CHRISTIAN AND SURNAME IN FULL

NEXT OF KIN

PRESENT RATING

CONTINUOUS SERVICE ENGAGEMENT, OR RE-ENGAGEMENT

To be forwarded to the Naval Secretary, Department of National Defence, with Form S. 59

Harry	Cliffo	ord Blin	ch		Name	. 2,	Sea	inary
	DATE OF BIR	TH*		PLA	CE OF BIRTH†	ord, B.C.	NAME, R.	ANK AND STATION OF UITING OFFICER
llth	Septemb	928	Town County Province	e	Riverhurs	man	COMMA R.G.	. Holms.) ANDER. N. Barrecks melt, B.C.
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Eng	ng date of agement or engagement	241	h Merel		Period of Eng ment or engageme	Re- }	Seven Y	ears.
unteerin	ctually vol- g to en- re-engage	} 241	h Marci	. 1941.	Date of ent		24th	Merch, 1941
The fortinuous Ser	pagement is and varded in to of other particulars	Declaration estions are e answers a	of Entry of to be put by the to be received as follows:	by the Comp corded hereo	rom Shore for nanding Officer	to the perso	n about to	engage for Con-
2. Are you	a British s	ubject?				Yes.		
3. Nationa	lity of Par	rents—Fath	erConad	Sian(Bng	lish)Moth			(English)
Roya Militi or in	l Naval R ia, Voluntee His Majes	eserve, Arners (Naval o ty's Indian	ny, Army r Military) or Colonia	val Fleet Re Reserve, Ma , Territorial l Military F	Force, Corces,	No		
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9. Can you * When evident of a straight chant chant chant		abtained on Til	T i4 -1		to this Form. of the British Empire fact should be attace Marines, Militia, or If a member of the			ne is (and in the case Forces, or in the Mer- egistrar is to be imme-

C.N.S. 55 10M-3-40 (4252) N.S. 815-9-55

52/5188

Ledgen Por

(OVER)

I.—Declaration and Certificate for Men newly entered and Men who have been out of the Service since the expiration of the previous C. S. Engagement I,......, do solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the questions overleaf are true, and I do hereby agree to serve honestly and faithfully in the Naval faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty. As witness my hand this day of day of 19. Blinck Man's Signature in full Witness to Signature..... Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service Lieutenant, R.C.H.V.R. This is to certify that we have examined the person named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from all physical malformation, active and intelligent; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service. Commanding Officer PS Medical Officer -Certificate and Declaration for Boys This is to certify that we have examined the boy named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is a well grown, stout, intelligent lad, of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, and free from all physical malformation, and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service. The consent of his parents or guardian has been obtained in writing, and they are willing and desirous that the boy should be entered for......years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till he attains that age Commanding Officer I declare that to the best of my knowledge or belief the answers to the questions on the other side of this form are true and that I am not indentured as an apprentice. I am willing to enter and serve in the Naval Service of Canada for years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, provided my service should be so long required, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till I attain that age. And I do sincerely promise and swear, (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty. Boy's Signature in full Witness to Signature Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service III.—Re-engagement for Continuous Service To be executed by men who have not been out of the Service since the expiration of their first engagement The particulars indicated on the other side are also I, now serving as a required when this Form is used. engage to serve for a further period**......from†† provided my services should be so long required. Witness *Insert "for the term of (number in words) years," or "to complete (number) years for pension" or until I attain the age of t Insert the date from which the engagement commences.

The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age.)

To be written in words.

Tinsert as follows:—"Of (number) years," or "to complete time for pension," or until I attain the age of years,"

The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age.)

To be written in words.

The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age.) years," as the case may be.

the date of commencement of the re-engagement, which must either be coincident with, or (when the re-engagement is ante-dated) earlier than the date of execution. tt Insert the S. 55

The corner of this Certificate is to be cut off if the man is discharged with a "Bad" character or with disgrace, or if specially directed by the Department of National Defence (Naval Service). If the corner is cut off, the fact is to be noted in the Ledger.

CERTIFICATE of the Service of

Harry Clifford BLINCH
IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY

I.C.N.S. 26800 Official Number 4265 Esquimalt Nearest known Relative or Friend 11 September 1922 (To be noted in pencil) Date of birth. Saskatchewan Name: Where Province. born Relationship: Town or county. Trade brought up to_ Address: England Religious denomination P. P.T. (Good) 6 May 41 Macs Date passed swimming test P.S.T. (Good) 6 au Man's signature on discharge to pension All Engagements, including N.C.S., to be noted in these Columns Date of actually Period volunteered Commencement Period volunteered Commencement Date of actually volunteering volunteering of time of time for for 1. 2. 6. 3. 7. Medals, Clasps, Etc. Date received or Date received or Nature of decoration Nature of decoration forfeited forfeited Colour of Stature lest, Description of Person Marks, Wounds and Scars Com-CP Feet In. Hair Eyes plexion On entry as a boy..... On advancement to man's rating or 92 322 Brown Brown Fresh on entry under 28 years..... On re-entry for C.S. or for Non-C.S. after attaining 28 years.....

