

Badge of Distinction of the Military Order of St George, 3rd class, #14825, awarded to Feldwebel (Senior NCO) Ignatiy Gerasimov, 20th East Siberian Rifle Regiment, for the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905.

In silver; measures 40.8 mm in height incl. eyelet, 34.0 mm in width; weighs 11.4 g. The cross is in characteristically early style, featuring a large, flat center medallion with nearly vertical edges, and a very deeply stamped serial number. Cyrillic initials of the dye cutter "AAG" are clearly visible under the leg of the dragon.

In very fine to excellent condition. There are a couple of scuffs to the upper arm on the obverse and some tiny dings to the raised borders of the center medallion, none of it very detractive. The arms are free of other significant wear. The obverse of the center medallion is practically pristine, and its details are exceptionally well-preserved and crisp. The cipher on the reverse is extremely well preserved having only very mild wear to the high points. The award exhibits beautiful even toning to silver. Overall, a very nicely preserved and attractive piece.

The identity of the recipient has been determined by the serial number of the award using the Russian language publication Badge of Distinction of the Military Order of St. George. List of Those Awarded for the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905 compiled by I. Markin and D. Butrym, C. 2006 (page 173). Ignatiy Gerasimov served as Feldwebel (Russian senior NCO rank roughly equivalent to Sergeant Major) with the 13th Company of the 20th East Siberian Rifle Regiment. The Badge of Distinction - later referred to as simply St. George Cross - was bestowed upon him as a cumulative award for "personal feats, valor and bravery shown on different occasions in the battles against the Japanese".

A St. George award from the Russo-Japanese war above the lowest 4th class, is a very uncommon find - especially in as good a condition as the piece presented here.

Item# 39235

**\$3,100.00**

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