



ATTESTATION FORM
(HOSTILITIES FORM)

P080819

N. V. 5

25M-9-40 (6793)
N.S. 815-11-5

N.S. 113-R.602
CANADA

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME ROBERTSON. OFFICIAL NO. V.24172
CHRISTIAN NAMES Robert. Gordon. MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Single.

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
<u>Ste. 8 Green & Lister Blk. Winnipeg, Man.</u>	<u>United.</u>

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<u>Birth Certificate has been seen.</u> <u>29th November, 1919.</u>	Town <u>Minnitonas.</u> County Province <u>Manitoba.</u>	<u>Mother(Mary ROBERTSON)</u> <u>Same Address.</u>
*Original Nationality of: Father <u>Scotch.</u> Mother <u>Scotch.</u>		

*If not the son of natural born British parents, particulars to be given at foot of next page

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION ON ENROLMENT

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COMPLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet <u>5</u> Inches <u>10</u>	Inflated <u>37</u> Deflated <u>34</u> Mean <u>35</u>	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Scar on calf of right leg.</u>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING ENROLLING FOR	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<u>21st October, 1940.</u>	<u>Ord. Seaman.</u>	<u>Salesman(Blue Ribbon Ltd.)</u>
R.C.N.V.R. Division (or other establishment) at which enrolled <u>WINNIPEG.</u>		

(B) DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY APPLICANT

I hereby declare as follows:—

- (1) That I am a British Subject domiciled in Canada.
- (2) That I am desirous of being enrolled as a member of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Force, and that I accept and agree to abide by the rules of the said Force.
- (3) That * (a) I have never served, and am not serving in any Naval, Military, Reserve, or Territorial Force.

* (b) I served in XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX for the period shown, and attach my record of service in corroboration of this statement

*Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM

Personnel Records
To

1. Noted in Records
2. Index Card
3. Non-3a Card
4. Statement Card
5. Record Card
6. Pension Card
- 7.
- 8.

DATE 7-11-40.

(c) I have never been rejected for or discharged from any of His Majesty's Forces on account of unfitness.

(4) That the particulars contained above are correct and true according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Handwritten signature/initials

(3) On being enrolled as a member of the WINNIPEG. Division of the
Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I undertake to bind myself:—

(a) To serve from the date thereof for the duration of hostilities, being subject to the provisions of the Naval Service Act, and of the Regulations made in pursuance thereof for the government of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, and to the customs and usages of His Majesty's Canadian Naval Service.

(b) To report for active service if called upon in time of war or emergency, and, if called into active service, to serve ashore or afloat as may be directed, according to where my services are required.

(c) To keep in good repair and condition the articles of uniform and any articles of outfit which may be issued to me and to return them to the nearest Divisional Commanding Officer or to Training Headquarters prior to my discharge or when required so to do by any authorized person, or to pay compensation for any loss or damage thereto other than fair wear and tear; and also not to wear such uniform or outfit (which is and remains the property of the Crown) except when on naval duty.

(d) To undergo vaccination or re-vaccination, or inoculation, as considered necessary by the appropriate authorities.

Dated this 21st day of October, 1940.

Signature of applicant

G. Robertson

(C) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

I hereby certify that all the foregoing statements were made by the volunteer above named, in my presence, and that he has made and signed the above declaration in my presence on this 21st

day of October, 1940.

D. C. Lennox

A / Lieutenant RCNVR
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Robert, Gordon, ROBERTSON. do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Britannic Majesty, His heirs and successors according to law.

Signature of Applicant

G. Robertson

Witness

D. C. Lennox

Date 21st October, 1940.

Rank

A / Lieutenant RCNVR

The Oath of Allegiance may be administered by a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service.

(E) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

Robert, Gordon, ROBERTSON. having been duly enrolled to serve in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Force, I have caused his name and every prescribed particular to be recorded in the Record Book of the WINNIPEG. Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

D. C. Lennox

Attesting Officer.

21st October, 1940.

R.C.N.V.R. Division
(or other establishment)

WINNIPEG.

NOTE.—This form when completed and when the particulars on it have been noted in the Divisional Commanding Officer's Record Book, is to be forwarded to Headquarters, Ottawa, for custody.

The Certificate of medical examination, B-207, and certificates of previous service are to be sent to Headquarters, Ottawa, with this form.

Certificates of previous service will be returned after they have been examined at Headquarters, Ottawa.

N.V. 17
15M-4-40 (4717)
N.S. 815-11-17

NOV 25 1940

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

Iden. Card #6644

Robert Gordon ROBERTSON.

