news.pl Web site said Wednesday.

If put on trial and found guilty, the counterfeiters face jail sentences of up to 10 years.

The ring was mainly composed of Poles from the eastern town of Lublin and included two Polish army soldiers, a prison guard and a Romanian citizen.

Andrzej Matejuk, Polish chief police inspector, said the gang was one of the largest and most successful groups of banknote counterfeiters. The ring members were distributing mostly forged notes of 50 and 100 euros in France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Police spokesman Mariusz Sokolowski said Polish police carried out their action in cooperation with police of the four EU countries.

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