C.N.S. 459 5M-10-39 (2423) N.S. 815-9-459

Further description if necessary.....

Ship's Name Cause (Tenders to be inserted List and No. Rating From To of Discharge in brackets) Sea 24Mchi41 10 aug 41 29 lyse 44 resumed Wounds received in Action and Hurt Certificate; also any Captain's Date Meritorious Service, Special Recommendations, Prize or other Grants Signature

Ship's Name (Tenders to be inserted in brackets)	List and	No.	Rating	From	То	Cause of Discharge

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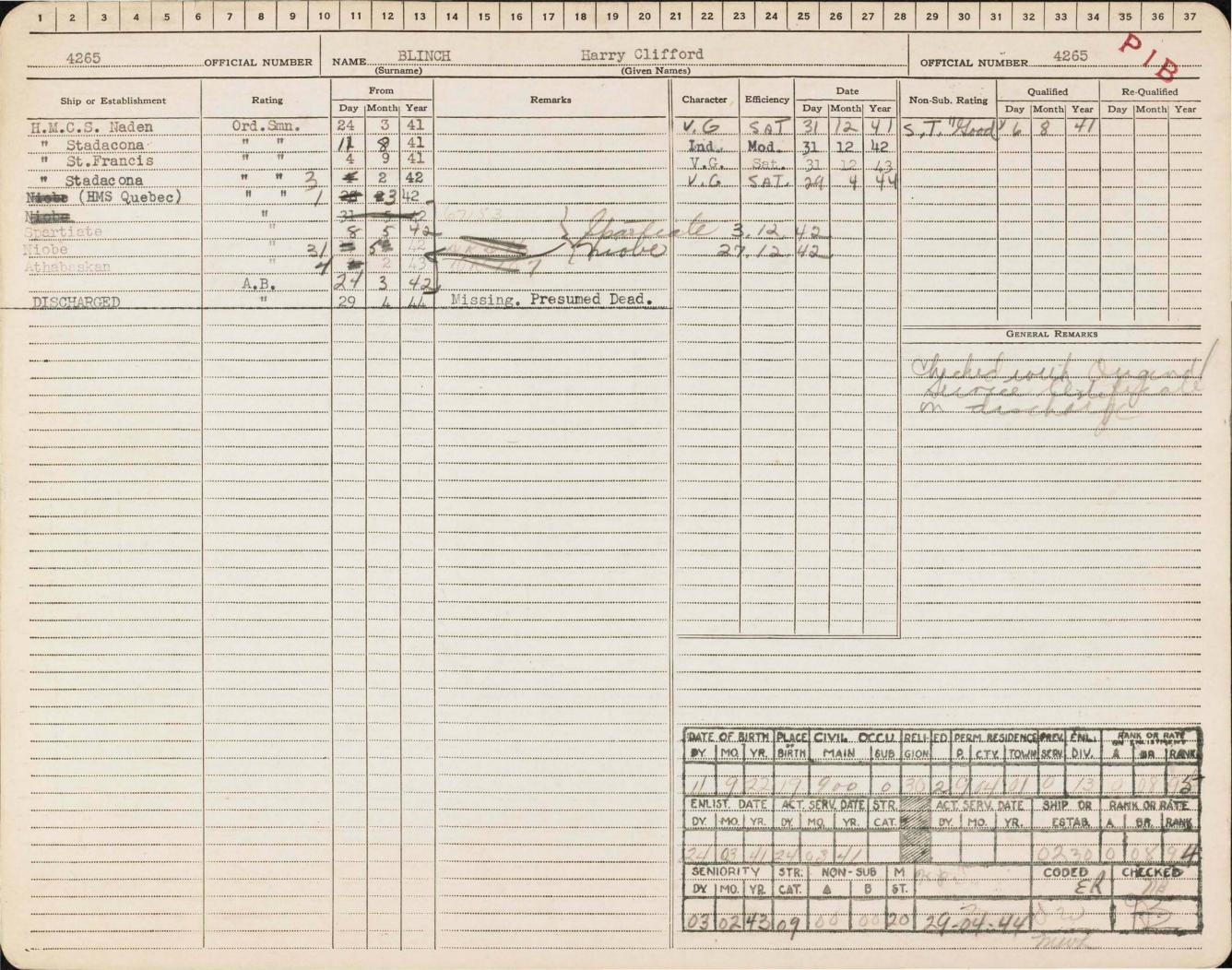
me Harry Clifford BLINCH

Second Class for Conduct (inclusive dates)

Efficiency in Rating-Article 607-K.R.

