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Subject: Import 274

Posted by [afire](#) on Tue, 15 Jul 2014 15:33:40 GMT

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Model Name: Import 274

Type: Rectangular Waterproof

Period/date: Early 1950s, Possibly Late 1940s

Gender: Men's

Case Maker: Unknown, Possibly Gabus Freres

Case Material: Guildite (Stainless Steel)

Case Serial: 17934 B

Case Style no: N/A

Caliber: 430

Movement Maker: Gruen - Precision Factory

Movement Serial:

Bracelet: Aftermarket Leather Strap

Other Info: One of Gruen's few waterproof rectangular watches. Since a round screwback isn't an option, Gruen employed a system whereby brackets between the lugs push the caseback into the bezel and a rubber gasket under the crystal seals to the caseback, rendering the case (at least in theory) fairly waterproof. And there's also a split stem with a rubber gasket. I won't wear it diving, but I might wear it in the rain. Other brands, such as Wyler and Croton, had nearly identical models. In fact, the aftermarket crystal fitted to this watch, and the last one I owned, is the one sold for the Croton Aquatime. My speculation is that the case may have been made by Gabus Freres because I've seen one positive ID of a Gabus Freres case that had the same script for Guildite, but that's not enough to say for certain. I placed it in the early 1950s because I once had an example with a 1950 or 1951 dedication. But it certainly might have been around in the late 1940s.