

## Distinguished NKVD Employee badge, Type 2, #3854, 1942-1946.

Brass, enamels; measures 41.8 mm in overall height; the oval "egg" portion is 33.3 mm tall, 26.9 mm wide; weighs 16.8 g without the screw plate. Four-piece construction: the oval back plate, O-shaped part with horizontal lines, sword and the scroll with hammer & sickle emblem are separate parts held by wires. The serial number is engraved in standard manner under the screw post.

In fine to very fine condition, very respectable for the highest NKVD award of WW2 vintage. The enamel on the red scroll is partly replaced: the repaired sections include the upper left segment and the two segments to the right of the central portion with the inscription НКВД ("NKVD"). The enamel on the central part with "NKVD" and the segment to the left of it is original and completely intact, free of noticeable wear. The enamel is also replaced on the background under the sword, as is almost always the case. The repair was done very professionally with "cold" enamel that closely matches the original portions in color and translucency; it is nearly unnoticeable without the UV "black" light.

The sword, oval backplate and the hammer & sickle emblem show only some tiny dings, no dents or significant scratches. The original silver finish is still present on mid-portion of the blade and lower part of the hilt of the sword. Although the upper and lower layers of the "egg" do not align perfectly, the badge, as it appears, has not been disassembled. The wires holding its parts are intact; the parts of the badge are tightly attached. The screw post is original and of full length, nearly 11 mm - has not been reduced. The badge comes with original, characteristically thick mint-marked screw plate which is unique to the Distinguished NKVD Employee badge.

Established in 1940, this badge was the highest NKVD decoration of the era. The bronze version was awarded from 1942-1946. Most of the surviving WW2 issues show extensive repairs and often, replaced parts; the example offered here is above average condition-wise.

Item# 37578

**\$940.00**

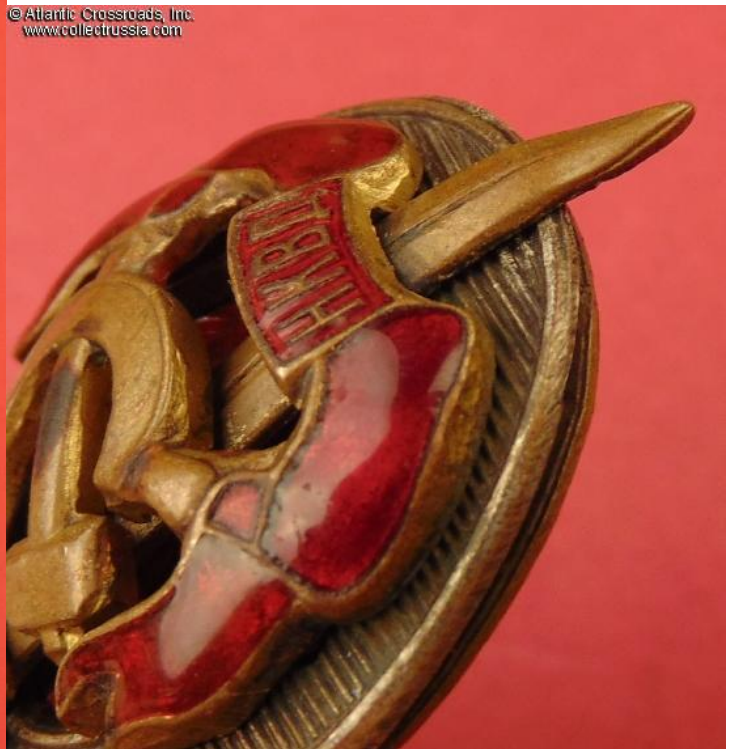
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