Subject: Re: 1944 Gruen Veri-Thin 415 SS-529

Posted by Barney Green on Sun, 05 Nov 2017 17:17:35 GMT

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I think that neither hand is original to this watch.

The form of minute and hour hand is OK, but there should not be golden hands to a stainless steel case. And I fully agree with you that the second hand is absolutely unusual to this watch. I have never seen such a second hand on a Gruen watch.

The caliber 415 was introduced 1950, the sweep second version possibly even later. It is impossible that the watch is from 1944, much more likely from 1952 / 1953.

I would say this is (or has originally been) a Strap 809, which was introduced 1953 and sold under the model name "Sea Worthy". It did cost \$49.50 and was to my knowledge at that time the only non automatic sweep second model in Guildite case beside the "Sea Farer" which might have been the same watch with a different band and dial.