SPECIALTY AND DISTINGUISHING MARKS:
U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, U.S. Coast Guard,
by
Sarge Booker

Rating Badge - 1897
From Uniform Regulations
(Chief Master-at-Arms)

3rd Revision, 17 November 1996
NOTE: U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE SPECIALTY MARKS ARE MAROON ON ALL RATES.

ARMORER (1885-93)

(U.S.C. & G.S.) ASSISTANT TO ENGINEER (1926)

NOTE: GOLD TRIANGLE ON SILVER DISC

(U.S.P.H.S.) AUTO DRIVER (1937)

(U.S.P.H.S.) AUTO MECHANIC (1937)

AVIATION ANTISUBMARINE WARFARE OPERATOR (1968-94)

AVIATION ANTISUBMARINE WARFARE TECHNICIAN (1963-)

AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATE (1944-)

AVIATION CARPENTER'S MATE (1921-40)
**AVIATION ELECTRICIAN'S MATE**

(1945-47)

**AVIATION ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN**

(1947-48)

**AVIATION ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN'S MATE**

(1945-48)

**AVIATION FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN**

(1954-)

**AVIATION FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN**

(1945-48)

**AVIATION GENERAL UTILITY**

(1926-58)
NOTE: Aviation Pilot was yellow until 1944, changed to white or blue.

AVIATION PILOT (1924-33)

AVIATION PILOT (1924-33)

AVIATION PILOT (1942-48)

AVIATION PILOT (1942-48)

AVIATION PILOT (1942-48)

AVIATION PILOT (1942-48)

AVIATION QUARTERMASTER (1918-21)

N/A AVIATION RADAR MAN (1942-47)

AVIATION RADOMAN (1942-48)

AVIATION RADIO TECHNICIAN (1942-45)
CAPTAIN OF THE HOLD (1885-93)
CAPTAINS OF THE TOPS (1885-93)
(U.S.C.G.) CARPENTER (1917)
(U.S.C.&G.S.) CARPENTER (1926)
(U.S.P.H.S.) CARPENTER (1914)
(U.S.P.H.S.) CARPENTER (1937)
CARPENTER'S MATE (1885-1948)
CARPENTER'S MATE, AVIATION (1918-21)
CHIEF MUSICIAN
(PETTY OFFICER 2ND CL.)

(U.S.P.H.S.)
CLERK

(U.S.P.H.S.)
COACHMAN

COMMISSARYMAN

COMMISSARY STEWARD

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN

NOTE: WORN BELOW RATING BADGE.
(U.S.P.H.S.)
COXSWAIN
(1914)
(1937)

CRYPTOLOGIC
TECHNICIAN
(1976-)

DAMAGE CONTROLMAN
(1948-72)

DATA PROCESSING
TECHNICIAN
(1967-)

DATA SYSTEMS TECH.
(1963-)

DENTAL TECHNICIAN
(1948-)

DISBURSING CLERK
(1948-)

DRAFTSMAN
(1948-61)
NOTE: HOSPITAL STEWARD SPECIALTY MARKS ARE RED ON ALL UNIFORMS.

(U.S.P.H.S.)
HEAD PAINTER
(1937)

HOSPITAL APPRENTICE
FIRST CLASS (PO3)
(1898-1916)

HOSPITAL CORPSMAN
(1948-)

HOSPITAL STEWARD
(1898-1916)

HULL MAINTENANCE
TECHNICIAN
(1972-)

ILLUSTRATOR DRAFTSMAN
(1961-)

(U.S.P.H.S.)
INSPECTOR
(1937)

INSTRUMENTMAN
(1948-)

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COMMAND

(1969-73)

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE FLEET/COMMAND

(1973-75)

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE FLEET/FORCE

(1975-)

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY
(MCGM DELBERT BLACK)

(1968-71)

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY
(MCADM JOHN WHITTET)

(1971-72)

NOTE: MCPON WEAR A TINSEL OR SILVER BULLION STAR & EAGLE.

