

## Engineer Diver Badges, 1944-present



**Left to right, badges for a master diver, a first class diver, a salvage diver, and a second class diver.**

Army Regulation 35-1485, 10 April 1943, established monthly pay for engineer divers and a new edition of AR 600-35, issued in March 1944, established these four badges. The four diver badges were the only World War II badges that recognized a specific MOS. These hard-hat divers cleared harbors and canals, removing sunken ships and barges and repairing of bridges. During the Korean War army divers helped reconstruct ports and harbors.

Recently master divers are engineering diving personnel in the pay grades E-7 and E-8. First class divers are in the pay grade E-6 and MOS 21D30. They prepare and direct diving operations equipment and watercraft and supervise recompression chambers. A soldier must have served as a salvage diver for three years before receiving the first class diver badge. Currently salvage diving pay is \$170 per month. Salvage divers are enlisted personnel in the E-5 pay grade who have served at least 18 months as a diver. Current second class divers are normally E-4s or below.