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Subject: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS

Posted by [cyberbeer](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2022 08:58:02 GMT

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Hi,

I'm an italian guy, and I've just received from my mother a Gruen "Antimagnetic" wristwatch that came from my grandpa, who exchange it with a pack of sigarette from american soldier during WWII.

I need your help to retrieve as much information as possible about it.

Model name: ANTIMAGNETIC

Type: mechanical hand wind

Period/date: 1940?!?!?

Gender: MALE

Case Maker: I Don't Know

Case Material: BRASS

Case Serial: 54642

Case Style no: I Don't Know

Caliber:

Movement Maker: I Don't Know

Movement Serial: I Don't Know

Bracelet: Leather, but the one in the photo is not the original

Other info:

Thanks in advance!!!

Feel free to contact me for any question!

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#### File Attachments

1) [Gruen-antimagnetic-FRONT.jpg](#), downloaded 2191 times

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2) [Gruen-antimagnetic-BACK.jpg](#), downloaded 2123 times





Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS  
Posted by [Case](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2022 14:12:44 GMT  
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Welcome, cyberbeer! Thanks for sharing this interesting model with us. Looking forward myself to finding out more about it! I edited the message to add the pics in line.

If possible, it would be most helpful to see the movement & inner case back.

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS  
Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2022 19:41:30 GMT  
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Congrats with having a watch with some family history!

The dial looks like an early redial. 21 rubis is not something I have seen before. And instead of antimagnetic I would expect veri-thin or precision.  
Guildite case?

I hope others can tell more.

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS  
Posted by [afire](#) on Tue, 12 Apr 2022 15:56:43 GMT  
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Agreed, that dial has been refinished. And without the original dial, it might be tricky to ID. Maybe one of the data jockeys here can narrow down a date with the case serial number.

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS  
Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Tue, 12 Apr 2022 17:36:42 GMT  
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I unfortunately can't nail down the date by the serial. The case serials have always been maker related and we would need to know the case maker to compare. I don't have any nearby datapoints which would be fitting. The datapoints around would be 14k cases by K&O from the late 30s, but this will be unrelated.

Somehow my answer yesterday did not make it through, I also agreed that the dial had been refinished. I never saw antimagnetic written on a Gruen dial of this periode and I also do not really believe in a 21 jewel movement. Also Gruen did not use the term rubis on their dials.

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS

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Posted by [cyberbeer](#) on Wed, 20 Apr 2022 07:41:51 GMT

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Hi,

thanks for your feedback and information!

Do you think that the dial was substituted?

I didn't find any information about the Antimagnetic...

Do you think that the substituted dial is an original Gruen part?

Thank!!

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS

Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Wed, 20 Apr 2022 10:17:17 GMT

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The dial isn't substituted, but repainted. If a dial got damage (from water or radium burn) it was normal to do a redial. They removed the paint from the (brass?) dial and used stamps to get it spickandspan again. Sometimes the redialer didnt have the correct templates... and/or he worked from memory.

Maybe a watchmaker or jeweler can open the back for you. A picture from the movement and inside case back would be helpful for identifying it.

There are Anti-magnetic Gruen watches, but that was marked on the caseback. See for example : <https://www.ebay.ph/itm/VINTAGE-GRUEN-CHOCK-RESISTANAND-WATER-ANTI-MAGNETIC-AUTOMATIC-17J-MADE-IN-SWISS/143857200339>

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Subject: Re: Gruen Antimagnetic - 21RUBIS

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Wed, 20 Apr 2022 11:52:30 GMT

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I agree with Jenneke, usually the original dial was just repainted. Due to the fact that it says RUBIS instead of JEWELS I expect that the work has not been done in the US but probably a french speaking country. Or Italy in your specific case...

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