
Subject: Pan American Official

Posted by [Columbus](#) on Mon, 26 Jan 2015 16:32:26 GMT

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Model name :Official

Type :Pan American

Period/date :1940

Gender :Gents

Case Maker :

Case Material :

Case Serial :

Case Style no :

Caliber :420SS

Movement Maker :Gruen

Movement Serial:

Bracelet :

This watch was in a box with some old coins, Army ribbons and assorted stuff and packed in the bottom of a foot locker my father has had since the end of WWII - I never saw the watch when I was growing up and the foot locker has been in my basement for the last 20 years. I knew there was some old jewelry in there but never paid it much mind. Decided to go through it all and hand it off to my sons and when I turned the stem on the Gruen the second hand started and I found after all those years it works just fine. I've no idea what it is. The case measures 32mm, the back is marked Gruen, 10k gold filled and other than obviously being worn in its day there is no damage anywhere, crystal is intact, unscratched. What is it and could someone recommend a place I can send it, in trust, to get it cleaned and serviced?

File Attachments

1) [gruen 006.JPG](#), downloaded 2356 times



2) [gruen 008.JPG](#), downloaded 2413 times



Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [JackW](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 02:11:22 GMT
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It is a nice looking watch from the Pan American series. Case style is similar to the 'Eagle'.

Second hand is not original but that dial looks great. Great heirloom in my opinion. Movement will be Gruen's 420ss: A beautiful workhorse on par with Omega's of the same age in my opinion. These can be timed to within a few seconds accuracy per week.

As for getting it serviced, you have options but I'll let someone else chime in on that.

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [mikey](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 02:23:41 GMT
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NICE watch! If you are looking for service work and if he's available, JackW does a very good job in servicing these 420's! Send him a PM. If it has sat for that long without being run, its probably wise to have it serviced before you attempt to wear/run it.

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [Columbus](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 13:17:21 GMT
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If I can find someone for service work do you think it advisable to get the second hand replaced or should I leave it as is?

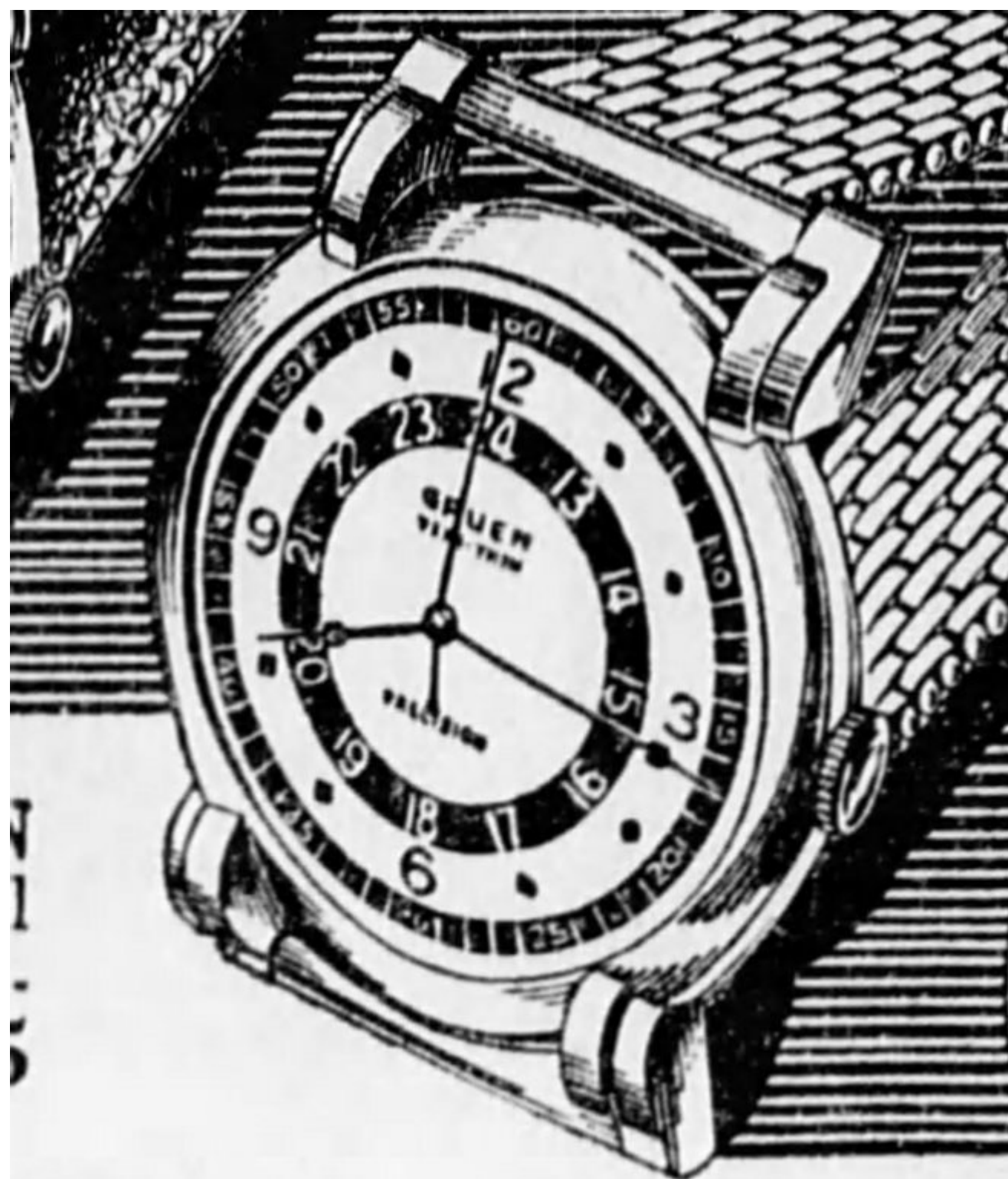
Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 13:52:31 GMT
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If you can get a original one, try to get it replaced.

BTW, I think the model is the 1946 Pan American Official:

File Attachments

1) [Pan Am Official.jpg](#), downloaded 2235 times



PAN AMERICAN
OFFICIAL, 17-jewel
Gruen Precision move-
ment\$67.50

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [mikey](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 14:11:36 GMT
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That's a BIG 'if'. Trying to find a correct replacement second hand is difficult.

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [Thojil](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 14:15:41 GMT
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I agree with Jack that it is an Eagle. The Official dial is different and is "all printed" with a black 24hr ring.

File Attachments

1) [Gruen PanAm Eagle 420SS 1.jpg](#), downloaded 2249 times



Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2015 14:50:17 GMT

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Thojil, you are absolutely right correcting me. I did not pay attention enough to the dial, the case of both watches seems to be the same, but the Official comes with the black 24 hour ring and a metal mesh band and the Eagle is the "cheaper" variant with leather strap and the silver 24 hour ring.

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker

Posted by [Columbus](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2015 01:10:55 GMT

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Thanks for the information. Hopefully I can find someone close by who can service it and not destroy anything.

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [Timeticker](#) on Tue, 03 Feb 2015 23:32:23 GMT
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I have that same watch. Very nice!

Subject: Re: 70 years in a foot locker
Posted by [Gruencurvex](#) on Sun, 02 Aug 2015 02:05:05 GMT
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Late to the party....that is a great Pan AM Eagle