(1972-)

MECHANIC

(1948-58)

MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

(1975-)
PHOTOGRAPHER (1921-42)
PHOTOGRAPHER'S MATE (1942-48)
PHOTOGRAPHER'S MATE (1948-)
PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE MAN (1958-75)
(U.S.P.H.S.) PILOT (1914) (1937)
PIPEFITTER (1948-58)
PLUMBER AND FITTER (1893-1921) (1ST CLASS ONLY)
(U.S.C.G.) PORT SECURITYMAN (1ST)
PORT SECURITYMAN (2ND)
NOTE: ALSO REPORTED WITHOUT LETTERS "PS" ON THE SHIELD.

PRESCRIPTION CLERK

QUARTER GUNNER

QUARTERMASTER

QUARTERMASTER

QUARTERMASTER, AVIATION
TORPEDOMAN'S MATE
(NM)
(1942-48)

TRANSPORTATION CORPS SCHOOL
(U.S. ARMY)
(WW2)

TRADESMAN
(1948–)

TURRET CAPTAIN
(1903-48)

UNDERWATER MECHANIC
(1948-48)

UTILITIESMAN
(1948–)

WATER TENDER
(1885-1948)

NOTE: Shown in Rudy Basurto's book "Insignia of America's Little Known Seafarers."

NOTE: Facing left also known.

NOTE: Probably never issued.
(U.S.C.G.) WATER TENDER (1917)

(1987-94) WEAPONS TECHNICIAN

(U.S.C.G.) WHEELMAN (1917)

(U.S.C&G.S) WIRELESS OPERATOR (1926)

(U.S.C&G.S) WRITER (1926)

(U.S.P.H.S.) X-RAY WORKER (1937)

NOTE: TRIANGLE IS GOLD ON SILVER DISC & QUILL-PENS.

(U.S.P.H.S.) YARDMAN (1914) (1937)

(1896-) YEOMAN
EMERGENCY SERVICE RATINGS - SPECIALTY MARKS - LETTERS

NOTE: LETTERS "J," "L," AND "N" WERE NEVER AUTHORIZED.

ATHLETIC INSTRUCTOR (1942-44)

PHYSICAL TRAINING INSTRUCTOR (1944-48)

AIRSHIP RIGGER (1948-55)

AIRCRAFT CARBURATOR MECHANIC (1956-59)

MASTER-AT-ARM'S (SHORE) (1948-54)

STEVEDORE (1958-65)

CLASSIFICATION (1942-42)

CLASSIFICATION INTERVIEWER (1943-48)
NOTE: Double letters, except "CB," used exclusively by the U.S.C.G.
CHEMICAL WARFAREMAN

(Dog-Horse Handler (Beach Patrol) (USCG) (WW2)

CHEMICAL WARFAREMAN (1945-48)

MOTION PICTURE SERVICE (BOOKER)

RECREATION AND WELFARE ASSISTANT (1945-48)

PHYSICAL TRAINING INSTRUCTOR (1948-65)

FIRE FIGHTER (1944-65)

GUNNERY INSTRUCTOR (1942-43)
AVIATION FREE GUNNERY INSTRUCTOR (1943-48)

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNERY INSTRUCTOR (1944-48)

HARBOR DEFENSE SONAR MAN (1959-65)

I.B.M. OPERATOR (1942-42)

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINE (IBM) OPERATOR (1942-43)

PUNCHED CARD ACCOUNTING MACHINE OPERATOR (1943-48)

INSTRUCTOR (MISC.) (1948-65)

CHEMICAL WARFAREMAN (1948-55)
PHOTOGRAPHER
(1942-44)
MOTION PICTURE
TECHNICIAN
(1944-48)

PORT LIAISON
(U.S.C.G.)
(WW2)

PUBLIC RELATIONS
(U.S.C.G.)
(WW2)

