



CANADA

N. V. 5  
15M-2-40 (4047)  
N.S. 815-11-5

# ATTESTATION FORM

## FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME KNIGHT OFFICIAL NO. V. 19140

CHRISTIAN NAMES Herbert Russel MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Single

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
Leamington, Ontario	United Church

DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
Oct. 8th, 1920	Town Cotton, County Essex, Province Ontario	Thory Knight--father Leamington, Ontario

### PERSONAL DESCRIPTION ON ENROLMENT

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COM- PLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet <u>5</u>	Inflated <u>37</u>	Blond	Blue	Fair	Scar on 4th finger of lt. hand
Inches <u>8</u>	Deflated <u>34</u>				
Mean <u>35</u>					

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING ENROLLING FOR	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<b>OCT 1 1940</b>	Ord. Seaman	Labourer--H. J. Heinz Co. Leamington, Ontario

### (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 \_\_\_\_\_ for the period shown, and attach my record of service, in corroboration of this statement.

\* Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM	TO
~~~~~~			

(c) I have never been rejected 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.

(5) On being enrolled as a member of the WINDSOR Division of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I undertake and bind myself:—

(a) To serve from the date thereof for three consecutive years, <sup>and/or for duration of the war</sup> 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.

Dated this 20th day of September, 1940

Signature of applicant Herbert Knight

(C) CERTIFICATE OF DIVISIONAL COMMANDING 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 20th day of September, 1940

[Signature]  
Signature of Commanding Officer.  
Lieutenant, R. C. N. V. R.  
Commanding Officer

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Herbert Russel KNIGHT 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 Herbert Knight

Witness Cliff Hatch

Date Sept. 20th, 1940 Rank A/Sub Lieut.

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

(E) CERTIFICATE OF DIVISIONAL COMMANDING OFFICER

Herbert Russel KNIGHT 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 WINDSOR Division of the R.C.N.V.R.

[Signature]  
Commanding Officer.  
Lieutenant, R. C. N. V. R.  
Commanding Officer

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  
 3M-12-39 (3289)  
 N.S. 815-11-17

# CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

.....KNIGHT, Herbert Russel.....

## in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number <u>V. 19140</u>
	<u>Windsor, Ontario</u>	"
		"

Date of Birth.....October 8th, 1920.....

Place of Birth.....Cotton, Ontario.....

Place of Residence.....Leamington, Ontario.....

Trade brought up to.....

O.H.F.

Religion.....United Church.....

Can Swim:—P.P.T. ( ) Date Passed (Board) 2 Jan 1941

Signature *[Signature]*

Yes

P.S.T. ( ) Date \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend

*Louise Knight - wife*  
~~Thory Knight - father~~  
*7 Clark St. E.*  
*Leamington, Ontario*  
*31/10/42*

**PARTICULARS OF SERVICE**

**MEDALS, DECORATIONS, etc.**

Date of Actual Volunteering	Date of Enrolment	Period Volunteered for	Rating on Enrolment or Re-enrolment	Date of		Nature of Decoration
				Award	Presentation	
<u>Sept. 1st 1940</u>	<u>Oct. 1st 1940</u>	<u>Duration of war</u>	<u>Ord. Seaman</u>		<u>10 Feb 44</u>	<u>Canadian Volunteer Service Medal</u>
					<u>10 Feb 44</u>	<u>3 Clasp. Provisional award</u>
					<u>10 Feb 44</u>	<u>1939-43 Star Provisional award</u>

**PERSONAL DESCRIPTION**

	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>Blond</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Scar on 4th finger of lt. hand.</u>
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
<u>Windsor, Ont.</u>	<u>Halifax, N.S.</u>	<u>Nov. 18, 1940</u>			



# NAVAL TRAINING and ACTIVE SERVICE

Year	SHIP OR ESTABLISHMENT	LEDGER		RATING	FROM	TO	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE
		List	No.				
	Avalon ("Atholl")			A/L/SMM(T) 15 Jan 44	15 Jan 44		13843
	Avalon			A.B. 9 Feb 44	9 Feb 44	22 May 44	
	Avalon			— — —	23 May 44	24 May 44	
	Esquimaux			— — —	25 May 44	24 Sep 44	
	Stadacona (Esquimaux)			— — —	25 Sep 44	14 Jan 45	31763
	— — — (— — —)			Ldg. Comm. 15 Jan 45	15 Jan 45	16 Apr 45	D.D. 33846

EXAMINATIONS, NOTATIONS, QUALIFICATIONS			RECORD OF RATING		
Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature	Rated	Date	Authority for Advancement or Reason for Disrating to be stated
Nov. 18th/40	Completed Disciplinary Training	<i>[Signature]</i>	MAR 27 1941	Issued Ident. Card No. 21004	
31 Dec 40	Qual A/L 1 day	<i>[Signature]</i>	A/L/SMM(T)	15 Jan 44	ADV. FORM 12270 of 21/1/44
