

N.V. 17  
 GOM-0-42 (5943)  
 N.S. 815-11-17

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**

*James Ralph Conn*

**in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve**

*I.C.#N=106538*

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
	<i>Montreal</i>	<i>V-67835</i>

Date of Birth..... *7 December 1914* **O.H.F.**

Place of Birth..... *Hillcrest Alberta*

Place of Residence..... *2058 University St. Montreal*

Trade brought up to..... *Waiter*

Religion..... *United Church*

Can Swim:—P.P.T. *(Good)* Date *15th September 1943* Signature *J.R. Conn* Rank *SUB. LT. R.C.N.V.R.*

Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)  
*Sister Mrs. J. Pedemore  
 Ste-Anne de Belleme Que*

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>9 Aug '43</i>	<i>Duration of Hostilities</i>	<i>Stwd</i>	<i>15 April 45</i>		<i>Presumably awarded C.V.S.M. and clasps.</i>

	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<i>5</i>	<i>7 1/2</i>	<i>37 3/4</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>Dark Brown</i>	<i>Grey</i>	<i>Med.</i>	<i>Nil</i>
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







V67835

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-C-5069

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V67835

NAME CONN James, Ralph. DATE OF BIRTH 7th December, 1914  
(Surname) (Given Names)PLACE OF BIRTH Hillcrest, Alberta. OCCUPATION WaiterRELIGION United Church of Canada EDUCATION 7 year Public school.RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 2058 University Street, Town Montreal, Province, etc. Quebec.

ENGAGEMENTS				DESCRIPTION					PREVIOUS SERVICE			
Date (in figures)			Period	Height	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Marks or Scars	Served in	Rank or Rating	Dates	
Day	Month	Year									From	To
9	8	43	H.O.	5'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	D. Brown	Grey	Medium	None.				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Sister NAME (in pencil) Mrs. Rose FergusonADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 7 St. Joseph St. Town Montreal Province, etc. Quebec

MEDALS, CLASPS, HURT CERTIFICATES, PRIZE MONEY				EXAMINATIONS, CERTIFICATES, ETC.							
Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			PARTICULARS
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
1	1	46	Posthumous Mention in Despatches.	25	5	44	Failed Prof. for I/Stwd.				
				5	10	44	Qual. anti-gas 2 days				
				24	1	45	Qual. prof. for ldg. Steward.				

BADGES, G.C. OR G.S.				BRIEF PARTICULARS OF WARRANT OR C.M. PUNISHMENTS AND C.P. CHARGES							
Date (in figures)			1st, 2nd or 3rd G.C. or G.S.	Granted Deprived Restored	SHIP OR ESTABLISHMENT	Wt. No.	Date (in figures)			BRIEF PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE	PUNISHMENT
Day	Month	Year					Day	Month	Year		

FILM  
NO. W.A. 6080-5  
DATE

Date (in figures)				DAYS FORFEITED						Q.H.F. received.
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.		
										Last Will & Testament #9619 Rec.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From To



V67835 OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME CONN  
(Surname)

James, Ralph.  
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER V67835

Ship or Establishment	Rating	From			Remarks	Character	Efficiency	Date			Non-Sub. Rating	Quality			Re-Qualified		
		Day	Month	Year				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
HMCS Montreal	Steward.	9	8	43	Montreal Div. Str.	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
" " "Est."	"	27	9	43	DL 28-9-43 <i>quarred</i>	V.G.	SUP3	11	2	44							
" Chippawa	"	30	9	43	DL 1-10-43												
" Carleton	"	15	8	44	D.L. 15-8-55 #184 Pg.1												
" Stadacona	"	28	9	44	DRD #288 Pg.6												
" Esquimalt	"	17	10	44	DRD Sh.291 Pg.5												
DISCHARGED	"	16	4	45	"Dead" Sub. 22-5-45												

L STWD 010245 ALT 33273

GENERAL REMARKS

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL		OCCU.		RELI-ED.		PERM RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.		RANK OR RATE	
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB.	GION	P.	CTY.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A	OF	OF	OF	OF	
09	R	14	19	798	0	40	0	2	23	02	0	09	0	21	95		
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				
09	08	43								9610	0	21	94				
SENIORITY			STR.		NON-SUB.		M.		CODED		CHECKED						
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.											
27	09	43	13	00	00												

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

40

### REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

H.M.C.S. IMPERIAL at SEA

Name CARR, James Ralph,  
(Christian names in full)

Rank of Rating Ldg. Pwvl. Official No. 7-67735 R.C.N.V.R.  
(If unknown, date of first entry)

Place of Birth Willeton, Alberta Date of Birth 7th December, 1914

Occupation in Civil Life Miller Religion United Church

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) 3rd August, 1943 - 16th April, 1945

Date of Death 16th April, 1945 Place of Death at sea

Cause of Death lost at sea - enemy action  
(If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)

Nearest known relative or friend { Name Mrs. Rhoda Pedersen Relationship Sister  
9te. Ann, de Bellene  
Address 7 St. Joseph Street,  
Montreal, Quebec.

