Subject: VT Aqua Queen - Import 259 ladies
Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 25 May 2013 23:08:43 GMT
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Model name : VT Aqua Queen / Import 259
Type : Veri Thin
Period/date : 1950-1952
Gender : Ladies

Case Maker : ? Swiss
Case Material : Guildite
Case Serial : 54901D
Case Style no : -

Caliber : 210 SS
Movement Maker : Gruen
Movement Serial: 1I 88456

Bracelet : Leather calfskin, not original

Other info : Import. Anti-magnetic, water resistant. 22 mm diameter. Original radium dial.

File Attachments

1) front.jpg, downloaded 3262 times



2) back.jpg, downloaded 3156 times


ANTI-MAGNETIC - WATER

3) movement.jpg, downloaded 3254 times


VERIFIED
PATENTED

4) case inside.jpg, downloaded 3203 times


GRUEN WATCH
SWITZERLAND

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Sun, 26 May 2013 00:10:28 GMT
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I've got a very similar 210ss if you want it; dial isn't in better shape. Works though. You can have it for the postage costs.
Serial on the movement is 1I 17071 which I like because of the palindrome factor. I think it is late 40's.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 26 May 2013 20:44:46 GMT
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That is realy nice of you! Yes, I will pm you.

Just opened the watch case for the number inside. I have the number, but can't close the back. I dunno. You should turn to close it, isn't it?

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Sun, 26 May 2013 21:00:40 GMT
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Yes, the case back should be threaded.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by Jenneke on Tue, 04 Jun 2013 19:08:30 GMT
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Jack's arrived

Case Serial : 16830D
Caliber : 210 SS
Movement Serial: 1I 17071

Other info : It is quite similar. Different crystal and a difference in case back (not waterresistant/anti-magnetic?), case lugs 1mm longer.

I think I have identified these watches: Gruen Import 259! No nice name yet.

File Attachments

1) IMG_2828.JPG, downloaded 2976 times



2) Sisters.jpg, downloaded 3048 times



Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Tue, 04 Jun 2013 19:17:37 GMT
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Glad it arrived; fast transit too. Sent Mikey a box the same day. The pair looks good and hope that you can get a whole working watch out it.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by mikey on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 03:26:09 GMT
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The postal 'service' can ship something from Chicago across the big pond faster than it can go from Chicago to southern Ontario?? How is that?

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 04:02:49 GMT
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You got me. The two packages went to the post office together.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by Thojil on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 08:38:51 GMT
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I have the same experience with shipments to Switzerland. Mail to Europe will go strait to the airport and will arrive in the destination country in 1 or 2 days. I guess Mike's package is still in the stagecoach

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by mikey on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 12:48:51 GMT
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Sumbuddy forgot to feed the postal pony their Wheaties?)

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 14:04:15 GMT
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I'm glad you have a good sense of humor about it. The PO is making me look bad.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by MonKee on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 14:56:45 GMT
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Mikeyt, getting something across the border is always difficult at best. I have purchased several watches on Ebay from individuals that live in Ontario and it always takes two to three weeks to arrive at my home. Making matters worse is the fact that I can drive to Toronto in three hours so it's not like I am on the other side of the world. In fact i bought a watch recently on May 30th from

an individual in Mississauga which is even closer than Toronto and it's not projected to be delivered to my home until the week of June 17th. Go figure.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by mikey on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 19:32:59 GMT
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MonKee wrote on Wed, 05 June 2013 10:56Mikeyt, getting something across the border is always difficult at best. I have purchased several watches on Ebay from individuals that live in Ontario and it always takes two to three weeks to arrive at my home. Making matters worse is the fact that I can drive to Toronto in three hours so it's not like I am on the other side of the world. In fact i bought a watch recently on May 30th from an individual in Mississauga which is even closer than Toronto and it's not projected to be delivered to my home until the week of June 17th. Go figure.

I hear you. Most of my 'imports' from the US take 10 days at minimum to arrive. I'm guessin' the customs guys are probably pulling the watches & trying them on their wrists first...

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Sun, 13 Oct 2013 16:57:16 GMT
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In Mike and Shari Barnnet's 1950s book, on page 21 (and p 58) there is a woman's watch called the VT Aqua Queen. This watch looks like the one featured in the book.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by Jenneke on Sun, 13 Oct 2013 18:54:28 GMT
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Hi jack! That is a better name for the watch! That import number from the gruen master guild book is a bit boring.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by MikeTheWatchGuy on Mon, 14 Oct 2013 01:05:57 GMT
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The years I've seen this model are 1950 and 1951.
The one Jack mentioned, from "The 1950's" is shown as a date of 1950 and 1950, from the newspaper

Another is the Gruen company ad dated 1951

New to the categorization thing. Does the 1950 1951 dates mean the topic moves to another forum?

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Mon, 14 Oct 2013 02:57:38 GMT
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Moved to 1950s.

Actually Mike, by your own book you have this as being advertised in 1950, 1951 and 1952. In 1951 (p. 58) the same ad is associated with the 1952 entry (p. 110). So a three year run on this watch atleast.

Subject: Re: VT Aqua Queen - Import 259 ladies
Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 14 Oct 2013 17:02:01 GMT
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Great info. A three years run.

I will change the Name of the post and Period/date info too.

Is this VT Aqua Queen the sister of the VT Aqua King?

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by JackW on Mon, 14 Oct 2013 17:10:34 GMT
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JennekeIs this VT Aqua Queen the sister of the VT Aqua King?
They do look like a matched pair. LINK

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by MikeTheWatchGuy on Sun, 20 Oct 2013 21:07:37 GMT
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JackW wrote on Mon, 14 October 2013 02:57Moved to 1950s.

Actually Mike, by your own book you have this as being advertised in 1950, 1951 and 1952. In 1951 (p. 58) the same ad is associated with the 1952 entry (p. 110). So a three year run on this

watch atleast.

Awesome... I enjoy being upstaged by my own work. Very cool find Jack. I dunno how I missed the run in the Index. It's right there in your face.

The Aqua King does look like a great match. I only have the one ad that is shown on page 1956. It doesn't say "Veri-Thin" but one would think it should. If I had ONE other source that showed VT Aqua King I would change that index but quick! Please find one somebody....

Unlike the VT AQ, 1951 in V2, I don't have a Gruen ad for it. Would sure like one.

Subject: Re: Import ladies unknown
Posted by Barney Green on Wed, 23 Apr 2014 07:08:04 GMT
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Hi there,

just purchased a Veri-Thin Aqua Queen also:

It does have other hands than the ones advertised 1950 to 1952 and it is equipped with a 215RSS movement. As the 215 survived the 210 for a couple of years I believe it is one of the very last ones built. Case serial number is 79481E. The E might also indicate a later year than the D. The case was built by Gabus Freres. It is not yet cleaned but the dial looks not too bad.

I also have two very similar ladies watches which were build a little later and have slightly larger diameter. These are not marked as Veri-Thin models but pretty much look like later sister. If you are interested I might have them posing for a family photo.

BR
Barney

File Attachments

1) Aqua Queen.png, downloaded 1875 times


GRUEN
GRUEN
ANTIMAGNETIC
SHOCK AND WATER RESISTANT