

Excellent Artillery Man badge, mid 1940s.

Brass, enamels; 44.9 mm x 36.0 mm. This very early variation features smooth top ornament with less defined scrolls than the later versions. There is no ornamental pattern under the red enamel, making this version similar to the Type 1 with superimposed hammer & sickle. There are other similarities with the early type guaranteeing that it was apparently produced immediately after Type 1, most likely in 1943. Consensus opinion among collectors is that this version of the badge is of Moscow's Pobeda Factory manufacture, although the Type 1 was produced by the Foto-Yuvelir Workshop (also in Moscow).

In very fine to excellent condition, far better than the average for a combat proficiency award of WW2 period. The red enamel shows light surface rubbing and microscopic contact marks but is free of chips, flaking or other significant wear of any kind. The white band has a couple of minuscule chips between the edges and lettering, nearly unnoticeable and certainly not detractive, no other damage.

The wreath and cannon show only very minimal wear to the high points, their details are still nicely preserved. A good amount of the original silver finish on the reverse is present. The screw post is full or near full length, approx. 11 mm. Comes with a screw plate of the Pobeda Factory which is of of the correct maker and period, although not necessarily original to this particular badge. The screw plate is loose due to worn threads of the screw post, but it will stay on the lower part of the screw reasonably well (please note, caution should be exercised when attaching the screw plate so as not the strip the threads.)

/Airapetyan, Breast Badges of the Red Army, 1941-1945 , p. 88, fig. 2 (attributed to NKPS factory, probably incorrectly)/

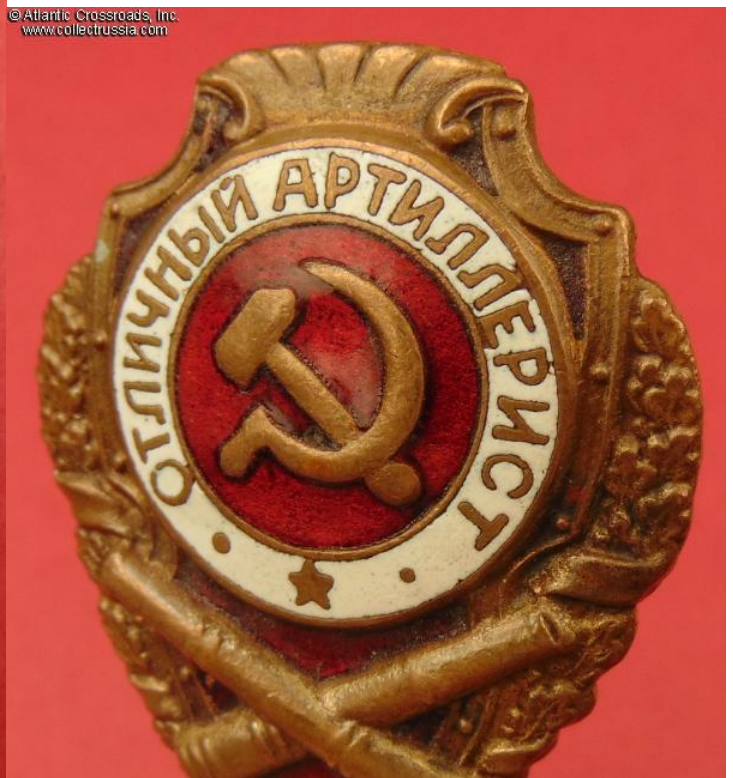
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