



### Guard's Badge, by the MPS Factory, circa 1950-51.

Brass, enamels; 44.3 x 36.3 mm; weighs 16.0 g without the screw plate. One of the early post-war issues made by the ShMZ / MPS (formerly NKPS) Factory. The flag is of the shape distinctly different from the later variations. There is a sharply defined moiré pattern under the red enamel. The badge is of the model established in 1950 and issued only until 1951, at which point the issuance of Guards Badges was temporarily suspended (the practice of wearing Guards badges in the Soviet armed forces resumed only a decade later, in 1961.) This variation is rated 4 (scarce) by Airapetyan.

In outstanding, excellent condition. The enamel shows a beautiful luster and is extremely well preserved, completely free of rubbing, flaking or significant wear of any kind. There are only a few tiny contact marks, all of them nearly unnoticeable to the naked eye.

The details of the wreath are exceptionally well-preserved and crisp, practically pristine. The gilt finish is very bright and free of tarnish. The finial of the banner is not bent as is often the case. The screw post is full length, approx. 10 mm, and includes original screw plate in nickel-plated steel maker-marked "ShMZ-d MPS".

To summarize, this is a beautifully preserved and distinctive early Cold War piece.

/ B. Airapetyan, Breast Badges of the Red Army, 1941-1945, p. 58, fig.12.4/

Item# 46915

**\$90.00**

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