A HISTORY OF THE JAPANESE MILITARY WATCH

Imperial Japan
1930 – 1945

watches restored by
GOLDSMITHWORKS
OFFERED ONLINE EXCLUSIVELY ON EBAY

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While Japan provided SEIKOSHA made, SWISS made & Hybrid [Japan Case/Dial, w/Swiss and Japanese Movement] watches, timers, ships watches and chronographs in limited numbers compared with total amount of forces, many watches we discover that survived the napalm fire bombing, and atomic bombs and bonzai charges in the air and on the land, and the sinking of the ships and subs, were those supplied by the individual soldier and officer. Many of the watches and timers that survived were either captured or sold to the occupation forces such as the 11th Airborne and 8th Army.
JAPANESE WWII NAVAL AIR CHRONOGRAPH
Seikosha Cased Longines Chronographs

BEFORE

[NOTE SEIKOSHA ON DIAL]

AFTER
[NOTE SEIKOSHA ON BRIDGE]

RESTORED BY ROCK & GSW
LONGINES: “We have sent 1 movement alone on the 28th June 1941 to Messrs. Hattori, who were our agents in Japan at that time. It is a movement caliber 18.72 chronograph”

The above statement was recorded to history. Just those few words demonstrate that the above 4x signed SEIKOSHA was in fact a Seikosha cased Longines. GOOGLE EDITED JAPANESE NAVAL AIR CHRONO,

TO THE RIGHT IS A 1916-18 RED CROSS SEIKOSHA WATCH. DURING WWI, JAPAN HAD ALLIED HER SELF WITH THE US AND WESTERN POWERS. HER "JOB" WAS PRODUCTION OF WAR MATERIALS AND THE SUPPLY OF NURSES FOR THE BATTLE FIELDS OF FRANCE, THE MOVEMENT IS ASSIGNED SEIKOSHA COPY OF A SWISS IMPERIAL.

NOTE THE STYLE OF THE STRAPS AS WELL AS THE OUTER CASING SYSTEM, DO TO THE FACT MOST JAPANESE HAVE SMALLER WRISTS THEN WHAT WAS STANDARD, THESE ARE IN FACT AN IMPORTANT ITEM FOR ALL PERIOD JAPANESE WATCHES.

THE NAMES OF THE MODELS DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1916 THROUGH 194, WERE NAMES THAT PROMOTED THE WILL AND
POWER OF THE IMPERIAL NATION. IN FACT, THIS RESTORE IS A SEIKOSHA NATION MODEL WITH A STYLIZED BEZEL


ANOTHER COOL STRAP TRULY MAKES THIS SEIKOSHA DOUBLE CASED MILITARY WATCH WITH SEIKOSHA SWISS BAR FINISHED MOVEMENT

A FEW MILLION TIMERS WERE MADE BY SEIKOSHA. CASES WERE USUALLY NICKEL AND SIGNED SKS. THE MOVEMENTS WERE, ACCORDINGLY BY DATE OF PRODUCTION, ALL SWISS OR AMERICAN MOVEMENTS; THEN COPIED SWISS AND AMERICAN, THEN JAPANESE MADE.

NOW, I WOULD ASSUME THAT THE JAPANESE USED EBAUCHES -MOVEMENTS WITHOUT THE TRAIN-, BUT OF EVERY 100 UNITS, ONLY 5 COULD BE SO. NOTE THE SWISS BARS ON THIS BEAUTY,

HERE IS A CENTER BLOOD RED SUN IMPERIAL WITH SUPER RARE SWEEP SECONDS. THE IMPERIAL HAD A FEW MOVEMENTS, NONE WERE AMERICAN. RATHER AN IMPERIAL WATCH CO MOVEMENT OR ONE OF SEVERAL SEIKOSHA “IMPERIAL” MOVEMENTS. ONLY THE SWISS IMPERIAL HAD SWEEPS!
THIS ONE IS SO DOGON RARE. IT IS AN IMPERIAL WWII HACKED CENTER SWEEP SECONDS MOVEMENT. 15 JEWELS, AND, WHAT WAS IN IT'S TIME, THE RAREST SHOCK ABSORBER SYSTEM.

DOUBLE HINGED CASES, WHILE EXPENSIVE IN IT'S DAY, WERE NOT AS COSTLY AS THE DOUBLE STEEL CASES. YET WHEN YOU HAVE OPPORTUNITY, NEVER TURN ONE DOWN.

THE LOCK DOWN FLIP SPRING IS HEAVILY CARVED KANJI

HERE WE HAVE A SILVER SEIKO 1920’S, FRESH FACT AS WAS. YET THIS KILLER HATTORI HAS A SEIKOSHA SWISS COPIED MOVEMENT. SILVER HINGED CASE WITH SILVER WIRE LUGS.

