Subject: Day Night hands
Posted by Habitant on Wed, 26 Jun 2013 14:01:11 GMT
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Model name : Day Night
Type : Aviator
Period/date : 1950-60
Gender : Male

Case Maker : Gruen
Case Material : Steel

Caliber : 510
Movement Maker: Gruen

Hi folks

Just bought this Day Night, but suspect that someone has changed the hands for some reason. I've only ever seen them with luminous filled Dauphine style hands. Can anyone tell me if they also issued them with the baton style herein?

Thanks in advance,

Michael

File Attachments

1) Gruen Day Night.jpg, downloaded 3520 times



Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Thojil on Thu, 27 Jun 2013 15:00:07 GMT
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Never seen one with Baton style hands. I also think your dial has been refinished (good quality though) as the minute track should not be there. Here is a LINK to one which is in original

condition.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by C. Hurt on Thu, 27 Jun 2013 18:58:07 GMT
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The Day-Nite (as well as the Airway) was resurrected late in Gruen's history, so I would guess it is possible that someone has taken a complete Day-Nite movement, dial and hands from a late 1960s/early 1970s case (which are often seen badly worn. They were that funky, big, not so popular style) and installed it into an earlier case.

Here is one of my originals...

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Thojil on Thu, 27 Jun 2013 21:09:52 GMT
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Didn't know that. It explains the good quality dial, which already didn't look like a redial to me.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Jenneke on Thu, 27 Jun 2013 21:16:40 GMT
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How does that jumping mechanism from day to night work?

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by C. Hurt on Fri, 28 Jun 2013 00:53:45 GMT
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Jenneke wrote on Thu, 27 June 2013 16:16How does that jumping mechanism from day to night work?

This watch was made using both the 522CA and 510CA movements. It's a pretty simple adaptation of the standard calendar mechanism, modified so that the calendar is tripped at 12 hour intervals instead of 24. The standard date ring is replaced with one showing 12 alternating bands of black and 12 of luminous green. When the mechanism trips at the 12th hour, the ring advances one notch. On a standard calendar, this gives you the next day in the single cutout window. In this modification, with 12 cutouts in the dial, the disc advances showing one color through all the cutouts. 12 hours later, it advances again, so the other color shows through.

If that isn't clear, I'll try to get pictures of a parts movement.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Habitant on Fri, 28 Jun 2013 15:51:56 GMT
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Thanks, all. As to the Day Night dial I sent in, it seems to me that there was a later version with a calibrated chapter ring, such as the one I sent in. The link C Hurt sent is to a model that I believe to predate mine; but I await further information from those who know more about the sequence of events. Most of the Day Nights I've found are like C Hurt's, but there are a fair few around like mine (teardrop window cut-outs versus rectangular, etc), which suggests, but doesn't in any way prove, that there existed two variant models, just as there are around 4 variations on the AIrflight dial.

BTW, a quite nice looking Airflight has just popped up on the Bay:
http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/281128084262?_trksid=p5197.c0.m619 - the later configuration with the revolving bezel ring, etc. But no purple to be seen...

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Jenneke on Fri, 28 Jun 2013 21:54:54 GMT
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Quote:When the mechanism trips at the 12th hour, the ring advances one notch.

Simple solutions can be very hard to come up with. Stupid enough I was thinking it would jump forward and back.

If I understand it correctly, it is in fact a huge circular hand moving underneath the dial.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by C. Hurt on Fri, 28 Jun 2013 21:59:06 GMT
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Jenneke wrote on Fri, 28 June 2013 16:54Quote:When the mechanism trips at the 12th hour, the ring advances one notch.

Simple solutions can be very hard to come up with. Stupid enough I was thinking it would jump forward and back.

If I understand it correctly, it is in fact a huge circular hand moving underneath the dial.

That's one way to describe it.

The mechanism in the Airway (aka Airflight) does require it to flip back and forth, and is a much more complex affair, requiring a seperate module on the pillar plate. Maybe that will be my next ID thread...

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Habitant on Mon, 01 Jul 2013 18:04:12 GMT
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Hi folks

Watch arrived - in pretty good shape,I must say. Here are the pics I promised you. DIal is original, I'm pretty sure of that now, by the way.

File Attachments

1) _MDH5177.jpg, downloaded 3087 times



2) _MDH5180.jpg, downloaded 3102 times



3) _MDH5186.jpg, downloaded 3147 times



Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Thojil on Tue, 02 Jul 2013 12:31:54 GMT
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Habitant wrote on Mon, 01 July 2013 20:04Hi folks Watch arrived - in pretty good shape,I must say. Here are the pics I promised you. DIal is original, I'm pretty sure of that now, by the way.

Pretty good shape? Looks almost new to me.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by C. Hurt on Tue, 02 Jul 2013 13:40:56 GMT
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Seeing better photos, I believe this one to be all correct. I think it's a later watch that was cased in a conservative stainless case at the factory. Any markings inside the caseback?.

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by Habitant on Tue, 02 Jul 2013 17:42:38 GMT
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Hi Cary

(Aside from Gruen Watch Co...) It has the caliber number - 510 RSS CA, as well as 'Made in France,' which surprised me a bit. France, not Switzerland, huh? But the dial is pretty darn clean, case is good, and I've popped decent strap on it and so it's looking good now.

Michael

Subject: Re: Day Night hands
Posted by C. Hurt on Tue, 02 Jul 2013 18:42:10 GMT
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Made in France is typical for these mid to late 1960s models. It refers just to the case, not the entire watch. I think that seals it that this is a correct all original example. Good score.
