

*Unemployment Claims  
 Book Affiliated with  
 Employing Windsor Office  
 RRB*



CANADA

N. V. 5  
 50M-10-41 (1994)  
 N.S. 815-11-5

**ATTESTATION FORM  
 (HOSTILITIES FORM)**

**FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE**

SURNAME STAFFORD OFFICIAL NO. V-37267  
 CHRISTIAN NAMES John Hamish MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Single

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
<u>280 Park St., W., Apt. #14, Windsor, Ontario.</u>	<u>Anglican</u>

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<u>21 January 1921</u>	Town <u>London</u> County Province <u>England</u>	<u>Mrs. Marguerite Stafford</u> <u>--mother--</u> <u>same address.</u>
*Original Nationality of: Father <u>British</u> Mother <u>Swiss</u>		

\*If not the son of natural born British parents, particulars to be given at foot of next page

**(A) PERSONAL DESCRIPTION ON ENROLMENT**

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COMPLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet <u>5</u>	Inflated <u>36 1/2</u>	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Gray</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>None</u>
Inches <u>9 1/4</u>	Deflated <u>34 1/2</u>				
	Mean <u>35</u>				

EDUCATIONAL STANDING	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<u>Junior Matriculation and 2 1/2 months of Chemical Engineering at Night School.</u>	<u>Ford Motor Co.- Windsor, Ont. Stock Checker.</u>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED
<u>Active Service 20th May 1942.</u>	<u>Ordinary Coder</u>	<u>Windsor, Ontario.</u>

**(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 for or discharged 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 to bind myself:—

(a) To serve from the date thereof for the duration of hostilities, 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.

(d) To undergo vaccination or re-vaccination, or inoculation, as considered necessary by the appropriate authorities.

Dated this.....20th..... day of.....May 1942.....

Signature of applicant X John Stafford

(C) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING 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.....May 1942.....

R.R. Baker S/L V.R.  
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I,.....John Hamish STAFFORD..... 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 X John Stafford

Witness R.R. Baker

Date.....20th May 1942..... Rank.....S/L RCNVR.....

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

(E) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

.....John Hamish STAFFORD..... 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, Ontario..... Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

R.R. Baker S/L V.R.  
Attesting Officer.

.....20th May 1942..... R.C.N.V.R. Division (or other establishment).....Windsor, Ontario.....

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.

This is to acknowledge that I have not been induced to enter the.....Cadet..... Branch of the Naval Service by the prospect of being transferred at some future date to another Branch.

X John Stafford  
Signature

46

**O.H.F.** CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

*John Danish Stafford*  
I.C. NS 50091  
in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number <i>V-37267</i>
<i>Halifax, N.S.</i>	<i>Stinson, Ont.</i>	"
		"

Date of Birth <i>21st January 1921</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)
Place of Birth <i>London, England</i>	<i>Mrs. Marguerite Stafford</i>
Place of Residence <i>280 Park St. Windsor, Ont.</i>	<i>1385 Rockland Ave. Victoria B.C.</i>
Trade brought up to <i>Stock checker Ford Motor Co.</i>	<i>22/1/44</i>
Religion <i>Anglican</i>	
Can Swim:—P.P.T. Date..... 19..... Signature..... Rank.....	
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>18th May 1942</i>	<i>20th May 1942</i>	<i>Hostilities</i>	<i>Ord. Cook</i>	<i>15 April 45</i>		<i>Posthumously awarded CVM and clasp.</i>

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<i>5</i>	<i>9 1/4</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Grey</i>	<i>Dark</i>	<i>none</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







V37267

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-S-2749

OFFICIAL NUMBER V37267

NAME STAFFORD (Surname) John Hamish (Given Names) DATE OF BIRTH 21 January, 1921PLACE OF BIRTH London, England OCCUPATION Stock CheckerRELIGION Anglican EDUCATION Jr. Matriculation, & 2½ months Chemical Engineering (Night School)RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 280 Park St., W. Apt. #14 Town Windsor 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
20	5	42	H.O.	5'9½"	Brown	Gray	Fair	Nil				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Mother NAME (in pencil) Mrs. Marjorie StaffordADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 1385 Woodward Ave. Town London, Ontario 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		
				7	7	42	Passed E.T. "One"					
				11	9	42	Qual. ordinary Coder					
				17	2	44	Qual. Anti-Gas 2nd Issue 249A 10.32H					
				7	3	44	Qual. for Ldg. Coder 249A A.019					

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.P. 5639-8  
DATE

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED						O.H.F. Received.
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.	
									Un. Ins. Book-Windsor, Ont.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From To

W.S.G.  
APPLICATION  
10746  
RECEIVED 11/6/45

P.I.B.