3 May 41	Qual + Rated Ret S.D.	<i>[Signature]</i>			
17 May 41	"Sr"	<i>[Signature]</i>			
14 July 43	Qual A/G (2nd Issue)	<i>[Signature]</i>			
4 Nov 41	Confirmed S.D.	<i>[Signature]</i>			
21 Aug 43	Requalified S.D.	<i>[Signature]</i>			
6 Jan 44	Passed Prof for Ldg. Sea	<i>[Signature]</i>			
24 Jan 44	SD Cancelled KR-AI 429	<i>[Signature]</i>			

Name KNIGHT, Herbert Russel 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.	Sat. (O.Smn.)	31 Dec '40	J. Edwards
		V.G.	Sat. (O.Smn.)	31 Dec '41	J. Edwards
		V.G.	SAT. (AB)	31 Dec '42	J. Edwards
		Fair	Mod (AB)	31 Dec '43	W. Martin
		VG	Sat. (AB)	31 Dec '44	J. Edwards
		V.G.	Supr (Ldy Smn)	16 Apr '45	H. DeJong

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
NOT ELIGIBLE	90T 42	dys	det

TIME FORFEITED

Date	P., D.C., C.P., or W.T.	No. of Days	
		Awarded	Served
28 May 43	D	42	

V19140

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER 113-K-243

V-19140

OFFICIAL NUMBER V19140

NAME KNIGHT Herbert Russel DATE OF BIRTH 8th October, 1920  
(Surname) (Given Names)PLACE OF BIRTH Cotton, Ont. OCCUPATION LabourerRELIGION United EDUCATIONRESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. Town Leamington Province, etc. Ont.

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
1	10	40	H.O.	5'8	Blonde	Blue	Fair	Scar on 4th finger of left hand.				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Wife NAME (in pencil) Mrs. Louise E. Knight  
ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. Box 197 Town Leamington Province, etc. Ont.

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	
18	2	44	C.V.S.M. (R.&C.)	2	1	41	Passed P.P.T. (Good)				
10	2	44	1939-43 Star.	14	7	43	Qual. in Anti-Gas (2nd Issue)				
1	1	46	Posthumous Mention in Despatches.	6	1	44	Passed Prof. for Ldg. Smn.				

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		
					Swift Current	2	28	5	43	Did sleep on his watch.	42 days detention.

FILM  
NO. WM 5438-1  
DATE

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED					
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.
28	5	43		42				

O.H.F. Received.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From To



V19140

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME KNIGHT  
(Surname)

Herbert Russel  
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V19140

P.T.B.

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
Windsor Div. Str.	Ord. Smn.	1	10	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	40	S.D.	4	11	41	21	8	43
Duty Div. Hdqts.	"	4	11	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	41	A/S.D.	3	5	43			
Stadacona	"	20	11	40		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
Hochelaga	"	6	5	41		Fair	Mod.	31	12	43							
Baddeck	"	17	5	41		V.G.	SAT	31	12	44							
Stadacona	"	9	8	41		V.G.	Supr.	16	4	45							
Annapolis	"	19	8	41													
Stadacona	"	6	6	42													
Fairmiles (Q-075)	"	13	6	42													
	Able Smn.	4	11	41	Back Dated (249A/3290)												
Stadacona	"	2	12	42	DRD H-85												
Q.053	"	4	12	42													
Stadacona	"	5	2	43	DRD H-609												
Swift Current	"	13	2	43	DRD H-672												
Stadacona	"	27	5	43	DRD H-3569												
Cornwallis	"	6	8	43	DRD H-2254												
Stadacona	"	31	8	43	DRD H-2465												
Hochelaga	"	9	9	43	DRD H-2554												
Chaleur 11 (Q-71 433)	"	12	10	43	WRD #61												
Atholl	"	14	10	43	WRD Q-62												
"	A/Ldg.Smn.	15	1	44	Adv. Memo 21-1-44.												
Avalon	"	23	5	44	S.#3611: P.#6.												
Esquimalt	"	25	5	44	S.#3625: P.#4.												
"	Ldg.Smn.	15	1	45	Conf. 249A(31763)												
DISCHARGED	"	16	4	45	"Killed in Action" Per Casualty List.												

GENERAL REMARKS

R.C.N. Hosp. 26-5-41 to  
Canadian Memorial Cross Awarded to  
Wife: Mrs. Louise G. Knight,  
Box 697,  
Leamington, Ont. 4-6-45.  
Canadian Memorial Cross Awarded to  
Mother: Mrs. Linnie Knight,  
8 Victoria Ave., S.,  
Leamington, Ont. 28-6-45.

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE OF BIRTH		CIVIL	OCCT.	REL.	ED.	PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE		
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB.	GION.	P.	CTV.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A.	BR.	RANK	
08	02	20	11	900	D	40	X	1	12	07	0	11	0	08 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		
01	10	40	04	11	40					1590	0	08	94		
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB		M	CODED			CHECKED					
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.									
04	11	41	13	00	00		TF			71.10					



HONOURS AND AWARDS

Name: **KNIGHT, Robert Russell (Deceased)**

Rank and Service: **Leading Seaman, RCNVR (V-19140)** <sup>(R)</sup> <sup>(b)</sup>

Home Address: **Wife: Mrs. Louise G. Knight,  
Box 697, Leamington, Ont.**

Award: **M. in D. (Posthumous)**

Date gazetted: **1.1.46**

Previous award, with date:

Citation:- **"After the torpedoing of HMCS ~~ESQUIMAUX~~ ESQUIMAUX", Leading Seaman Knight found himself on a carley float which was overcrowded and without hesitation swam to another. Later, he re-entered the water and took a leading part in getting two of the floats secured together. His subsequent death is believed to have been partly due to these exertions and the additional time in the water. His bravery, resource and devotion to duty were in keeping with the high standards of the Canadian Naval Service".**





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

26 April, 1945.

Sir:

(Date)

The following casualty has been reported -

NAME	RANK or RATING	NAVAL NO.
KNIGHT, Herbert Russel	Leading Seaman	V-19140, R.C.N.V.R.

DATE OF ENLISTMENT - 1 October, 1940. Active Service: 4 November, 1940.

DATE OF DISCHARGE - 16 April, 1945.

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)

Reason for discharge and when and where any disability was incurred, or where death occurred. - "DEAD". Killed in action - due to enemy action.  
Body recovered and buried in Canada.

(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 - Wife NAME - Mrs. Louise G. Knight,

ADDRESS - Box 697, Leamington, Ontario.

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.

FORM "A" RESPECTING THE ABOVE NAMED HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED. PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR DETAILS OF MARRIAGE ALLOWANCE, DEPENDENTS ALLOWANCE, etc.

C.R. BY *myb*

C. R.  
P. A.  
TREASURY OFFICE  
DATE 19/6/45  
INITIAL D. J. R.

, 7 May, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Knight:

Further to my letter of the 19th of April, 1945, I am passing on the following particulars regarding the loss of H.M.C.S. "ESQUIMALT", the ship in which your husband was serving. This information is now being released for publication.

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 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 seaboard 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 mine-sweeper, 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.

"Of their bitter hours on the floats, the survivors spoke most often of one of their shipmates who died after expending his strength in helping the others. He was Leading Seaman Herbert Knight of Leamington, Ont., who found himself on a float overcrowded with sixteen other men, after the ship sank. A strong swimmer, he plunged into the icy water and swam to another float nearby.

"Staying in the water, he swam and pushed the second float back to the first so the two could be lashed together. Only then did he allow himself to be pulled onto the less crowded float. He did an hour later."

May I again express the sincere sympathy of the Department with you in your bereavement.

Yours sincerely,

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.Mrs. Louise G. Knight  
Box 697, Leamington, Ont.

Deputy

L.G.  
SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.Date  
Time8/5/4  
1:30  
10

SERVICE

NAME ~~KNIGHT~~, Herbert Russel

O.N. V-19140

20

PRESENT RANK/RATING: Ldg. Smn.

DATE TAKEN ON ACTIVE SERVICE: 4-11-40

SERVICE

SHIP OR ESTABLISHMENT

FROM

TO

Windsor Div.Str.	1-10-40
Duty Div. Hdqtrs.	4-11-40
Stadacona	20-11-40
Hochelaga	6-5-41
Baddeck	17-5-41
Stadacona	9-8-41
Annapolis	19-8-41
Stadacona	6-6-42
Fairmiles (Q-075)	13-6-42
Stadacona	2-12-42
Q-053	4-12-42
Stadacona	5-2-43
Swift Current	13-2-43
Stadacona	27-5-43
Cornwallis	6-8-43
Stadacona	31-8-43
Hochelaga	9-9-43
Chaleur 11(CN 400)	12-10-43
Atholl	14-10-43

IMPORTANT

(WILL): No.

NAME & ADDRESS  
OF NEXT OF KIN:

Wife:

Avalon  
Esquimalt

23-5-44  
25-5-44

Mrs. Lousie G. Knight,  
Box #697.  
Leamington, Ontario.

HAS DISCHARGE FOR ANY REASON  
BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED?

REASON:

DATE:

INITIALLED

NB

DATE 20/4/45

SECTION: R.C.N.V.R.

(TO BE COMPLETED IN INK)

DECEASED 16 April 1945

## AWARDS NAVY

D.D.

KNIGHT	Herbert Russel	V-19140	L/S.	FILE No.
SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT

WAR SERVICEBADGE

(CLASS)

No. Nil

DATE DESPATCHED:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	1967
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	
M. IN D.	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

RCNVR Nov.45 "ESQUIMALT"

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS  
PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Louise G. Knight - Widow

ADDRESS: ~~Box 697,~~ 10 Victoria Ave. S.  
LEAMINGTON, Ont. 13-8-48

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW Mrs. L. G. Knight

ADDRESS: Box 697  
LEAMINGTON, Ontario

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER Mrs. L. Knight

ADDRESS: 8 Victoria Avenue  
LEAMINGTON, Ontario

MEMORIAL BAR

(1)

DATE DESP

REGN. NO

1994

(2)

4 June 1945

(3)

28 June 1945