



P256791

7

ATTESTATION FORM

FOR OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

(A) **DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT**

SURNAME..... SMART		PERMANENT ADDRESS	
CHRISTIAN NAME..... JOHN MORRIS GREGORY		101 Mount Pleasant Road,	
RELIGION..... C of E.		Toronto, Ontario.	
DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
11 October 1923	Town Toronto	Mother Mrs. Dorothy P. Woollicombe Same Address.	
	County York		
	Province Ontario		
	Country Canada		

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COM- PLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet..... 5	Inflated..... 37	Fair	Blue	Fair	None.
Inches..... 7½	Deflated..... 34				
146	Mean..... 35½				

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RANK IN WHICH ENROLLED	MARRIED, SINGLE, OR WIDOWER	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
DIV. STRENGTH 16 October '42	PROBATIONARY SUB-LIEUTENANT RCNVR (TEMP)	SINGLE	Student.

(B) **DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY APPLICANT**
ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.S. 103-2-1 dated 5 Oct. '42

I hereby declare as follows:—

- (1) That I am a British Subject, domiciled in Canada.
- (2) That I am desirous of being enrolled as an Officer of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Force, and that I accept and will 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.

* Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM	TO

(c) I have never been rejected for 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.

OVER

(5) On being enrolled as an Officer of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I do hereby make and bind myself:—

(a) To serve from the date thereof for as long as my services may be required, being subject to the provisions of the Naval Service Act, and of the regulations made in pursuance thereof for the governing 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 provide myself with the necessary uniform as laid down in R.C.N.V.R. Regulations.

Dated this Sixteenth day of October 1942



Signature of Applicant.


The above declaration was made and signed in my presence this Sixteenth
day of October 1942


Signature of Enrolling Officer.
Lieutenant R.C.N.V.R.

(C) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

John Morris Gregory Smart
I 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 

Signature of Officer administering the Oath 

Rank Lieutenant R.C.N.V.R.

Date 16th October, 1942.

The Oath of Allegiance may be administered by any commissioned officer of the Naval Service.

NOTE.—This form when completed is to be forwarded to Naval Service Headquarters, Ottawa, together with Certificate of medical examination B-207, and record of any previous service.

The record of previous service will be returned after examination at Naval Service Headquarters.

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

103-S-386

0-67710

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME SMART

(Surname)

John Morris Gregory

(Given Names)

DATE OF BIRTH

11 October, 1923.

PLACE OF BIRTH

Toronto, Ontario.

OCCUPATION

Student.

RELIGION

Church of England

EDUCATION

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No.

101 Mount Pleasant Road

Town

Toronto

Province, etc.

Ontario

Date (in figures)			Period	Height	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Marks or Scars	PREVIOUS SERVICE		
Day	Month	Year							Served in	Rank or Rating	Dates From To
16	10	42	Hostilities only.	5'7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Fair	Blue	Fair				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil)

Wife

NAME (in pencil)

Mrs. Grace J. Smart

ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No.

c/o Mrs. D. A. Scott

Town

Frederic P. D.

Province, etc.

N.S.

MEDALS, CLASPS, HURT CERTIFICATES, PRIZE MONEY

EXAMINATIONS, CERTIFICATES, ETC.

24-4-45

Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			PARTICULARS
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
				28	10	43	N.E. Off. A/S Crse. 96%				
				5	9	45	Watchkeeping Certificate				

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. CMR.P.D. 443-2

DATE

Date (in figures)

DAYS FORFEITED

O.H.F. Received

Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.
-----	-------	------	--------	-------	-------	----------	----------	----------------

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From

To





OFFICIAL NUMBER _____ NAME SMART John Morris Gregory OFFICIAL NUMBER _____
 (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. York	P/Sub-Lieut. T.	16	10	42	per Appt. 29-10-42.												
H.M.C.S. York	P/Sub-Lieut. T.	1	4	43	Per Appt. 13.8.43												
" " Cornwallis	" " " "	8	9	43	addl. for Executive Officer's course-Appt. 4-9-43												
H.M.C.S. Kings	P/Sub-Lieut. T.	23	10	43	addl. for training and disposal Per Appt. 3.11.43												
HMCS Sault Ste. Marie	Sub-Lieut. T.	29	1	44	(Temp.) Confirmed with Seniority of 1.4.43 Per Appt. 24.1.44												
" " " "	A/Lieut. T.	1	4	44	(temp.) Appt. 29.4.44												
HMCS Esquimalt	A/Lieut. T.	12	10	44	per appt. 23.10.44.												
H.M.C.S. Esquimalt	A/Lieut. T.	7	4	45	as Executive Officer Per Appt. 27-4-45												
DISCHARGED	A/Lieut. T.	16	4	45	"Missing" Per Casualty List Page 145 24-4-45 Correction Sheet page #85 Presumed Dead												

GENERAL REMARKS

*15 days annual leave from 1/1/44
 address 430 Besserer St
 Ottawa Ont*

*14+2 days annual leave from 1/1/44
 address 20 Farnham Ave Toronto
 Ont*

Memorial Cross sent to Wife:
 Mrs. Maud I. Smart,
 20 Farnham Ave.,
 Toronto, Ont. 28-5-45.

