

ATTESTATION FORM

(HOSTILITIES FORM)

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME WHITEHEAD	a Mansell M		official No. 1490 3	
PE	RMANENT ADDRESS		RELIGION	
5765 McKinnon St	. Vancouver, B.C. Dex 1721Y		United Church	
DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAM	E AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
gth June 1917 Father-English Mother-English	Town Oldham County Province Lancaster		her-Mr. Maurice Bruce Whitehead 5 Mckinnon St. Vancouver; 1	30

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION ON ENROLMENT

HEIGHT	CHEST ME	EASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COM- PLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet	Deflated 36	Large A	Light Brown	Greeni:	sh Fair	Scar on Forehead over Left eye Scar on Left hand on Wrist Scar right Wrist
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18th June	9 1941	Ordinar	y Seaman	Mil	L Worker	The state of the s
Active RCNV	Service /R	For V/S		I	PAY	LEDGER N.S.H.Q.
(B)	DI	ECLARATIO	N TO BE	MADE	anna Light	10 18.7-11
I hereby dec		ws:			RO	UGH fryumer

- (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.

*Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN

RANK

FROM

TO

Personnel Records

Division.

(c) I have never been rejected from any of His Majesty's Forces on aggrount of unfitness.

(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.

S. Non-Sub. Card.

Statistical Card.

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Roneo Strip.

A DATE

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

(a) To serve from the date thereof for three consecutive years, 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 18th day of June 1941 Signature of applicant Bruce Whitehead (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......18.1h............. day of June 1941 Signature of Commanding Officer. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE (D) I, Bruce Mansell Whitehead 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 Bruce Whitehead Date 18th June 1941 The Oath of Allegiance may be administered by a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service.

(E) CERTIFICATE OF DIVISIONAL COMMANDING OFFICER

Bruce Mansell Whitehead 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 vancouver Division of the 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.

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DISCHARGED Sub-Lieut.T. 16 4 45 "Killed in Action" Per Casualty List 24-4-45 Page 143	
GENERAL REMARKS	
21+8 Promotion for from 1/3	
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Memorial Cross Sent to Wife: Mrs. Betty Whitehead, 4572W-2nd Ave., Vancouver B.C. 28-	
Vancouver B.C. 28-	
Mrs. Morris B. Whitehead General Delivery,	
Alberni, B.C. 2	8-6-45

TRUE CUPY UF

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

Bruce Mansell W H I T E H E A D

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NAVAL TRAINING and ACTIVE SERVICE

Year	SHIP OR E	STABLISHMENT	LEDGI	ER No.	RATING	FROM	то	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE
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REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

H.M.C.S	at	So a	
Name	MTEMEAD, Bruce Manag		
Rank of Rating.	(Christian na	umes in full) Given Officia	al No. B. C. S. C.
Place of Birth	lidiam, Landastor,(A	te of Birth	uno, 1917
Occupation in Civi	l Life R	eligion	lurch of Ganda.
	service in the Navy (Long Service or Reserve ratings)		
Date of Death	16 Apr., 1945	Place of Death	
Cause of Death	(If due to accident, violence, or ener	ny action, particulars to b	e stated briefly)
Nearest known relative or	Name		
friend.	Address		
	e above was informed by Ship		
	eath was registered with local Offi		
	perial Service men, whether Active		
prescribed ret	urn was rendered to the Registrar	General in London, Ed	dinburgh or Dublin, accord-
ing to Nation	ality		
Place of Burial	ality	Date of Burial	(if known)
	, etc., of grave		
Undertaker emplo	yed* * * * * *	(if any)	
If horne for discir	oline only, date D.S.Q. or invalide		* * *
If point for disorp	only, date 2.5.q. or invalide		
noted /3 DPR /3 M30 1.5-1			Commanding Officer,
130 151	45-	••••	194
The Naval Secret Department of			
In all cases Regulations.	this Form is to be sent in addit	ion to the Report by	
Distribution:	File, Imp. W. G. Com., Dom. Sta	t., Register.	ESTATES CARD
C.N.S. 1121 15M—7-40 (5849) N.S. 815-9-1121			JUN + 1945 D.N.P.A. SECT. 11

sy command of the Honourable the Minister of National Defence
for Naval Services of the Dominion of Canada

To Probationary Sub-Lieutenant Bruce M. Whitehead, R.C.N.V.R.,

Dou are hereby appointed confirmed and appointed

Sub-Lieutenant, R.C.N.V.R., (Temporary),

of His Majesty's Canadian Ship ESQUIMALT.

confirmation and appointment

Pour appointment is to take effect from 27th December, 1944.

(With seniority of 22nd October, 1944).

(Pay as confirmed Sub-Lieutenant to commence 2nd August, 1944).

Secretary, Naval Board

Personnel Records Division.

1. Noted in Records

2. Index Card

3. Non-Sub. Card

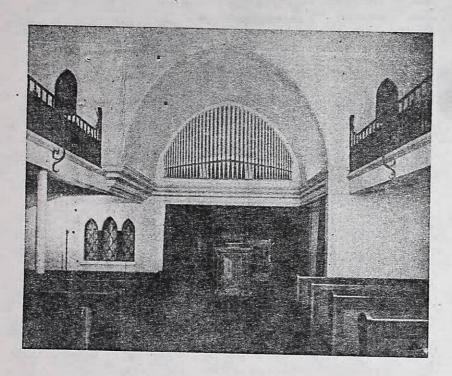
4. Statistical Card

R.S. Department of National Defence Naval Service

Ottawa. 6th January, 194 5.

