

### 50th Anniversary of the Special Departments of Mongolian State Security, award badge, 1972.

In brass, silver plating and enamels. Measures 44.8 mm in overall height, the shield portion is 37.2 mm tall x 25.5 mm wide; weighs 13.3 g without the screw plate. Riveted two-piece construction. A very well made and substantial piece.

In excellent condition. The enamels and silver finish are perfectly preserved (there are some barely noticeable imperfections in the blue enamel near the hilt of the sword, but these are clearly a factory flaw, not a result of wear). The rivets are tight. The reverse is pristine, with attractive toning to the brass. The screw post is full near full length, approx. 9 mm, and includes original screw plate.

This badge was awarded to active-duty officers or veterans of the infamous Special Departments of Mongolian State Security (UAKhB). Just like their Soviet KGB counterpart, Mongolian Special Departments were a highly secretive branch imbedded in the regular military units to serve essentially as a "watchdog". Due to the relatively small size of the Mongolian armed forces, their Special Departments apparently numbered very few members. The badge is extremely rare.

/A. Battushig, *Mongolian Orders, Medals & Badges*, page 85 fig. D 08 (note, there is a typo in the book and the badge is mistakenly marked as "C 08")/

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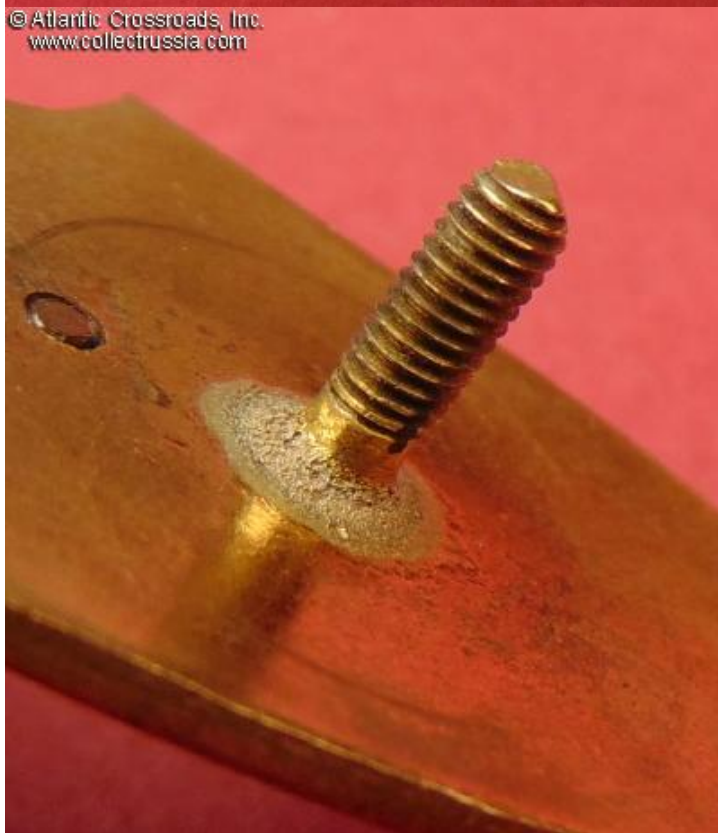
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