PORT SECURITY PATROL
(U.S.C.G.)
(WW2)

PORT SECURITY PATROLMAN
(U.S.C.G.)
(WW2)

PATROL TORPEDO BOAT
★N/A
(1943-44)

PATROL TORPEDO BOAT
★N/A
(1943-44)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patrol Torpedo Boat</td>
<td>1943-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1943-43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1943-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptographer</td>
<td>1946-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiter</td>
<td>1942-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruiter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Man</td>
<td>1948-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainer</td>
<td>1942-42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SHORE PATROL AND SECURITY (1943-48)

SPECIALIST S (V-10) - MASTER AT ARMS (WAVE) (1943-43)

PERSONNEL SUPERVISOR (V-10) (1943-48)

SHORE PATROLMAN (1948-54)

TEACHER (DRAFTSMAN) (1943-44)

TEACHER (JAM HANDY INSTRUCTOR, V-10) (1943-44)

TRANSPORTATIONSMAN (U.S.C.G.) (WW2)
(1943-43)  UTILITY (V-10 STEWARDESS)

(1948-65)  (BOOKER) MOTION PICTURE SERVICE

(1948-62)  AVIATION PILOT

(1948-65)  WELFARE AND RECREATION LEADER

(1943-48)  UTILITY (V-10)

(1942-48)  TRANSPORT AIRMAN

(1942-46)  WELFARE (CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANT)

(1943-48)  ENGINEERING DRAFTSMAN
1945-57
CABLE CENSOR

1945-61
ARTIST

1945-46
BOMBING TRAINING INSTRUCTOR (V-10)

1943-48
SPECIALIST (NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED)

1943-48
CONTROL TOWER OPERATOR

1943-48
DANGEROUS CARGOMAN

(U.S.C.G.)
TANKER LOADING INSPECTOR

(U.S.C.G.)
(1950's)

UNKNOWN
NOTE: Late additions and changes of specialty mark designations.

- **AVIATION WARFARE SYSTEMS OPERATOR** (1994–)
- **BAYMAN** (1917)
- **BUGLER** (1917)
- **COASTAL FORCESMAN** (1917)
- **NAVAL MILITIA** (1910–22)
- **SEAMAN RADIOMAN** (1927–45)
- **UNKNOWN** (1885–1916)
- **YEOMAN** (1885–1916)
NOTE: Variations shown to show differences of manufacturers.

AEROGRAPHER'S MATE (1942-)

AIR CONTROLMAN (1948-)

AIRCRAFT CARBURATOR MECHANIC (1956-59)

AIRCRAF SURVIVAL EQUIPMENTMAN (1965-)

AIRSHIP RIGGER (1944-48)

AIRSHIP RIGGER (1948-55)

EMBLEM 

SILVER BULLION SPECIALTY MARKS

NOTE: Bullion letters on specialty marks are uncommon.
AVIATION ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN'S MATE (1947-48)

AVIATION ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN'S MATE (1947-48)

AVIATION FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN (1954-)

★ N/A AVIATION GENERAL UTILITY (1926-58)

AVIATION GUIDED MISSILEMAN (1955-60)

AVIATION MACHINISTS MATE (1921-)

AVIATION MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATION MAN (1963-)

AVIATION ORDNANCE MAN (1926-)
GAS TURBINE SYSTEM TECHNICIAN (1978–)

GUNNER’S MATE (1885–)

HOSPITAL CORPSMAN (1948–)

HOSPITAL CORPSMAN (1948–)

HOSPITAL CORPSMAN (1948–)

HOSPITAL CORPSMAN (1948–)
INTELLIGENCE SPECIALIST (1975-)
INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRICIAN (1948-)

JOURNALIST (1948-)
LEGALMAN (1973-)

LITHOGRAPHER (1948-)
MACHINERY REPAIRMAN (1948-)