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number <i>V. 24172</i>
<i>ESQUIMALT</i>	<i>WINNIPEG</i>	"

Date of Birth.....*29th November, 1919.*

Place of Birth.....*Minnitonas, Manitoba.*

Place of Residence.....*28 Ontario Street Bagin*

Trade brought up to.....*Salesman.*

Religion.....*United.*

Name and Address of Nearest
Relative or Friend
(in pencil)

*MOTHER: MARY ROBERTSON
313 ROYAL AVE.
WEST KILDONAN
WINNIPEG, MAN.
14/12/44*

Can Swim:—P.P.T. Date.....19..... Signature..... Rank.....

P.S.T. Date.....19..... Signature..... Rank.....

PARTICULARS OF SERVICE				MEDALS, DECORATIONS, etc.		
Date of Actual Volunteering	Date of Enrolment or re-enrolment	Period Volunteered for	Rating on Enrolment or Re-enrolment	Date of		Nature of Decoration
				Award	Presentation	
	<i>21 Oct '40</i>	<i>Hostil.</i>	<i>O'Smn.</i>	<i>17 Feb 44</i>	<i>Can. Volunteer Service Medal</i>	
						<i>and Clasp. Commemorative award</i>
				<i>17 Feb 44</i>	<i>1939-43 Star. Hon. award</i>	
						<i>1</i>

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
—	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	5	10	35	148½	Brown	Blue	Fair	Scar on calf Rt.leg.
On re-enrolment—6 years' Service.....								
On re-enrolment—12 years' Service.....								
Further Description if necessary.....								

TRANSFER BETWEEN DIVISIONS			TRANSFER—LISTS A AND B		
From	To	Date	List	Date	Authority

NAVAL TRAINING and ACTIVE SERVICE

[illegible]

Wounds Received in Action, Hurt Certificates, Meritorious Service, Special Recommendations, Prizes or other Grants

[illegible]

29
10
8

CHARGE

d

na''

.....7761046

6. date 183-43

20.9.43

Dead to

L. 45

4.1.5.2

460195

29 Jan '41

10 Jan - '41

8 Feb '41

.....M. M. H.

Qual a/g, day

Equal & Rated Offer

Qualified Tel

Amberg 1. 11

[Handwritten signature]

Lt. E. J. H. H. H. H.

W. E. Leigh

Pr. Capote

DEC
.....
6

.....

VR

7.

..... 10

11

.....

10 1857

.....

.....

Ident Card No. 6648

[illegible]

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Conduct

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT (Inclusive Dates)				CHARACTER, ABILITY IN RATING ON COMPLETION OF TRAINING, DISCHARGE FROM THE SERVICE, AND ANNUALLY, 31st DECEMBER, WHILE MOBILIZED			
From		To		Character	Efficiency in Rating Noting Substantive Rating in Brackets	Date	Captain's Signature
				V.G.	(O'Smn) <i>Sat.</i>	6 Dec '40	<i>T. G. Norex</i>
				V. G.	<i>Sat. (Ord. Ann.)</i>	31 Dec '40	<i>J. Edwards.</i>
				V.O.	<i>Sat. (Sel.)</i>	31 Dec '41	<i>P. Henderson.</i>
				V.G.	<i>Sat (Sel)</i>	31 Dec '42	<i>Edw David</i>
				V.G.	<i>Sat (Sel)</i>	31 Dec '43	<i>S. W. Smith</i>
				V.G.	<i>Sat (Sel)</i>	31 Dec '44	<i>B. R. Smith</i>
				V.G.	<i>Sat (Sel)</i>	18 March '45	<i>W. G. Bell</i>
R.C.N.V.R. GOOD CONDUCT AND GOOD SERVICE BADGES							
Date	G.S.B. or G.C.B.	1st, 2nd, 3rd	Granted, Deprived, Restored				
22 Nov '43	SCB	1st	<i>AG1068</i> <i>Granted</i>				
TIME FORFEITED							
Date	P., D.C., C.P., or W.T.	No. of Days					
		Awarded	Served				

OFFICIAL NUMBER...V24172

NAME.....ROBERTSON

.....
(Surname)

Robert Gordon
(Given Names)

(Given Names)

...DATE OF BIRTH.....29th November, 1919

PLACE OF BIRTH.....Minnitonas, Man.

..... OCCUPATION..... Salesman (Blue Ribbon Ltd)

RELIGION.....United

EDUCATION

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. Ste. 8 Green & Lister Blk.

Town

Winnipeg

Province, etc.

Man.

[illegible]

NEXT OF KIN. RELATIONSHIP (in pencil)

NAME (in pencil)

ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No.

