

VChK - OGPU Honorary Certificate issued with a presentation watch to Comrade Politov on 20 December 1932, the 15th anniversary of VChK - OGPU.

Large format, measuring 10 ½" x 14 ¾". The first version of the USSR State Emblem with six scrolls, top center, anchors a tastefully sparse ornament around the text. A very uncommon feature, especially for an early Soviet document, is the attempt at "watermarking" the paper by pressing the phrase "XV ЛЕТ ВЧК-ОГПУ" (XV Years of VChK-OGPU) into the paper in the middle of the sheet. The lettering is barely visible, resembling a watermark.

The certificate was issued by the Maikop District Executive Committee of workers, peasants, Cossacks and Red Army soldiers deputies. The text of the citation states that Comrade Politov was being awarded with a presentation watch and this certificate for his achievements before the Soviet Power and Communist Party in the fight against counterrevolution, banditism and other machinations of the enemies of the working class.

In good condition. It appears that the certificate used to be stapled into a file and folded, probably to fit into the filing folder. The fold lines are still visible but have long since flattened out. The only separation at the fold lines is very small, hardly larger than 2 mm, at the very center where the fold lines intersect. The edges are a little frayed and have a number of short rips, far from reaching even the decorative ornament. The text is vibrant and bright, the handwritten date and signatures are clear and not faded. The seal is a bit faint but mostly legible.

Maikop, a small town in the south of Russia, currently administrative center of the Republic of Adygeya within the Russian Federation, was founded in 1857 as a fortress by and for the Russian Imperial Army. In 1917, Soviet Power was declared in Maikop. However, less than a year later the town was seized by the "white" Cossack troops under Gen. Pokrovskiy. In March 1920, the Red Army, the famous 1st Cavalry Army under S. Budyonny, "liberated" the town.

The Soviet Power in Maikop remained in place until the end of the Soviet Union. However, that entire region and its indigenous populations, kept Maikop a hot spot in the early years of the Soviet era.

Please note that the pen in our photo is for size reference.

Item# 41981

\$225.00



