

Medal in Commemoration of the Opening of Railroad Traffic between Chengdu and Chongqing, 1952.

The medallion is in brass and high quality "hot baked" enamels; measures 39.8 mm in height (incl. eyelet), 37.1 mm in width. The obverse shows the inscription and Chinese railroad emblem.

The medallion is in excellent condition. The enamel is very nicely preserved and retains beautiful translucency and luster. There are only some microscopic hairlines and a few tiny contact marks - no chips, flaking or any other significant wear. The details of the wreath are intact and crisp, with some of the original gilt finish visible in its recesses. The reverse shows attractive, even patina to brass. The suspension device is a recent replacement.

This medal was apparently awarded to managers, party leaders, and distinguished workers who took part in the building of the railway line between the cities of Chengdu and Chongqing in the Sichuan Province. Completed in June 1952, this was the first railway line created in China under the communist regime. It was originally proposed and planned much earlier, in 1903, and the some of the construction was done in the following years, but it was halted in 1911. The later attempts to resume it were interrupted by the outbreak of war with Japan. The construction of the 500 km long rail line restarted in earnest in 1950 and employed a large number of PLA soldiers as well as thousands of civilians.

//Illustrated Collection of Badges in the Chinese People's Revolutionary Military Museum, Figure 891/.

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