Town

.....Province, etc

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

V24172	OFFICIAL NUMBER	NAME	ROBERTSON	Robert Gordon	OFFICIAL NUMBER	V24172
		(Surname)		(Given Names)		

Ship or Establishment	Rating	From			Remarks	Character	Efficiency	Date			Non-Sub. Rating	Qualified			Re-Qualified		
		Day	Month	Year				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
Div. Str. Winnipeg	Ord. Seaman	21	10	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	40							
Naden Div. Hdqtrs.	" "	22	11	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	41							
Stadacona	" "	7	12	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
Stadacona	" Tel.	10	1	41		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
Venture	" "	5	4	41		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	44							
Moose	" "	10	4	41		V.G.	Sat.	18	3	45							
Andre Dupre	" "	5	5	41													
Venture	" "	11	5	41													
Arras	" "	13	5	41													
"	Tel.	22	8	41													
Protector (Napanee)	Tel.	30	9	41													
Avalon (Napanee)	"	1	10	41													
Avalon	"	7	11	42													
W/T Station	"	7	11	42													
Avalon	"	5	12	42													
Guysborough	"	18	7	43													
DISCHARGED	"	18	3	45													

AD. RD #643

"Missing" per Casualty List.

Presumed Dead.

GENERAL REMARKS

Chest X-Ray App.
AWARDED CANADIAN MEMORIAL CROSS to:
Wife: Mrs. Violet I. Robertson,
362 Martin Ave.,
WINNIPEG, Man.
June 4, 1945.

AWARDED CANADIAN MEMORIAL CROSS to;
Mother: Mrs. Mary Robertson,
313 Royal Ave., W. Kildonan,
WINNIPEG, Man.
June 5, 1945.

DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE	CIVIL	OCCU.	RELI.	ED	PERM. RESIDENCE	PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT				
DY. MO. YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GTION	P.	CTY.	TOWN	SCV.	DIV.	A. BR. RANK		
29	X	19	10	650	0	20	X	06	06	0 08 93		
ENLIST. DATE	ACT. SERV. DATE	STR.	ACT. SERV. DATE	SHIP OR	RANK OR RATE							
DY. MO. YR.	DY. MO. YR.	CAT.	DY. MO. YR.	ESTAB.	A. BR. RANK							
21	10	40	22	11	40			3	290	0 12 94		
SENIORITY	STR.	NON-SUB	M	CODED			CHECKED					
DY. MO. YR.	CAT.	A. B. ST.										
30	09	41	13	00	00							

NAME IN FULL Robertson, Robert Gordon RANK/RATING NAVAL GENERAL

SHIP	SERVICE			AREA	FR
	FROM	TO	DAYS		
	22-1-40				
Moose	10-4-41	4-5-41	25	ALL.	
Gabrie Dupré	5-5-41	10-5-41	6	ALL.	
Armas	14-5-41	29-9-41	148	ALL.	
Kapane	30-9-41	6-11-42	403	ALL.	
Avalon	7-11-42	17-7-43	253	NF	
Lingsborough	18-7-43	18-3-45	618	ALL & F & GER	
<p>Diels: Dead "Vedak"</p> <p>18-3-45</p>					
<p>VERIFIED BY ... <i>[Signature]</i> ... VERIFIED BY</p>					

EDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M. and GLASP.
SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

.....OFF. NO. V-24172.....ADDRESS

[illegible]

VERIFIED BY *[Signature]*

DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS.

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS AT OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

Name **ROBERTSON, Robert Gordon**
(Christian names in full)
Rank or Rating **Telegraphist** Official No. **V-24172** Unit **R.C.N.V.R.**
Place of Birth **Minitonas, Manitoba** Date of Birth **29th November, 1919**
Occupation in Civil Life **Salesman** Religion **United**
Number of years service in the Navy (Long Service R.C.N., or mobilized service in case of R.C.N. (Temporary) or Reserve ratings) **From 21st October, 1940 to 18th March, 1945.**
Date of Death **18th March, 1945.** Place of Death **At Sea**
Cause of Death **Missing, presumed dead. He was serving in H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH"**
(If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)
which was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action at sea.

Nearest known relative or friend { Name **Mrs. Violet I. Robertson** Relationship **Wife**
Address **362 Martin Avenue, WINNIPEG, Manitoba.**

Date on which the above was informed by Ship **Naval Service Headquarters: 21 March, 1945.**

Date on which death was registered with local Officials

In the case of Imperial Service men, whether Active Service, Pensioner or Reserve, date on which the prescribed return was rendered to the Registrar General in London, Edinburgh or Dublin, according to Nationality

If applicable { Place of Burial **No burial** Date of Burial
Location, Number, etc., of grave
Undertaker employed

H.B. Money
for **SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.**
(Commanding Officer)

The SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD
Department of National Defence,
Ottawa, Canada.