Memorial Cross sent to Mother:
 Mrs. George A. Woollcombe
 430 Besserer St.,
 Ottawa, Ont. 28-6-45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL OCCU.		RELI.	PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT			
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GION		P.	CTY.	TOWN	SERV. DIV.	A.	BR.	RANK	
11	0	23	11	XXX	0		30	X	1	56	14	0	23	2	01/12
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		
16	10	42	01	04	43					139	0	01	12		
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB		M				CODED	CHECKED				
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.									
01	04	43	13							92					
											<i>Am EW</i>		<i>m-d</i>		

By Command of the Honourable the Minister of National Defence
for Naval Services of the Dominion of Canada

4/2

To Lieutenant John M. G. Smart (Acting), R.C.N.V.R., (Temporary),--

You are hereby appointed

Acting Lieutenant, R.C.N.V.R., (Temporary),

of His Majesty's Canadian Ship ESQUIMALT as Executive Officer.

Your appointment is to take effect from 7th April, 1945.

P.A.'S CHECKED IN
C.R. BY *J*

Joseph Jeffery

Secretary, Naval Board

R.S.
Department of National Defence
Naval Service

W-

Ottawa, 27th April, 1945.

ESQUIMALT.

H.Q. 36a
20M-9-44 (979)
N.S. 7570-H.Q. 36

Personnel Records Division.	
1. Noted in Records	<i>27</i>
2. Index Card	
3. Non Sub. Card	
4. Statistical Card	
5. Reneo Strip	
6. Pension Card	
7.	
8.	
DATE	<i>7/5/45</i>

P.P.

9

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REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

H.M.C.S. IMPREGIANT at Sea

Name SMART, John Herrie Gregory
(Christian names in full)

Rank of Rating Lieutenant, R.C.N., V.R. Official No. 9-57710
(If unknown, date of first entry)

Place of Birth Toronto, Ont. Date of Birth 11 Oct., 1923

Occupation in Civil Life Student Religion Church of England

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) 16 Oct., 1942 - 16th Apr., 1945.

Date of Death 16th Apr., 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 Maude Smart Relationship wife
Address 120 Park Ave. Toronto, Ontario.

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 invalidated.....

A. J. Began
Commanding Officer,

194

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.

NOTED
ESTATES CARD
MAY 31 1945
D.N.P.A. SECT. 11
M.M.O.

LA/CM

R E G I S T E R E D

AIR MAIL

N.S. 0-67710, PERS.(N)

19 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Smart:

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 husband, Lieutenant John Morris Gregory Smart, 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 Lieutenant Smart 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. Maud J. Smart,
c/o Mrs. D. A. Scott,
FAIRVIEW P.O., N.S.

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL 36

N.S. O-67710 PERS(N)

, 7 May, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Smart:

Further to my letter of the 19th of April, 1945, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your husband, Lieutenant John Morris Gregory Smart, 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 seaboat 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 husband has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

LB
Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Maud J. Smart,
c/o Mrs. D.A. Scott,
FAIRVIEW P.O..
N.S.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

Date *8/5/45*
Time *1200*

14 Dundas Esplanade,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
May 1, 1945.

0-67710

18
45

COPY OF LETTER TO MRS MAUDE SMART

20 Farnham Ave., Toronto 5
I had already seen Mrs Smart in Halifax

Dear Maudie:

Ever since the unfortunate action in which Johnny lost his life I've wanted to see you privately, but circumstances were against it.

Johnny left the bridge about fifteen minutes or so before the sinking and went to either the wardroom or his cabin, and at the time of the explosion was killed instantly.

As you know Johnny was more than just "Number One" to me he was a friend. The friendship however had no influence on his promotion to a more responsible position it was his own ability. In line of duty he was willing and competent combined with an enthusiasm for his work that would have brought him up the line to bigger and more responsible positions.

To express sympathy just the right way is always difficult and what makes it more so, is the fine courageous way you have taken the whole thing, however my sympathy is truly heartfelt both as his commanding officer and friend.

Robert C. Macmillan,
Lieut., R. C. N. V. R.

P.A.'S CHECKED IN

G.R. BY *[Signature]*

D OF D 16-4-45

D.D.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

(NAVY)

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

SMART John Morris Gregory		0-67710	A/Lt.	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:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AN DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star,	9540
Atlantic Star,	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp,	
War Medal.	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

RCNVR March 46 "ESQUIMALT"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) <u>MEDALS</u> <u>PERSON</u> ENTITLED TO	McLean (Re-married) Mrs. Maud J. Smart - Widow
ADDRESS:	c/o Messrs Campbell, Jarvis & McKenzie, 603 Sterling Ower, Bay & Richmond Streets, Toronto 1, Ontario. 375 Walmer Rd., TORONTO 10, Ont.
(2) <u>MEMORIAL CROSS</u> WIDOW	Mrs. Maud J. Smart
ADDRESS:	20 Farnham Ave., Toronto, Ont.
(3) <u>MEMORIAL CROSS</u> MOTHER	Mr . George A. Woollcombe
ADDRESS:	430 Besserer St., Ottawa, Ont.

MEMORIAL BAR
(1) DATE DESP.....
REGN. NO. <u>1972</u>

(2) 28-6-45
(3) 28-6-45