

Veteran's Badge in Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the 967th Separate Long-Range Reconnaissance Aviation Regiment of the Northern Fleet Air Force, 1991 issue.

Both the medallion and suspension are in solid copper; the medallion measures 35.8 mm in height (incl. eyelet), 32.1 mm in width. A very unusual and interesting, massive piece, very different from vast majority of contemporary Soviet veteran badges. The obverse has raised inscription ОДРАП ВВС КСФ 40 лет ("40th Anniversary of the Separate Long-Range Reconnaissance Aviation Regiment of the Air Forces of the Northern Fleet". Note that the unit number is not mentioned anywhere, as typical of Soviet military aviation badges - possibly due to the usual Soviet paranoia-level concern with secrecy. The badge is in excellent condition. The raised details are extremely well-preserved on both sides. Most of the fragile original dark lacquer finish on the background is still present.

The 967th Separate Long-Range Reconnaissance Aviation Regiment of the Northern Fleet was formed in 1951 and stationed in the Soviet naval base of Severomorsk. Until the 90s, the unit was equipped with Tu-16 bombers and contrary to its name, apparently was tasked with more than just reconnaissance: at least one of its squadrons was carrying air-launched cruise missiles. The unit was reportedly disbanded in 1997.

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