

Small Soviet Children's Flag with State Emblem and "USSR", circa 1980s.

Material: flag - dyed cotton; staff - 1/8"Ø metal wire covered in cotton cloth braiding. Dimensions: flag 8"(L) x 4"(H); staff 10"(L) x 1/8"(Ø) Manufacturer: Uzhgorod Textile and Haberdashery Factory, Ukraine Soviet Socialist Republic.

Three of the sides of the flag have a frame imprinted in thick durable yellow dye. A round metal staff is covered in off-white cloth braiding and sealed at the ends with a splotch of red paint to prevent fraying of the braiding. The price (29 kopeks) and manufacturer's logo graphic are stenciled along the staff on the reverse. The metal staff in a braided coating is actually a step up from the usual wooden, square or round and poorly sanded, staff that almost guaranteed you a splinter or two if you waved it too enthusiastically.

Condition: new, never used.

These flags were mass-produced in huge quantities all across the Soviet Union and were primarily meant for children as tools of Soviet communist propaganda. They were handed out to children to wave them during official celebrations, parades, demonstrations, group marches, etc., demonstrating their devotion to the Communist ideology.

Small as the flags were, their numbers alone made them very effective propaganda tools. When a child held this flag and saw hundreds of other children around him or her waving the same flags, the child couldn't help the feeling of belonging, of being a part of a much larger homogenous whole where all you had to do was wave the flag. An innocent-looking instrument of achieving a drone's mind-meld.

Of course, children will be children, and some of those flags got lost, broken, left behind, etc. For that, the poor little perpetrator could be, and often was, publicly shamed and threatened with consequences more serious than a public shaming.

What's in a little toy flag, right?.. Well, it will make a nice quirky addition to your collection or a gift to remind of the danger of mass hysteria and socialist propaganda.

And, just in case, - don't wave it!

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\$5.00



