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Subject: Re: Correct Pan Am?

Posted by [thesnark17](#) on Sun, 23 May 2021 14:57:24 GMT

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Both. ;)

The style number only gives us the date of introduction for the style, it doesn't tell us when it was made. But most styles were only made for a few years (not usually more than 5). Using this rule of thumb, your watch was manufactured in 1944-49 (but keep in mind, only the beginning of the range is certain, that's why it's the only date provided in the table).

The case serial, in this case, tells us more, because we understand the Wadsworth serial system (opening two digits are a date code). G6 dates to 1945-46, as mentioned above. However, most case serial systems are not well understood, so for most Gruens, the style number is as close as you get. So the style numbers are our rule of thumb, but sometimes we can do better.

The movement serial would provide confirmation of the case date, and in so doing confirm the originality of the movement/case combination (we know all parts are factory Gruen, but "all 420ss movements look the same" to someone with a broken movement and a functional spare). We understand movement serials "well enough" to help with dating this model, but the system is not fully understood.

We know more about the Panamerican model because it's popular, so people have studied it and figured things out. Don't expect a date within a year for most other Gruens!

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