MACHINIST'S MATE (1904-)
MACHINIST'S MATE (1904-)
MISSILE TECHNICIAN (1961-)
MOLDEN (1948-)
MOTOR MACHINIST'S MATE (1942-48)
MUSICIAN (1944-)
NAVY COUNSELOR (1974-)
NUCLEAR WEAPONS MAN (1957-61)
OCEAN SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN (1970-)
OCEAN SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN (1970-)
TORPEDOMAN'S MATE (1942-48)
TRADESMAN (1948-)
TRADESMAN (1948-)
TRANSPORT AIRMAN (1942-48)
TURRET CAPTAIN (1903-48)
(BOGUS) UNDERWATER MECHANIC (1948-48)
(BOGUS) UNDERWATER MECHANIC (1948-48)
UNDERWATER MECHANIC (1948-65)
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SILVER SPECIALTY MARKS

(U.S.C.G.) INVESTIGATOR

(U.S.C.G.) MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

(U.S.C.G.) PORT SECURITYMAN

(U.S.C.G.) SUBSISTENCE SPECIALIST

BOGUS SILVER BULLION SPECIALTY MARKS

(BOGUS) (1918-21) AVIATION QUARTERMASTER

★ N/A (1886-1958) SEAMAN GUNNER

(BOGUS) (1885-93) SHIP'S COOK

(BOGUS) (1948-48) UNDERWATER MECHANIC
DISTINGUISHING MARKS

ADVANCED UNDERSEA WEAPONS MAN (1949-61)

AEROGRAPHER (1926-48)

AIR GUNNER (1943-46)
AIRCRAFT GUNNER (1948-58)
AIRCRAFT MACHINEGUNNER, SECOND CLASS (1946-48)

AIRCRAFT MACHINEGUNNER
FIRST CLASS (1946-48)
(Not substantiated for wear)*
AIRCREWMAN (1958-75)

AIRSHIP INSIGNIA (1943-66)

AMPHIBIOUS INSIGNIA, UNAUTHORIZED "PUKING ALLIGATOR" (WW2)
BUGLER (1912-20)
BUGLER, 1ST & 2ND CLASS (1920-48)

BUGLER, U.S.C.G. (WWI)

COMMUNICATIONS AWARD - NAVY "C" (Unauthorized)

CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (1942-44)
(Unauthorized with a diamond shape border)
CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (1942-44)

- Master Diver (1929-69) Diver Insignia
- Diver 1st Class (1929-73)
- Diver 2nd Class (1943-73)
- Diver 3rd Class (*N/A)
- Diver, Deep Sea (1957-69)
- Diver, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (*N/A)
- Diver, Salvage (1963-69)
- Diver, Scuba (1960-73)
- Diver, Underwater Demolitions Team (*N/A)
The Diver's Distinguishing Mark was originally approved for 1st Class with no number or letter on the breast plate, and for Master Diver with the letter "M" on the breast plate. The numeral "1" was added for 1st Class when Diver 2nd Class was introduced in 1943. This mark was discontinued in favor of a metal qualification badge in 1973.
EXPERT PISTOL SHOT (1931-44)
EXPERT RIFLEMAN (1915-44)

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSALMAN (1949-59)
EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN (1959-68)

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSALMAN
(FIRST CLASS) NEVER AUTHORIZED
NOTE FIVE POINTED STAR POINT DOWN
ALSO THE POSITION OF THE BOMB
AND TORPEDO ARE REVERSED.

