

Dneprostroy Badge, #8017, 1932 issue.

Silver, enamels; measures 22.6 mm in height; 22.6 mm in width; weighs 8.5 g not including the screw plate. Superb quality throughout. Variation featuring serial number stamped on the reverse of the badge rather than on the screw plate.

In very fine to excellent condition. The dark blue enamel shows only a few tiny, almost unnoticeable surface flakes near the support pylons of the dam; the damage is significantly less than on nearly all other Dneprostroy badges that we have handled in the past. There are also some tiny scratches and contact marks to enamel elsewhere, also practically unnoticeable without magnification. The couple of "bare" areas near the base of the pylons appear to be manufacturing imperfections, not chips. The enamel fully retains its beautiful luster and translucency. The details of the dam are extremely well defined and crisp. The screw post is full length, over 10 mm, and comes with the scarce original silver screw plate.

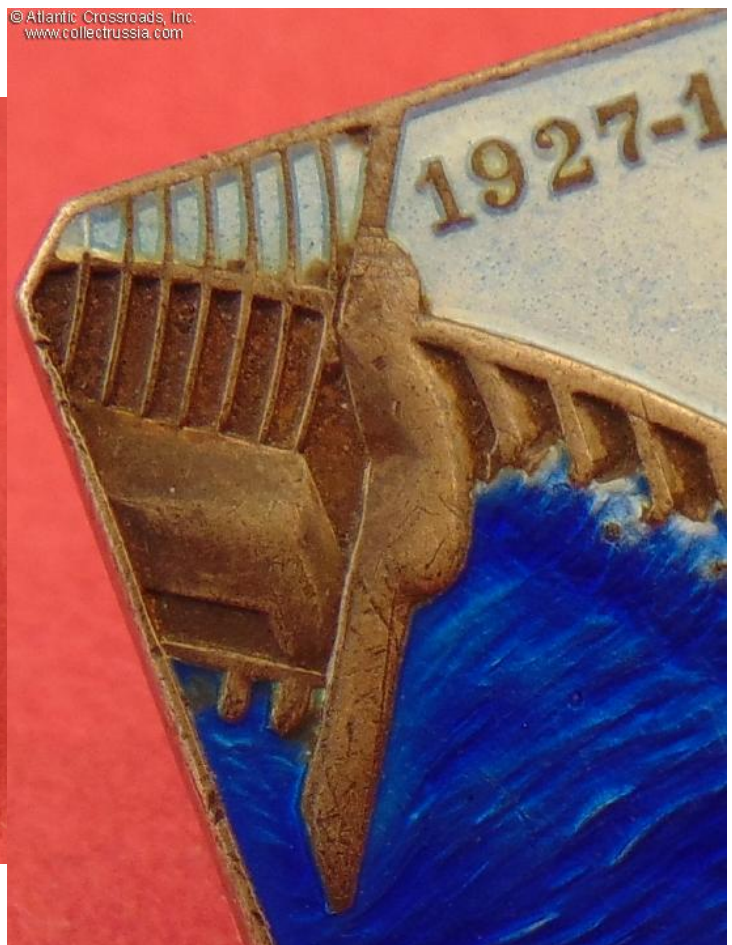
Although this is technically not an NKVD badge, it was awarded almost exclusively to NKVD prison guards who supervised construction of the Dneproges hydroelectric dam. The dam was considered the cornerstone project of the First Five-Year Plan and one of the most important parts of Stalin's industrialization program. It was built based on an Italian design using recently purchased heavy American machinery and hired American engineers and qualified construction crews, while the masses of recently dispossessed Ukrainian peasants and GULAG prisoners were employed for all the menial tasks. The working conditions of the prisoners on the Dneprostroy were especially inhumane, whereas the dam was promoted by media around the world as a great marvel and magnificent achievement of socialist government.

[/History of Awards and Insignia of Russian MVD, 1802 - 2002](#), p. 110, fig. 1.2.3.41; Avers 8, p. 73, fig. 451/

Please note, penny in our photo is for size reference.

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\$395.00



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