V37267

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME STAFFORD

(Surname)

John Hamish

(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V37267

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	Year
HMCS "Hunter"	Ord. Coder	20	5	42	Div. Str. Windsor	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42						
"	"	20	5	42	Active Service	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43						
St. Hyacinthe	"	15	7	42	<i>Wally report</i>	V.G.	SUP	31	12	44						
Stadacona	"	16	9	42	DRD	V.G.	Sipr.	16	4	45						
Avalon	"	27	9	42	DRD											
Protector II	"	13	7	43	WRD No. 20											
	Coder	20	5	43	Rated. 249A/43176											
Avalon	"			43												
Calgary	"	13	10	43	DRD A-870											
Stadacona	"	15	2	44	DRD #69 P.4 Service Cert.											
<del>Three Rivers</del>	"	<del>21</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>44</del>	<del>S.#108 P.22</del>											
<del>Stadacona</del>	"	<del>31</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>44</del>	<del>DRD #112 P.1</del>											
Esquimalt	"	6	4	44	S.#124 P.7											
"	Ldg. Coder	1	5	44	Memo. 14-9-44.											
DISCHARGED	"	16	4	45	"Missing" per Casualty list. Presumed dead (page #147)											

GENERAL REMARKS

Awarded Canadian Memorial Cross to Mother:  
Mrs. Marguerite Stafford,  
1385 Rockland Avenue  
Victoria, B.C. 28.6.45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL OCCU.		RELI.	ED.	PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT		
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GION	R	CTM	TOWN	TWN	DIV.	A	BR	RANK	
21	1	21	22	830	0	20	0	112	12	0	11	0	0	99	
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		
20	05	42	20	05	42					3690	0	29	94		
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB		M	CODED			CHECKED					
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.									
20	05	43	13	00	00		M.B. 540			20					



204

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

H.M.C.S. REGIMENT at Sea

Name STAFFORD, John Rankin  
(Christian names in full)

Rank of Rating Leading W/Color Official No. V-37807 R.C.N.V.R.  
(If unknown, date of first entry)

Place of Birth London, England Date of Birth 21 Jan., 1921

Occupation in Civil Life Stock Checker 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) 20th May, 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 Marguerite Stafford Relationship mother  
Address 1785 Brookland Ave.,  
Pointe Manor, Victoria, B.C.

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 \*\*\*\*\*

*[Signature]*  
Commanding Officer,  
194

*Noted  
A.N.P. a  
29.5.45  
L.D.*

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.

LA/YB

REGISTERED  
AIR MAIL

N.S. V-37267, PERS.(N)

19 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Stafford:

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 son, John Hamish Stafford, Leading Coder, Official Number V-37267, 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 Coder Stafford 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. Marguerite Stafford,  
1385 Rockland Ave.,  
VICTORIA, B. C.

LA/CM

REGISTERED

AIR - MAIL

N.S. V-37267. PERS.(N)

7 May, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Stafford:

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 son, John Hamish Stafford, Leading Coder, V-37267, 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 sunk 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 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 son has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

*LH*  
Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Marguerite Stafford,  
1385 Rockland Avenue,  
VICTORIA, B.C.

*[Signature]*  
Date 8/5/45  
Time 1200





MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

RCNVR Nov. 45 "ESQUIMALT"

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS  
PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mr. Herbert C. Stafford - Father

ADDRESS: ~~#68 Royal Windsor, Apts., 2961-111th St.~~  
~~Windsor, Ontario~~ TOLEDO, Ohio, U.S.A.

*no later address*

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER Mrs. Marguerite Stafford

1385 Rockland Ave., Victoria, B.C.

ADDRESS:

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP

CANCELLED

REGN. NO

287

(2)

(3)

28-6-45

16-4-45

## AWARDS NAVY

D.D.

STAFFORD	John Hamish	V-37267	L/Coder	FILE No.
SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT


WAR SERVICEBADGE

(CLASS)

No.

DATE DESPATCHED:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION
1939-45 Star	<div data-bbox="1041 648 1660 863" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>03-70121 M</p>  <p>P</p> </div> <p><i>MEDALS. RET'D UNDELIV'D RETURNED TO STOCK 12.10.49</i></p> <p>354</p> <p>714 9/11/49</p>
Atlantic Star	
Defence Medal	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	
	(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)