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CAMPAIGN STARS, DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M. and CLASP.

AME IN FULL BLING HAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

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OFF. NO. N-4 OFF.NO. N-4265 SERVICE QUALIFYING PERIODS IN DAYS SHIP AREA 1939-45 ATLANTIC DEFENCE CLASP 19 TO FROM DAYS TO FROM 74-3-41 It Francis 4-9-41 3-2-42 153 att. nebec 28-2-4275-4269 hartiate 8-5-42 30-5-42 73 Nobe 31-5-123-2-43 245 Ux labarcan 42-43 39-4-44 457 att. Desch Dead 79-4-44 VERIFIED BY

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE - Naval Service -Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:

4 May, 1944 (Date)

The following casualty has been reported +

NAME

RANK or RATING

NAVAL NO.

BLINCH, Harry Clifford

Able Seaman

24 March, 1941

4265, R.C.N.

DATE OF ENLISTMENT -

Active Service:

DATE OF DISCHARGE -

Will be reported later.

HOSPITAL -

(If discharged in hospital under jurisdiction of D. P. & N. H.)

SERVICE -

Canada & High Seas.

(Indicate whether in Canada only; or in Canada and the high seas or elsewhere.)

"Missing" from H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan" which was torpedoed Reason for discharge and when and where any disability was incurred, or where death and sunk by enemy action in the English Channel on the occurred. 29th of April, 1944. While this casualty is listed as missing, it is impossible

to make an estimate as to his chances of survival. Should no information be received to the contrary, you will be notified when official presumption of death with date

has been set.

(Show clearly whether death or disability due to enemy action. accident or disease, and whether it occurred in Canada, or on the high seas or elsewhere outside Canada).

NEXT OF KIN & RELATIONSHIP -

RELATIONSHIP- Father:

NAME- Mr. Harry Blinch.

ADDRESS-

R.R. #2, Abbetsford, B.C.

NOTE:

If records indicate that rating was separated from his wife, legally or otherwise, details to be furnished and copy of any Court Order, the separation Agreement, etc., to be furnished.

Copies Form "B" fwd. to Allots. (N) on

..... N.P.R./5.

ENTERED IN D.N.P.A.'s LOG EOOK

Secretary, Canadian Pension Commission, Room 228, Daly Building, OTTAWA, Ont. SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD,

NOTE:

Duplicate copies of this form (Form "B") have been forwarded to the Chief Treasury Officer (Allotment Section), Department of National Defence, Naval Service, for completion respecting the details of Marriage Allowance, Dependents Allowance, etc., and subsequent transmission to you.

(See reverse side for further instructions)

NS N 4265 PERS (N) NPR PER TFH

NAVAL MESSAGE

5. 1320 D 20000M-11-43 (2867-8-9-70) N. S. 815-9-1320-D. K. P. 95440

From: "NSHQ

MR HARRY BLINCH RR #2 P.A. 'S CHECKED IN

Mn-4265

ABBOTSFORD B. C.

C.R. BY

THE MONISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR NAVAL SERVICES

DEEPLY REGRETS TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SON

HARRY CLIFFORD BLINCH ABLE SEAMAN RON 4265

IS MISSING FROM HMCS "ATHABASKAN" LETTER FOLLOWS

/01

(DELIVERY CONFIRMED)

L/T

P/L

02/5/44

HL

2812

P 8

REGISTERED

NS: N-4265 Pers. (N)

AIR MAIL

2 May, 1944.

34

Dear Mr. Blinch:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 2nd of May, 1944, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your son, Harry Clifford Blinch, Able Seaman, Royal Canadian Navy, Official Number 4265, is missing from H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan".

According to the report received from overseas, your son's loss occurred when H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan" was torpedeed and sunk by enemy action on the 29th of April, 1944, in the English Channel. Further particulars of this Naval disaster are being published in the newspapers.

While Able Seaman Blinch is reported as "missing", there is a possibility of his survival. It is understood that a number of the crew have been taken prisoners of war by the enemy. The Red Cross have been informed and are attempting to obtain from the German Government a list of those taken. Please be assured that as soon as any further information respecting your son has been received you will be informed.

Please allow me to express the sincere sympathy 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 son has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely

EM 2 19

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mr. Harry Blinch, R.R. #2, ABBOTSFORD, B.C.