THIS HAPPENS TO BE PROOF THAT WATCHES FROM THE WWI ERA TO THE 1930’S IMPERIAL PERIOD WERE UTILIZED IN WWII. A WATCH WAS AN EXPENSIVE POSSESSION. THEY WERE HANDED DOWN. THIS BEAUTY HAS A 1942 STRAP, A EARLY 1920’S POCKET WATCH WITH WIRE LUGS AND A 1935 MILITARY COMPASS

A DOUBLE CASED SEIKO CHRONOMETER WITH OUT A DOUBT PROOF OF THE UNCANNY ABILITY THE JAPANESE HAVE FOR DUPLICATING WHAT EVER COME THEIR WAY.
GERMAN-SWISS MADE M.T. STAUFFER
“NEW JOCKEY CLUB” JAPANESE MILITARY
RATTRAPANTE. JAPANESE MILITARY
ENGRAVED HINGED CASE BACK. NOTE
WHAT IS LEFT OF THE RADIUM ILLUMINATION.
AT 60, 45 AND ON THE TWO
HANDS

HERE I MATCHED THE RADIUM SYSTEM
DOWN TO THE DOUBLE RATTRAPANTE.
HANDS. AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TASK
DUE TO THE CONSISTENCY OF
THE LUMINOVA IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE
ORIGINAL RADIUM.

HERE IS AN EARLY IMPERIAL ERA
MOERIS. SOLD BY HATTORI SEKIOSHA
NOTE: WIRE LUG / CRYSTAL GUARD
HAS A ETERNAL SUN DISC FOR
SUB SECOND HAND

THE NAVY ANCHOR THEN KANJI. THIS WATCH
IS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT SWISS. THE
HARDEST ASPECT OF THE RESTORATION
WAS RE-ILLUMINATING THE DIAL. IT LOOK
EXACTLY AS IT DID WHEN FIRST SHIPPED TO
JAPAN,

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THE
LUMINATION. IS NOT RADIUM–OF
COURSE,

JAPANESE IMPERIAL NAVY DECK WATCH.
AND RARE JAPANESE IMPERIAL NAVY
BATTLE GROUP
MEDAL/MEDALLION
1936 IMPERIAL ARMY FLAG IN ENAMEL & REPRESENTATIONS OF JAPANESE 1936 BATTLE SHIPS INCLUDING LARGEST BATTLE SHIP IN THE WORLD PERFORMING MANEUVERS CRUISING THE SEA WITH A PROPELLER DRIVEN AEROPLANE FLYING ABOVE IN THE CLOUDS.

SEIKOSHA JAPANESE ARMY MILITARY TIMER/STOP WATCH WITH adjustable YELLOW LEATHER SILVER & BRASS TIMER

WITH TRENCH ART CASE BACK

I HAVE RESTORED A FEW THOUSAND JAPANESE 1915 THROUGH 1945 WATCHES. FROM THE HATTORI CASED SWISS TO THE HYBRIDS TO THE TOTALLY SEIKOSHA DESIGNED AND BUILT— NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE THE AFTER WAR TO PRESENT.

THIS WAS AN OFFICERS SEIKOSHA WITH SEIKOSHA 7 JEWEL MOVEMENT. THE 7 JEWELS ARE FOR THE ESCAPEMENT, 4 FOR PALLET/PALLET FORK, 2 FOR BALANCE, 1 FOR ROLLER JEWEL WHY OFFICERS. NOTE THE SILVER COMPASS .. TOP OF THE LINE..

90% OF THESE WATCHES ARE DOUBLE CASED. THIS ONE WITH CATHEDRAL STYLE ILLUMINATED HANDS ARE PREMIUM WATCHES. NOTE THE RED 24HR AND THE RAISED AND OUTLINED ILLUMINATED NUMERALS.
ANOTHER RARE MODEL. I AM NOT STATING THEY "WERE" RARE, ONLY THAT THEY ARE NOW RARE. THOSE WITH THE RED 24HR TIME,

ANOTHER RED SUN. THIS HAS THE FIRST CLASS OUTER CHAPTER OF A DIFFERENT COLOR,

SEIKOSHA DELIKA 1923/1926 WITH THE MOST AMAZING SEIKOSHA DIAL - RESTORED OF COURSE – ANOTHER WITH RADIUM REMOVED & LUMINOVA UTILIZED. NOTE THE 24HR DIAL AND ORIGINAL BLACK MOON HANDS. THE INFLUENCE WERE TRENCH WATCHES.

IT AMAZES US TO SEE REAL STUFF LIKE THIS KILLER WATCH. AN IMPERIAL. I MEAN A SWISS MADE IMPERIAL MOVEMENT IN A JAPANESE CASE. THE LEATHER STRAP WAS 85 YEARS OLD, TOOK ROCK A WEEK TO RECONDITION & REPAIR. NOT THE COMPASS!

