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## Honored State Security Employee badge, #2836, circa late 1960s.

Silver-plated brass, gilt and enamel; 47.4 x 26.2 mm; weighs 10.8 g not including the screw plate. Two-piece construction: the star is a separate, superimposed part. Engraved serial number to the reverse. This is a relatively early version of the badge featuring horizontal relief "bars" in its central portion; the star is attached by wires rather than rivets. The raised mint mark "MMD" on the reverse is "upside down" and located on the left side near the bottom.

In excellent condition. The enamel and details are perfect. The star has a couple of tiny scratches but its fire gilt finish is beautifully preserved and bright. The gilt on the hilt of the sword is partly obscured by silver patina but nevertheless completely intact and clearly visible. Very attractive pristine patina to the silver finish throughout. The screw post is full length, approx. 9.5 mm, and includes the original mint-marked screw plate.

The badge was the highest decoration specific to KGB officers issued starting for 1957 for outstanding achievements. The recipient would be awarded the title of "Honored Chekist", same as with the much earlier 5th and 15th VChK anniversary awards and the Distinguished NKVD Employee badge. Based on currently available information, less than 7500 of Honored State Security badges were ever bestowed.

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## \$1,100.00











