

## Voroshilov Highest Military Academy of General Staff, graduate badge, Type 2, 1954-1957.

Silver gilt, enamels; 46.7 x 26.2 mm, 4-piece construction. Type 2 badge featuring rivet attachment of the star. Unlike the other academy badges, the Voroshilov General Staff badge has gold-plated plaque and borders.

In excellent condition. The enamel is perfect; the details of the state emblem are likewise perfect and extremely crisp; most of the original fire gilt is still present, especially in the recessed areas. The plaque with the school name is pristine and its gilt finish is nice and bright. The gilt is also clearly visible on the borders of the diamond. Comes with original mint marked Type 2 screw plate. The screw post is full length, nearly 11 mm.

The Voroshilov General Staff Academy was the graduate school for the top level commanders, a cut above all other military academies. In most cases, a higher military academy education was a pre-requisite for applying to the General Staff school. In at least the post-war years, students admitted to it had the rank of lt. colonel through major general. The list of graduates is a veritable "Who is Who" of the Soviet military: among them were most of the famous Soviet marshals and senior generals, and all of the defense ministers of Warsaw Pact countries.

/"Avers 8", p. 492, fig. 2348; see also Y. Dumanskiy "Badges of the Higher Education Establishments of the Armed Forces of the USSR", pp. 18, 19/.

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