

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFYING SERVICE FOR THE AWARD OF CAMPAIGN STARS AND MEDALS AUTHORIZED FOR SERVICE WITH THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES DURING WORLD WAR II

**1939-45 Star:** Six months' service (180 days) must have been performed in an operational theatre, for example: Northwestern Europe or the Central Mediterranean theatre prior to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945, or the Southwest Pacific theatre prior to September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945. The United Kingdom was classed as a non-operational theatre. The qualification in the Navy is six months' service afloat in areas of active operations. The qualification in the Army is six months' service in an operational command during the same period. In the RCAF, the Star is awarded to aircrew who have taken part in operations against the enemy, subject to the completion of two months' in an operational unit and for ground crew six months' service in operational areas. This Star is granted for less than six or two months' service, respectively, in certain specified operations, or when operational service is brought to an end by death, wounds, or other disability due to service, or if granted an Honour, Decoration or a Mention-in-Despatches.

**Atlantic Star:** This Star is granted to Navy and Army personnel for six months' service afloat, between September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 and May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945, in the Atlantic or home waters of the United Kingdom. To flying personnel who took part in operations against the enemy in the Atlantic or home waters of the United Kingdom, provided they completed two months' service in an operational unit so engaged. The 1939-45 Star must have been earned before a candidate can begin to qualify for the Atlantic Star, except during the last six months of the European hostilities, when entry into service on the Atlantic was qualification without the 1939-45 Star being earned previously.

**Aircrew Europe Star:** This Star is awarded to aircrew personnel who completed two months' service flying from United Kingdom bases over Europe prior to June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944, after qualifying for the 1939-45 Star, and made at least one operational sortie during that period.

**Arctic Star:** The Arctic star is granted for operation service of any length, from September 3, 1939 to May 8, 1945 inclusive, north of the Arctic Circle (66°32'N) on the Greenland Sea, Norwegian Sea and Barents Sea.

**Africa Star:** This Star is granted for entry into operations in North Africa between June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1940 and May 12<sup>th</sup> 1943.

**Pacific Star:** This Star is awarded for entry into operational service in the Pacific theatre between December 8<sup>th</sup> 1941 and September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1945, inclusive.

**Burma Star:** Entry into operational service in Burma or in India, east of the Brahmaputra River between December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1941 and September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945, inclusive.

**Italy Star:** Entry into operations in the Central Mediterranean theatre, for example: Sicily and Italy, between June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1943 and May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945.

**France and Germany Star:** Entry into operational service in France, Belgium, Holland or Germany between June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944 and May 8<sup>th</sup> 1945.

**Defence Medal:** Is earned in respect of six months' service performed in a non-operational theatre, subject to air attack or closely threatened, for example: The United Kingdom and Gibraltar, from September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945 and North Africa from May 13<sup>th</sup> 1943 to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945. It is also granted for twelve months' non-operational service outside of Canada, for example: Newfoundland, between September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 and September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945.

**Canadian Volunteer Service Medal:** Is awarded by reason of 18 months' voluntary service with the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II between September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 and March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1947.

**Clasp to the C.V.S.M.:** Is awarded for 60 days voluntary service outside of Canada, upon qualifying for the C.V.S.M. previous to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1947.

**War Medal 1939-45:** Awarded for 28 days' operational or non-operational service during World War II, between September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 and September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945.

**Oak Leaf Emblem:** Denoting a Mention-in-Despatches and worn on the ribbon of the War Medal 1939-45, it also represents the King's commendation for brave conduct.