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Russian Imperial Orders of Chivalry from the Collection of the State History Museum, S Levin, C 2003, Moscow.

Hardcover with dust jacket, 159 pp. In BRAND NEW, UNUSED condition, shows only shelf age. In Russian with brief translation of the captions under photos and illustrations. Beautifully illustrated publication, with extremely fine close-up photos.

Some of the Imperial decorations presented in the book are among the rarest. Many are attributed to the original owner, and all have very detailed descriptions with precise size, weight, hallmarks etc. something not to be found in any other reference book. Another first is an extremely detailed explanation of regulations concerning Imperial orders down to the amount that the recipient had to donate to the coffer of the Order after the decoration was bestowed.

Very helpful is a table of correlation between the military, civilian and court ranks and the advancement in rank that would follow an award. Lastly, there is an all important list of hallmarks of all major Russian manufacturers of decorations, with their brief history.

Spectacular and irreplaceable reference!

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