H.Q. 36a KINGS AND CORNWALLIS addl. for trg. & dsp sqATE 23-1-43

"Chapel of Chimes"



FUNERAL HOME OF

REFINED SERVICE VYR3W8

Property of B Tansley

301 1589 Martin St arRock BC



Funeral Service

of the Late

Sub. Lieut. Bruce M. Whitehead

Born in England, June 8th, 1917 Killed in Action.



and the property of

ORGAN PRELUDE

SOLO: "O Love That Wil't Not Let Me Go"

SCRIPTURE READING

ADDRESS

PRAYER

HYMN-"Nearer, my God, to Thee"

Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross, That raiseth me; Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

Though like a wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God, to thee,
Nearer to thee.

BENEDICTION

Officiating Clergyman—Rev. Walter Goos, Chaplain,
(P)R.C.N.
Rev. E. F. Church

Funeral Service with full Naval Honors, Thursday, April 25th, 1945, at 2:30 p.m., from the "Chapel of Chimes," Harron Bros. Ltd., 55 East Tenth Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

INTERMENT-Ocean View Burial Park.

[You may retain this copy]

AIR MAIL

FILE NO.: N.S. 0-77555 PERS(N)

18 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Whitehead:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 17th of April, 1945, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your husband, Sub-Lieutenant Bruce Mansell Whitehead, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, has been killed in action.

For security reasons, the only information which may be released at this time is that your husband's death was due to enemy action.

As you are aware, his body was recovered and, in accordance with your wishes, is being sent, at public expense, to Vancouver, B.C. You will be informed of the date and time of arrival by the Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "BURRARD", who will be pleased to assist you in making any necessary arrangements for the funeral. The Protestant Chaplain, Reverend J. L. L. Graham, Royal Canadian Navy, who has already contacted you, is also available should you require any further assistance.

It is requested that you will regard the name of the ship in which Sub-Lieutenant Whitehead 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 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,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Betty Whitehead, 645 West 17th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

Despatched by Sec. N. B.

Date/9, 4. 45 Time /3

FILE NO.: N.S. 0-77555 PERS.(N)

. 7 May, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Whitehead:

Further to my letter of the 18th 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 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 unconscicus men for hours after they were picked up, but only two men were revived.

"On the bridge when the explosion came was Sub-Lieutenant B. Whitehead, R.C.N.V.R., Vancouver, who perished later on one of the carley floats."

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

Yours sincerely,

Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Betty Whitehead, 645 West 17th Ave.. Vancouver, B.C. Qa.

D. P. R/5.

AlA

Sec. N. B.

Date 8/5/45 Time 1200

0-77553

60

14 Dundas Esplanade, Charlottetown, P. E. I. May 10, 1945.

Mrs. Betty W. Whitehead, 645 W-17th. Ave. Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mrs. Whitehead:

Your husband, Bruce, was serving under me as Signals officer during the recent action in which he lost his life.

At the time of the action Bruce was officer of the watch and managed to get to a life raft but died a few hours later of exposure.

In line of duty he was willing and competent and in the wardroom a pleasant and popular companion.

To express sympathy just the right way is always difficult. However, your loss is felt deeply by myself and all surviving shipmates.

Yours sincerely,

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

A 'S CHECKED_IN

N.S.O.77555, F.D.66, PERS. (N)

28 June, 1945.

Sir:

With reference to Report of Death respecting the late Sub-Lieutenant Bruce Mansell Whitehead, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, forwarded to you on the 30th of May, 1945, the following information has now been received:

Name of Cemetery: Ocean View Burial Park, Vancouver, B.C.

Date of Burial: April 26th, 1945.

Location of Grave: Plot 125, Grave 2, Heather Section.

Undertaker employed: Harron Bros. Ltd.

Yours truly,

for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Secretary, Imperial War Graves Commission, 312 Transportation Building, OTTAWA, Ontario.

RCNVR Nov. 45 "ESQUIMALT"

ME	DALS AND MEM	IORIALS-DECEASED PERSONNEL	REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH
(1)	MEDALS PERSON		
	ENTITLED TO	Mrs. Betty Whitehead - Widow	(1)
	ADDRESS:	4572 W 2nd Ave., VANCOUVER, B.C.	
(2)	MEMORIAL CROSS WIDOW	Mrs. Earldine Betty Whitehead	(2)
	ADDRESS:	4572 W 2nd Ave., Vancouver, B.C.	28-6-45
(3)	MEMORIAL CROSS MOTHER	Mrs. Morris B. Whitehead	(3) 28-6-45
	ADDRESS:	General Delivery Albernie, B.C.	MEMORIAL BAR
			DATE DESP.
			REGN. NO 706

DVA 806

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS NAVY)

D.D.

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

WHITEHEAD Bruce	Mansell	0-77555	Sub Lt.	FILE No. 381213
SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT
WAR SERVICE BADGE (CLASS) No.	DATE D	DESPATCHED:		
ADDRESS:	A			
	Wnl.			
CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REG	ISTRATION NU	MBER AN DATE D	ESPATCHED
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C.V.S.M. & Clasp,				
War Medal.				
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