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Medal for Distinguished Service in the FAPSI (Federal Agency of Government Communications and Information of Russian Federation), 3rd class, Moscow Mint issue, 1996 - 2003.

In brass with dark bronze finish, 32.0 mm wide. The obverse shows combined arms emblem, Roman numeral III (3rd class, awarded for 10 years of service) and inscription "For Distinction in Military Service". The reverse shows abbreviation "FAPSI" and raised logo "MMD" of the Moscow Mint. The mint mark is of the kind used only during the 90s, not in the following decades.

The Federal Agency of Government Communications and Information of Russian Federation span off from the Soviet KGB State Security in September 1991. Created in the process of the breakup of KGB in the wake of the attempted anti- Gorbachev coup, the organization continued to operate as a separate structure under the Yeltsin regime. The length of service medals for the agency were established in 1996, at approximately the same time as other new Russian awards for government agencies. The FAPSI medals were issued only until 2003, because during that year the Federal Agency of Government Communications and Information was re-absorbed into the FSB Federal Security Service and received a new name.

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## \$30.00





