

### Military Signals Academy (VAS) graduate badge, Type 2, 1954- 1957.

Silver gilt, enamels, 46.5 x 26.0 mm, riveted four-piece construction. The school was created under this name in 1952, when the Order of the Red Banner Military Signals Academy (VKAS) was divided into the Military Signals Academy (VAS) and the Order of the Red Banner Budyonnyi Military Signals Engineering Academy (VKIAS). The badges with VAS plaque are much harder to find than VKAS, because all of those who had graduated from the academy prior to 1952 received the VKAS version (including people who had graduated much earlier, before the "diamond" academy badges were introduced.)

In excellent condition. There is a microscopic surface flake at the tip of the upper left arm and single contact mark to the first letter "B", but both of them are completely unnoticeable without a magnifying glass. The enamel is otherwise flawless and shows nice luster. The details of the state emblem and pristine and exceptionally crisp; some of the original gilt finish is still visible on the recessed areas of the globe and wreath. There is attractive, even toning to silver on both sides of the badge. The screw post is full length, approx. 10.5 mm measured from the reverse of the badge. Original Type 2 mint-marked screw plate is included.

/"Avers 8", p. 494, fig. 2355; see also Y. Dumanskiy "Badges of the Higher Education Establishments of the Armed Forces of the USSR", pp. 14-16/.

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