

Field Uniform Tunic of a Colonel General, Land Forces, circa mid- 1960s.

Double-breasted, in olive drab-wool gabardine with red piping on the collar and cuffs, and olive-green laurel leaf embroidery in silk on the lapels. The red-piped shoulder boards are in silk brocade with gold bullion stars. The gold buttons in anodized aluminum display the State Emblem of the USSR and have the Moschtamp Factory logo on the back with 1963 and 1964 dates of manufacture, indicating that the uniform was probably made in 1965-66. Fine quality silk liner. No tailor shop label, which is typical for Soviet general officer uniforms, especially relatively early ones.

The sewn-in set of ribbon bars include some high-end WW2 decorations. The top row includes ribbons for two Orders of Lenin and two Orders of the Red Banner. The second row from the top comprises the Order of the Red Star and the medals for Combat Service, Defense of Caucasus, and Victory over Germany. The third row comprises ribbons for three jubilee medals and the fourth one is for two foreign awards including the Czechoslovakian WW2 medal for the Battle of Dukla Pass and the Polish Brotherhood in Arms Decoration.

The combination of ribbons indicates that the original owner of the tunic was a very distinguished WW2 veteran who stayed on active duty at least through the late 1950s. The two Orders of Lenin are of special significance: while one of them was probably awarded for length of service in the military at some point from 1944-58, the other one was definitely bestowed for special achievements. The chronologically last award in the set is the Soviet 1965 Medal in Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Victory.

Extra Large size: the chest measures approximately 46", the sleeves (from cuff to shoulder seam) are 23" long; the length from top of collar to bottom hem is 30".

Very good to excellent condition. The exterior is perfect; there is no moth damage or other noticeable condition issues anywhere. Although the tunic has been worn, it remains perfectly clean. The stitches in one of the seams of the liner in approx. 10" area under the left arm came undone, but the seam and liner overall are still sound. This can be a very easy flaw to repair and in any case, almost completely hidden from view even when examined from the inside.

This tunic is an extremely uncommon piece. It was introduced in 1958, initially as a part of general's service uniform and starting from 1969, field uniform (some changes in the style of embroidery also occurred at that point.) With the new uniform code of 1974, it was replaced with a single-breasted closed collar version. The latter is of course far less scarce than the 1958/69 closed-collar single-breasted model for field uniform or especially the later double-breasted service models with gold embroidery.

Please note, offered here is the tunic only; the shirt and tie shown in our photos are not included but may be available for purchase separately.

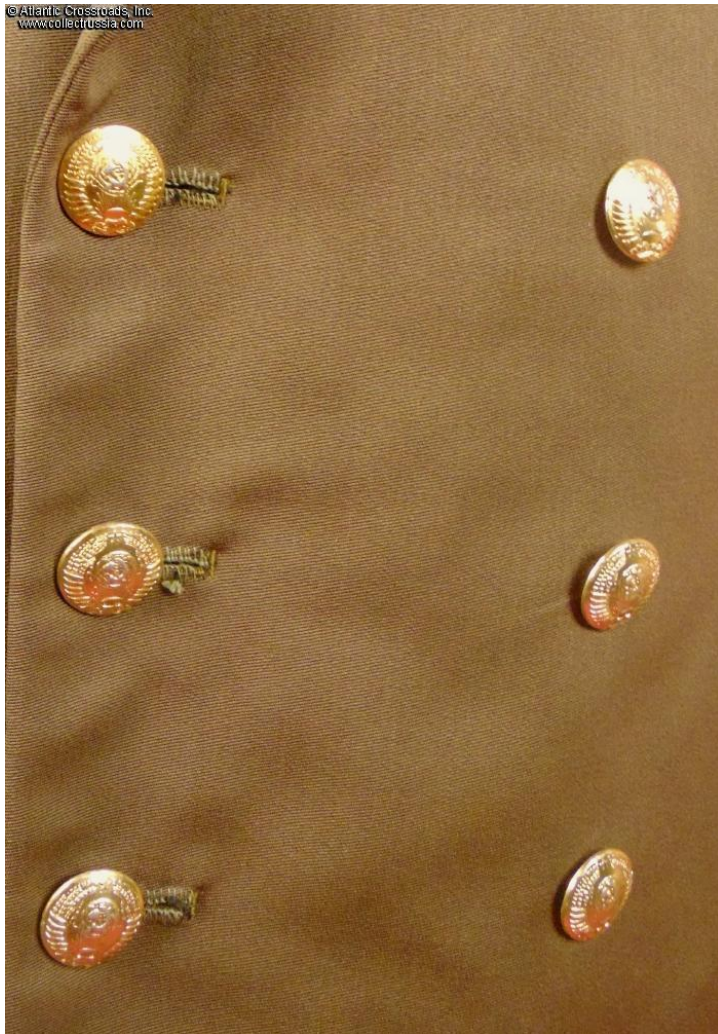
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