ANOTHER POCKET WATCH WITH RADIUM. OF COURSE ROCK PROFESSIONALLY REMOVED THE DEAD RADIUM AND SUBSTITUTED LUMINOVA. I LIKE TO TECH "WATCHERS" THE FACT THAT GERMANY DID NOT USE RADIUM ON SUBS. THEY USED PHOSPHOROUS ZINC MIX. READ "IRON COFFINS"

NOTE CASE BACK. WHEN COLLECTING THESE RARE AND FINE WATCHES BOTH KOREA AND CHINA PLAYED PROMINENT ROLES
ANOTHER RED SUN SEIKOSHA WITH A SLIGHTLY WIDER STRAP. THE BADGE IS POST WAR, I LIKE THESE WATCHES WITH RED SUNS. YOU CAN TELL THEY WERE ADDED AFTER PRODUCTION BECAUSE BOTH TWO ARE ALIKE.

HERE WE HAVE A RARE TRIPLE COMBO. IT IS A SEIKOSHA, BUILT POCKET WATCH WITH 24HR DIAL. THE MOVEMENT WAS COPIED FROM AN AMERICAN WALTHAM POCKET WATCH — BUILT ENTIRELY BY SEIKOSHA.

WHAT MAKES THIS AN UNUSUAL PIECE IS THE JAPANESE TOKYO HAND MADE LEATHER CASE. ON THE FRONT SIDE ARE NUMERALS STAMPED AROUND A SMALL OPENING. LIKE THE METAL COBBLERS YET IN LEATHER SO WELL MADE WITH TOP LINE LEATHER, IT SURVIVED 85 YEARS …

NOTE THE SMALL OPENING, JUST ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE HANDS AND THE 24 HR RED CHAPTER CAN BE VIEWED WITH EASE

WHAT A BEAUTY. DIAL IS AS GREAT AS THOSE I DEMONSTRATED AS TOP LEVEL 28/29MM WITH FANCY DIALS LIKE MOVADO, GALLET, OMEGA, PARA, CONCORD, ORIS, IMPERIAL AND OTHERS.

NOTE THE STEEL BAND, THIS WAS WITHOUT A DOUBT AN AMERICAN STEEL BRACELET WITH A JAPANESE POST WAR NAVY SERVICE BADGE. STUNNING AND RUNNING..

THE JAPANESE WERE NO DIFFERENT THAN THE AMERICANS OR BRITISH, THEY SUPPLIED SOME TIME PIECES. THESE WERE IDENTIFIED BY THE DIALS. A STAR FOR THE ARMY, A CHERRY BLOSSOM FOR AIR CREWS, AND AN ANCHOR FOR THE NAVY. THE WATCH AT RIGHT IS A SEIKOSHA WITH A JAPANESE SWISS COPIED MOVEMENT.

AS WE SEE THE STAR UNDER THE 12 ABOVE TO THE LEFT IS A NAVY VERSION WITH THE ANCHOR ON THE CASE BACK.

NOTE THE NAVAL EMBLEM CONSISTING OF AN ANCHOR, SERIAL AND OUTFIT NUMBER.

IN SOME CASES –PUN INTENDED– THE MOVEMENTS WERE ALL SWISS. THE ONE AT LEFT IS A 15J SWISS MOVEMENT. IT SEEMED THAT THESE EXTREMELY RARE MODELS ACTUALLY WERE GRAVED OR STAMPED MODELS.

THIS NATION WAS AWESOME, IT WAS SNAPPED UP PRETTY QUICK. NO DOUBT IT WAS WHAT I CALL WAR UPDATED WITH RED 24HR CHAPTER. THE HANDS ARE SPECIAL AS FAR AS SEIKOSHA SEIKO WAS CONCERNED. JUST LOOK AT MOVEMENT...,
SIGNED SEIKOSHA 15 JEWELS MEANS THIS WAS TOP WWII MOVEMENT. MOST DO NOT EVEN SAY THEY HAVE A JEWEL LET ALONE 15. WE FIND MOST OF THESE WITH NONE JEWEL TO 7 JEWELER. THIS IS A SWISS MOVEMENT.

THE BACK OF THE CASE IS AWESOME. NOTE THE ENGLISH BONKLIP BRACELET. WHILE THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME OF THESE TAKEN FROM POW's, I BELIEVE IT WAS ADDED LATER.

GOOGLE "GOLDSMITHWORKS JAPANESE IMPERIAL WWII" SELECT IMAGES
FEB 18 2015
THIS IS OUR 21ST FIND IN THE LAST 16 YEARS
THIS GALLET IS AN EARLY 1930'S LAURAL!

Gallet Hattori Trade Mark
GALLET [JAPANESE/SEIKOSHA] TRADE MARK
[HATTORI WAS SEIKOSHA]
(1862–1934)

Japanese fan and Laural trademark, registered in 1896 by Julien Gallet (1862–1934). This mark was used to import Gallet Swiss watches into Japan by Kintaro Hattori, founder of Hattori, Sekiosha and Seiko. Hattori would be Gallet's trade partner during the late 19th to the early 20 century. Hattori would be sole agent for Gallet, Longines and other top grade Swiss watch companies.
Japanese Yokosuka MXY-7 **Ohka** ("cherry blossom")
A specially built rocket-powered kamikaze aircraft. The U.S. called them **Baka Bombs** ("idiot bombs").
SEIKO

Ohka

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