

Order of the National Flag, 3rd class, Type 3 Variation 1, #3783, circa 1950s.

In silver and fine "hot-baked" enamels; measures 49.3 mm in height, 46.8 mm in width; weighs 29.5 g without the screw plate. This piece was probably made in Czechoslovakia on commission from the DPRK government. The high quality of this piece as well as some of its details - e.g. the screw post, screw plate, and font of the serial number - resemble the earlier, Type 2 awards of Soviet manufacture. The counter-relief construction of its reverse is however more in line with the later Type 3 variations believed to have been produced in Czechoslovakia. Note that the reverse is distinctly concave. The screw post is approx. 4 mm in diameter, far thicker than on the Czechoslovakian "screw backs" made in the later years. The serial number of this specimen is mentioned in the reference guide [Military and Civil Awards of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea \(DPRK\)](#) by Sessler and McDaniel as the highest known for this variation (its currently known serial number range is from 1914-3873). The variation is rated R3 for rarity ("rare") in the Sessler & McDaniel catalog (see Page 148, top).

In very fine condition. The enamel appears intact to the unaided eye, although a careful examination with a magnifying glass under a bright light reveals that the red enamel is repaired in the approximately 12 to 4 o'clock segment (the repaired portion matches the rest of the enamel almost perfectly). There are also a couple of chips to the red outline of the star, but they are so tiny that the damage is practically undetectable to the unaided eye. The enamel is otherwise intact and shows attractive luster throughout.

The rays of the starburst have a few small dings but very little overall wear remaining perfectly crisp and showing a beautiful patina. The star in the center has some dings and a mild wear to its apex, while its ridges are well defined and some of the original gilt finish on the facets is still present. There is very attractive toning to silver on the reverse. The screw post is full length, approx. 12.5 mm, and includes an original Soviet-style screw plate.

Item# 39992

\$425.00

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