Mineman perform their duties at sea aboard minesweepers assisting in the detection and neutralization of underwater mines. Ashore, minemen are technicians who test, assemble and maintain underwater explosive devices (mines). They test various electronic components to ensure proper repair and make sure that the mine works properly. They are also responsible for safe storage, handling and loading of mines for transporting.

School
Class “A” Technical School
Present Location: Ingleside, TX.
Approximate Training Time: 11 weeks
Subjects: Basic skills in locating and neutralization of mines.
Training Methods: Group instruction

After “A” school, minemen may be assigned to minesweepers. During a 20-year period in the Navy, MNs spend about 40 percent of their time assigned to shore facilities and 60 percent to minesweepers.

What They Do

The duties performed by minemen include:
- operating sonar systems for detection and classification of contacts;
- functioning in the minesweeping tactical nerve center (CIC) of their ships as part of the command and control team;
- handling and operating deck-loaded mine neutralization equipment;
- performing maintenance on and assembling mines;
- performing electrical and electronic checks and tests of circuitry and components;
- solving complex electronic problems when tests fail;
- operating various types of mine handling equipment such as forklifts, cranes and heavy transport trucks;
- operating various types of hand equipment such as sandblasters, grinders and pneumatic torque tools;
- working with basic mechanic hand tools, electrical meters and electronic test equipment.

Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate or lower-division bachelor’s/associate’s degree categories for courses taken in this rating on electricity and electronics, applied mathematics and blueprint reading.

Qualifications and Interests

Manual dexterity, mechanical ability and teamwork are important qualifications. Minemen should be competent in mathematics, possess a good memory and curiosity, and have the ability to perform intricate detailed work. Qualities such as good writing and communication skills, resourcefulness and flexibility are helpful. MNs must be U.S. citizens eligible for security clearances. Normal color perception is required.

Working Environment

Work in the MN rating is usually performed in a small shop-type setting. Minemen work closely as a team, and individual jobs require both physical and mental talents at sea and ashore.

Opportunities

In a small community of about 840 men and women that will grow to 930, the MN rating is open to only highly qualified applicants.