

Order of the Patriotic War, 2nd class, Type 2, "Small" variation, #590825, circa late 1944 - early 1945 issue.

Silver, 14 K gold, enamels (hammer & sickle emblem) and enamels. The outer dimensions are significantly smaller than all other variations of the Patriotic War, 2nd cl.: measures 44.9 mm in height, 42.4 mm in width. Weighs 23.4 g not including the screw plate. The diameter of the center medallion is approx. 24 mm. This "Small" version by the Leningrad Mint is often referred to as "Fish Eye" (Rybiy Glaz) by Russian-speaking collectors. According to the currently available data (see Mondvor.narod.ru), this variation was manufactured in March 1945 and had two serial number ranges: approx. 479000 - 483000 and 580000 - 618000. These serial number ranges were shared with some orders of regular size; thus, fewer than 42000 of the "Small" version were produced in total. This interesting variation is highly sought by collectors for its very distinctive look and relative rarity. Note that the serial number of this particular specimen is close to the bottom of the serial number range for the second series of the variation.

In very fine condition. The enamel shows magnificent luster and appears practically perfect to the unaided eye. A careful examination with a loupe reveals a tiny amount of surface flaking at the tip of the top arm and at the lower edge of the lower left arm. The enamel is pristine otherwise, has none of the usual rubbing or contact marks. The golden hammer & sickle emblem is absolutely pristine, and so is the silver starburst. There is very attractive even toning to silver on both sides. The screw post is full length, approx. 14.5 mm, and comes with original WW2 era screw plate.

Item# 37984

**\$575.00**

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