AIR MAIL

NS. N.4265, PERS.(N)



/3' January, 1945.

Dear Mr. Blinch:

Further to my letter of the 10th of October, 1944, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your son, Harry Clifford Blinch, Able Seaman, Official Number 4265, Royal Canadian Navy, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN", 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 29th of April, 1944.

It would be appreciated if the Department might be informed as to whether Able Seaman Blinch's mother is living. If so, a Memorial Cross will be forwarded to her as a memento of her personal loss and sacrifice.

May I again 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.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

S. All

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Despatched ho

Sec. N. B.

Date 15/1/45 Time 1800

Mr. Harry Blinch, R.R. #2, ABBOTSFORD, B.C.

10th October, 1944.

Ho

Dear Mr. Blinch:

I must regretfully inform you that since your son was reported missing no further information has been received of his survival or that he is a prisoner of war.

I wish to assure you, however, that the Department makes every endeavour to discover the fate of missing men and draws upon all likely sources of information about them.

In the case of men who are believed to be prisoners of war continuous efforts are made to speed up the machinery whereby their names and camp addresses can reach this country. The official means is by lists of names prepared by the enemy government. These lists take some time to compile, especially if there is a long journey from the place of capture to a prisoners of war camp. Consequently "capture cards," filled in by the prisoners themselves soon after capture and sent home to their relatives, are often the first news received in this country that a man is a prisoner of war.

Very slight hope is now held, however, that your son is a prisoner of war as the total number of names of men who are known to be prisoners from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" coincides with the number which the Germans claim to have captured from this ship.

Even if no news is received that a missing man is a prisoner of war, endeavours to trace him do not cease. Enquiries are pursued, not only among those who were serving with him, but also through diplomatic channels and the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva. The moment reliable news is obtained from any of these sources it is sent to the Department and is immediately passed on to the next of kin.

Should no information be received to the contrary your son will be presumed dead by the Canadian Naval Authorities at a later date.

May I extend my sincere sympathy in this time of anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mr. Harry Blinch, R.R.#2, ABBOTSFORD, B.C.

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Baranicked lag Sec. N. B.

200 10/10/44 1800

CERTIFICATE OF PRESUMPTION OF DEATH

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Harry Clifford Blinch, Able Seaman, 4265, Royal Canadian Navy,

is missing, presumed dead to date the 29th of April, 1944, when the ship in which he was serving, H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN", was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action in the English Channel.

- 2. C.N.M.O.'s 041705 December, 1944, refers.
- 3. Staff approval on N.S. 4160-355/3, Volume 1.

Paymaster Lieutenant, RCNVR, for CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL.

Ottawa, Ont., 8 January, 1945.

Sirs:- Your letter to hand informing

me of the presumed cleath of my Son a. B. H. Blinch who went down on the "athabaskan"

In your letter you asked me if his mother was still allive, well, his mother clied when he was a small Baby, 9 he was raised by my Brothers wife who has been more Than a mother to him, bringing him, I my other Boy, up with two of her own, all in the Service, 9 I would like very much for her to have the memorial cross, 9 hope you will see your way to send it to her, her name is E. B. Blind. Box 368 albortoford B.G. P. 106.

Thanking you for all you have done, I your sondolence, in the death of my boy, yours Sincerety, H. G. Blinch Som CC: 150 the 12 terret who want down on the active busham. In year celler you as heed interest the other winds of the western coeff the the cher cellet esten he aran a made 13 cely a the was a consect ed with 12 receptors certe pine 69 more them a mother to king tringing wind a ned a great 120 At a chief the of the can be a file & care of & of revealed like the state of the second to her to the second of the sec 13000 568 CHEORS PORT 13-6. P. 106.

D.D. FILE No. N-4265 A.B. BLINCH Harry Clifford RANK ON SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS) CHRISTIAN NAMES REG. No. C.A.S.F. UNIT DISCHARGE WAR SERVICE BADGE (CLASS) No. DATE DESPATCHED: ADDRESS: CAMPAIGN MEDALS REGISTRATION NUMBER AN DATE DESPATCHED 1939-45 Star, Atlantic Star. Defence Medal, C.V.S.M. & Clasp, War Medal. DVA 806

ME	DALS AND	MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL RE	GISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATO
1)	MEDALS PERSON ENTITLED TO	Mr. Harry Blinch - Father	MEMORIAL BA
	ADDRESS:	R.R. # 2, Abbotsford, B.C.(R) Abbotsford, B.C.	DATE DESP
2)	MEMORIAL CR WIDOW	oss	REGICIAN LESS
	ADDRESS:		
3)	MEMORIAL CR MOTHER	oss deceased .	(3)
	ADDRESS:		