

Navy Distinguished Service Medal

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The **Navy Distinguished Service Medal** is a military award of the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps which was first created in 1919. ^[1] The decoration the Navy and Marine Corps equivalent to the Army Distinguished Service Medal and the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal. The Navy Distinguished Service Medal was originally senior to the Navy Cross, until August 1943 when the precedence of the two decorations was reversed.

The Navy Distinguished Service Medal is bestowed upon members of the Navy or Marine Corps who distinguish themselves by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States government in a duty of great responsibility.^[1] The term “great responsibility” implies senior military responsibility, and the decoration is normally only bestowed to senior Navy Flag and Marine Corps General Officers. The decoration is rarely awarded to enlisted personnel, and then only to those who hold extremely senior enlisted positions such as the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. Additional awards of the Navy Distinguished Service Medal ^[2] are annotated by gold award stars.

The first award of the decoration was a posthumous presentation to Brigadier General Charles A. Doyen, USMC, on March 13, 1919.

Notable recipients

- David W. Bagley
- Jeremy Michael Boorda (with 2 gold stars)
- Ralph Austin Bard
- Omar Bradley
- Miles Browning
- Smedley Butler
- Richard E. Byrd
- Michael D-L. Dennis
- Charles W. Dyson
- Thomas Edison
- Daniel V. Gallery
- Roy Alexander Gano
- Chester Gordon

Navy Distinguished Service Medal	
	
Awarded by United States Navy	
Type	Medal
Awarded for	"distinguishing oneself with exceptional meritorious service to the Government in a duty of great responsibility.
Status	Currently Awarded
Statistics	
Established	4 February, 1919
First awarded	Brigadier General Charles A. Doyen, USMC 13 March, 1919
Precedence	
Next (higher)	Army - Distinguished Service Cross Navy - Navy Cross Air Force - Air Force Cross
Equivalent	Distinguished Service Medal: Defense, Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard
Next (lower)	Silver Star
	
Navy Distinguished Service Medal ribbon	

- John L. Hall, Jr.
- William F. Halsey, Jr. (with 3 gold stars)
- H. Kent Hewitt
- Frank B. Kelso II (with 2 gold stars)
- Ernest J. King (with 2 gold stars)
- John A. Lejeune
- Douglas MacArthur
- Mildred H. McAfee
- Joseph V. Medina
- Michael Mullen (with 1 gold star)
- Wendell C. Neville
- Hyman G. Rickover
- Chester W. Nimitz (with 3 gold stars)
- Frank Ruez
- Eli Thomas Reich (with gold star)
- Harry Schmidt (with 2 gold stars)
- Harold Rainsford Stark
- James Stockdale (with 2 gold stars)
- Randall G Schugart
- Stanley R Tanka
- David W. Taylor
- Patricia A. Tracey
- Pedro del Valle
- Alexander Vandegrift
- Theodore S. Wilkinson
- Jerauld Wright (with gold star)
- Elmo Zumwalt (with 2 gold stars)
- Andrew Cunningham, 1st Viscount Cunningham of Hyndhope, Royal Navy

See also

- Air Force Distinguished Service Medal
- Distinguished Service Medal (Army)
- Awards and decorations of the United States military



References



1. ^{*a*} ^{*b*} "TITLE 10, Subtitle C, PART II, CHAPTER 567, § 6243". *U.S. Code*. http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode10/usc_sec_10_00006243----000-.html. Retrieved on 2006-12-12.
2. ^{*a*} "TITLE 10, Subtitle C, PART II, CHAPTER 567, § 6247". *U.S. Code*. http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode10/usc_sec_10_00006247----000-.html. Retrieved on 2006-12-12.

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Categories: United States Marine Corps awards | United States Navy awards | Recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal

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