

Badge in Commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of the October Revolution, made and issued in Harbin, Northeastern China, 1947.

In brass and enamels; 29.1 x 24.6 mm. The "hot-baked" enamel is of exceptionally high quality, characteristic of the early post-war awards made in China. Shows Roman numeral "XXX" and Russian-language inscription "Years" and "October".

In very fine condition. There is a tiny chip in the upper left corner of the banner, not too noticeable or detractive. The enamel elsewhere is essentially perfect and exhibits magnificent luster and translucency. A good amount of the original gilt finish is visible in recessed areas on the reverse. The original pin attachment is intact and fully functional.

The pin was issued in the Soviet-occupied city of Harbin in the formerly Japanese-controlled Manchuria. The key construction hub for the Chinese Eastern Railroad built by Imperial Russia in the late XIX C., Harbin soon afterwards grew into a large city and following the Russian Civil War, became the major center of Russian immigration in China. In the pre-WW2 era, it was swarming with Soviet agents who were busy organizing pro-Soviet propaganda and espionage. Those anti-Soviet Russians who did not manage to escape from Manchuria prior to Japan's entry into WW2 remained stuck there; many of them became victims of the NKVD following the Soviet takeover in 1945. During the following year, the Soviets transferred control over Harbin to communist administration, but the NKVD retained a strong presence there. The October Revolution anniversary badges were made locally and probably issued to proven Russian-speaking Soviet loyalists as well as communist Chinese VIPs. A very uncommon and interesting award.

Please note, penny in our photo is for size reference.

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\$250.00