Date on which the above was informed by Ship Not known

Date on which death was registered with local Officials Not known

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 \*\*\*\*\*

Place of Burial \*\*\*\*\* (if known) Date of Burial \*\*\*\*\* (if known)

Location, Number, etc., of grave \*\*\*\*\* (if known)

Undertaker employed \*\*\*\*\* (if any)

If borne for discipline only, date D.S.Q. or invalided \*\*\*\*\*

*[Signature]*  
Commanding Officer,

194

*Noted on file  
mmv  
30.5.45*

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

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.





VERIFICATION FORM  
 DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M. and CLASP.  
 AL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

RATING *F. G. J. Smith* OFF. NO. *V. 6. 7832* ADDRESS .....

QUALIFYING PERIODS IN DAYS							STARS MEDALS	✓ 1 2	ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS OF
FROM	TO	1939-45	ATLANTIC	DEFENCE	CLASP C.V.S.M.	1915 MEDAL			
							1939-45	/	<i>None</i>
							ATLANTIC	/	<i>None</i>
							FRANCE G.		
							AFRICA		
							PACIFIC		
							BURMA		
							ITALY		
							DEFENCE		
							C.V.S.M.	<i>2</i>	<i>Clasp</i>
							" CLASP		
							WAR 1945		<i>Medal</i>
							WAR 1915		

VERIFIED BY *[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

Ottawa, Canada

19 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Pederson:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 18th of April, 1945, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your brother, James Ralph Conn, Leading Steward, Official Number V-67835, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea due to enemy action.

From information available, little hope can be held for his survival and there is no possibility of his having been taken prisoner. For security reasons, this is the only information which can be released at this time.

Should no information be received to the contrary, an official presumption of his death will be made at a later date, when you will be informed. Please be assured, however, that as soon as any further news is received or more details can be released, you will be informed immediately.

It is requested that you will regard the name of the ship in which Leading Steward Conn was serving, together with the fact that she has been in contact with the enemy, as secret until an official announcement is made.

Please allow me to express the sincere sympathy of the Department with you in your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

  
SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Rhoda Pederson,  
7 St. Joseph Street,  
MONTREAL, P. Q.

AIR MAIL

N.S. V-67835.

25 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Pederson:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 18th of April, 1945, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your brother, James Ralph Conn, Leading Steward, Official Number V-67835, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea due to enemy action.

From information available, little hope can be held for his survival and there is no possibility of his having been taken prisoner. For security reasons, this is the only information which can be released at this time.

Should no information be received to the contrary, an official presumption of his death will be made at a later date, when you will be informed. Please be assured, however, that as soon as any further news is received or more details can be released, you will be informed immediately.

It is requested that you will regard the name of the ship in which Leading Steward Conn was serving, together with the fact that she has been in contact with the enemy, as secret until an official announcement is made.

A Registered Air Mail letter dated the 19th of April, 1945, confirming my telegram of the 18th of April, and addressed to Montreal was returned by the Post Office Department as the address was incorrect.

Please allow me to express the sincere sympathy of the Department with you in your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

A/A DPR ✓  
Mrs. Rhoda Pederson,  
7 St. Joseph Street,  
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec.

N.S. V-67835, 121  
71  
7 May, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Pederson:

Further to my letter of the 25th of April, 1945, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your brother, James Ralph Conn, Leading Steward, Official Number V-67835, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "ESQUIMALT", 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 16th of April, 1945.

H.M.C.S. "ESQUIMALT", a Royal Canadian Navy minesweeper, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine while on operational duty off the east coast of Canada. One Officer and fifteen ratings were killed at the time of the disaster, four Officers and twenty four ratings are missing and now presumed dead, while two Officers and twenty four ratings survived the sinking.

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.

"Struck by a torpedo on the starboard side, H.M.C.S. "ESQUIMALT" listed heavily, and sank stern first in a few minutes. The ship's list had the sea boat under water and flooded before it could be released from the davits, but carley floats were freed quickly before the ship went down, and those who escaped from the ship gathered on four of these floats.

"It was from the four floats that a sister Bangor minesweeper, H.M.C.S. "SARNIA", picked up the survivors nearly six hours later. Many who had reached the floats safely had died of exposure on the floats, from the soaking in the cold sea water, and sixteen bodies were taken aboard the rescue craft.

"In spite of the rapidity with which the ship heeled over and slid under the surface there was no panic or confusion", a surviving Officer reported. Everyone he had seen had been calmly and quickly abandoning ship.

"Many men had died in the floats, and their bodies were brought aboard H.M.C.S. "SARNIA" with the survivors.

"Artificial respiration was given to some of the unconscious men for hours after they were picked up, but only two men were revived."

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 brother has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

*RG.*  
Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Rhoda Pederson,  
7 St. Joseph Street,  
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec.

*SS* *MD*

RCNVR Oct. 45 "ESQUIMALT"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS  
PERSON  
ENTITLED TO Mrs. Rhoda V. Pederson - Sister

ADDRESS: 7 St. Joseph St.,  
STE. ANNE de BELLEVUE, Que.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS  
WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS  
MOTHER deceased

ADDRESS:

MEMORIAL B R  
DATE DESP.....  
REGN. NO. 547

(2)

(3)

D OF D 16-4-45

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

NAVY

D.D.  
WAR SERVICE RECORDS

CONN		James Ralph	V-67835	L. Stwd. (ty)	FILE No.
SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)		CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT

WAR SERVICE

BADGE

(CLASS)	No.	DATE DESPATCHED:
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ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	3190
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	
M. IN D.	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)