(SILVER BULLION EMBROIDERED ON
NAVY BLUE TWILL)

INSERT AT TOP OF PAGE 63
OF STACEY'S BOOK

FIRE CONTROL RADAR OPERATOR (1949-70)
GUNNER'S MATE (1942-48)

GUN RANGE FINDER OPERATOR (1924-70)
SEAMAN FIRE CONTROLMAN (1942-45)

HARBOR NET TENDER (WW2)

HOSPITAL APPRENTICE (1893-1948)

INTRA-DEPARTMENT AWARDS (1950s)

WHITE A - ANTISUBMARINE WEAPONS AND OPERATIONS.
GREEN C - COMMUNICATIONS.
YELLOW C - UNABLE TO IDENTIFY.
RED DC - DAMAGE CONTROL.
BLACK E - AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.
BLUE F - Supply Department.
GREEN E - Combat Information Center.
WHITE E - Gun Firing Systems
AND SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE SYSTEMS.

YELLOW E - AIR DEPARTMENTS, CVA AND CVS SHIPS.
WHITE EW - ELECTRONIC WARFARE.
WHITE M - MINESweepING AND Assault Boat Operations.
BLACK W - WEAPONS DEPARTMENTS, CVA AND CVS SHIPS.
MAST (1915-15)

MASTER GUN POINTER (NOT AUTHORIZED)

MASTER HORIZONTAL BOMBER (1936-58)
HORIZONTAL BOMBER OR HORIZONTAL BOMBER, FIRST CLASS (NOT AUTHORIZED)
NAVAL AVIATION PILOT (1933-35)
NAVAL AVIATION PILOTS (1933-35)

NAVAL MILITIA (1910-22)

NAVY "E" (1906-75)
NAVY "E" AWARD RIBBON (1975-PRESENT)
(YELLOW, WHITE, BLUE, WHITE, YELLOW)
(SILVER METAL "E" CENTERED ON RIBBON)

NAVY "E" AWARD RIBBON

NAVY E 1906-1975
NAVY E 1938-1957
NAVY E 1957-1975

Navy E (USNA only)
OFFICERS' STEWARDS AND COOKS (1924-44)
3RD, 2ND & 1ST CLASS (1924-44) (1, 2, & 3 BARS)
CHIEF (1942-44) (4 BARS)

ORDNANCE BATTALION (1943-58)
(DIAMOND BORDER UNAUTHORIZED)
PARACHUTEMAN (1941-46) (Unauthorized)

PATROL TORPEDO BOAT (1943-44)

PT  PT  PT  PT  PT

QUARTERMASTER (1942-48)
SIGNALMAN (1912-18)

RIFLE, PISTOL OR CARBINE SHARPSHOOTER (1949-70)
RIFLE SHARPSHOOTER (1931-49)
SHARPSHOOTER (1915-15)

WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THE MARKSMAN-SHARPSHOOTER EXPERT RIFLEMAN DMs AS SHOWN ON PAGE 69 OF JOHN STACEY'S BOOK.

WHAT TITLE COULD WE GIVE THIS UNAUTHORIZED DISTINGUISHING MARK?
SEAMAN SIGNALMAN (1927-45)
QUARTERMASTERS QUALIFIED AS SIGNALMAN (1918-21)

SEAMAN WATCHMAN (WW2)

SHIPWRIGHT (1912-21)

SHIP'S COOK, 3RD & 4TH CLASS (1908-21)
BAKER, 2ND CLASS (1908-21)
OFFICER'S STEWARDS AND COOKS (1921-24)

SIGNALMAN (1912-18)(SHIP'S WHEEL)
QUARTERMASTERS QUALIFIED AS SIGNALMEN (1918-21)(CROSSED SIGNAL FLAGS)
SUBMARINE INSIGNIA (1924-50)

TORPEDOMEN (1929-48)
GUNNER'S MATES QUALIFIED AS TORPEDOMEN (1912-21)

UNKNOWN INSIGNIA
UNITED STATES NAVY
AMPHIBIOUS INSIGNIA

A message from the Chief of Naval Personnel dated 24 April 1943, replying to a request from Landing Craft School, Amphibious Force Pacific Fleet, San Diego, specifically stated that the mark with an alligator disgorging tanks being sold by tailors in the San Diego areas was not authorized. This as well as a multi-colored shoulder patch.