Date **Ottawa, Ont., 1 May, 1945.**

In all cases this Form is to be sent in addition to the Report by Telegraph required by the Regulations.

Distribution: File, Imp. W. G. Com., Dom. Stat., Register, Sec. C.P.C., Dir. of Records.

*Noted in ONPA.
9-5-45 G.P.*

LA/CM

R E G I S T E R E D

AIR MAIL

N.S. V-24172, PERS.(N)

21 March, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Robertson:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 21st of March, 1945, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your husband, Robert Gordon Robertson, Telegraphist, Official Number V-24172, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea.

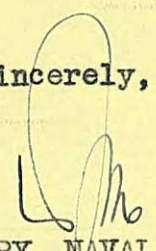
The only information that can be given at this time is that your husband is missing at sea as the result of enemy action. The position of the action is such that there is little possibility of him being a prisoner of war and slight hope can be held for his survival.

Please be assured that as soon as further particulars can be released or any other news received, you will be informed.


For security reasons, it is requested that you regard the name of your husband's ship in connection with his loss as confidential at this time.

Please accept the sincere sympathy of the Department in your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,


SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Violet I. Robertson,
362 Martin Avenue,
WINNIPEG, Manitoba.



AIR MAIL

N.S. V-24172, PERS. (N)

23 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Robertson:

Further to my letter of the 21st of March, 1945, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your husband, Robert Gordon Robertson, Telegraphist, Official Number V-24172, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH", the ship in which he was serving, the fact that all circumstances surrounding his loss have been carefully reviewed, and as no news has since been received to the contrary, the Canadian Naval Authorities have now presumed his death to have occurred on the 18th of March, 1945.

H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH", a Royal Canadian Navy minesweeper, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine while on operational duty at sea. Five Officers and 48 ratings, including one Royal Navy Officer and one rating who were taking passage, are missing and now presumed dead.

The above information is now being released for publication.

The following is an excerpt from the report of a Canadian Naval Press Relations Officer who was in contact with survivors of the ill-fated ship.

"Only one death occurred from the explosion but many died during the 19 hours the men who had survived the explosion spent in the water clinging to five Carley floats. Only six men of 42 on one overcrowded float lived until the rescue ship, a Royal Navy frigate, arrived.

"Both the air and the water were cold," said one of the survivors. "Most of the men who died, died smiling. If they suffered any, you'd never have known it."

W With the whaler overturned and the ship's motor boat holed by the explosion, only the Carley floats remained for the survivors. Four of the five floats were lashed together and from these the majority of the survivors were picked up. Seven hours after the men abandoned ship only 10 men remained alive on the one overcrowded Carley float. Four others died before rescue came.

"Exposure accounted for the largest number of deaths. Survivors were unanimous in saying that those who died did so quietly and with little apparent suffering.

"When the torpedo struck the Guysborough so much debris littered the decks that the Commanding Officer, Lieut. B. T. R. Russell, R.C.N.R., at first glance, thought his ship had been the victim of two simultaneous torpedoes.

"It looked at first as if the ship would survive. Guns crews were closed up, water-tight doors were closed, bulkheads shored up and every effort made to save the little vessel.

- 2 -

"There was just one fatality from the torpedoing.
although some members of a gun's crew were injured."

Please allow me to express sincere sympathy with you
in your bereavement on behalf of the Minister of National Defence
for Naval Services, the Chief of the Naval Staff, and the Officers
and men of the Royal Canadian Navy, the high traditions of which
your husband has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Violet I. Robertson,
362 Martin Avenue,
WINNIPEG, Manitoba.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

Date
Time

22.4.45
1245

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

D OF D 18-3-45

AWARDS NAVY

D.D.

ROBERTSON

Robert Gordon

V-24172

Tel.

FILE No.

SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)

CHRISTIAN NAMES

REG. No.

RANK ON
DISCHARGE

C.A.S.F. UNIT

WAR SERVICEBADGE

(CLASS)

No.

DATE DESPATCHED:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS

1939-45 Star

Atlantic Star & Clasp

C.V.S.M. & Clasp

War Medal

REGISTRATION NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED

9905

25-1-50

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

RCNVR Feb. 46 "GUYSBOROUGH"

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS

PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Violet I. ~~Robertson~~ Plummer (Re-married) - Widow

362 Martin Ave.,
ADDRESS: Winnipeg, Man.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

Mrs. Violet I. Robertson

362 Martin Avenue, Winnipeg, Man.

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER

Mrs. Mary Robertson

313 Royal Ave., West Kildonan, Winnipeg, Man.

ADDRESS:

MEMORIAL B R

(1) DATE DESP

REGN. NO. 255

(2) 4-6-45

(3) 5-6-45