Subject: Re: 1953 Gruen Veri-Thin 415 SS-829

Posted by Barney Green on Wed, 28 Aug 2019 16:32:11 GMT

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Yes, 1953 is what I also anticipated. BTW, my case has serial F73076.

As this watch is listed in the Strap section and not in the Import section of the Master Book as most of the other Guildite cases of that time I would also assume this being really a US made case. The import cases I have seen all said SWITZERLAND inside.

There seem to have been two internal Fxxxxx sequences, one in 1953 and one in 1957/58. Style numbers involved in the second run are from about 966 to (1)035, movements used in my Fxxxxx watches are 215, 215RSS, 220, 415, 422RSS, 550SS.

Are you sure with the F003569 serial? Seems to be one digit too much...

The 1L movements seem to be odd. I own three which are two 460SS and one 462. I would have dated the watches towards about 1950, but if 1L would succeed 1K they would have to be at least from 1955...

And: I do not think that the Import watches were produced for the European market. Gruen did really not actively sell any of these here. It looks like these watcces were imported to the US completely cased for certain reasons.

The watches to be sold in Europe had the Gruen Geneve brand at the dial, this started mid 50s. After 1957 some of these models have also been imported to the US, most famous model is the Airflight or Super-G.