

Badge of a Veteran of the 56th Army, circa 1970s-80s.

Made in aluminum, paint and lacquer. The medallion measures approx. 35 mm in height (including the eyelet), 35 mm wide. The reverse of the medallion shows inscription "Veteran of the 56th Army, 1 941-1943". The suspension shows ribbons for Medals for Defense of Caucasus and Victory over Germany. There is a raised Soviet-era maker mark on the reverse of the suspension. Overall quality of the badge is better than average: note for example the vaulted construction of the suspension and sharp details of the artwork. In excellent condition.

During the early part of the Patriotic War, the 56th Army was a part of the Soviet Southern Front. In 1941, it counterattacked at Rostov marking the first successful Soviet offensive of the war. In 1942-43, the army defended the approaches to the remaining Soviet ports on the Black Sea; broke through the German Blue Line in Kuban region; and in late 1943, made a successful amphibious landing in Crimea. It was then transformed into Separate Maritime Army subordinate directly to the Soviet high command.

/See Paul Schmitt "[Soviet Second World War Veteran Badges](#)" p. 24/

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