



ATTESTATION FORM
(HOSTILITIES FORM)

NS 92334

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE *62740*

SURNAME CHALMERS OFFICIAL No. V-~~62740~~
CHRISTIAN NAMES ROBERT JAMES MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER SINGLE

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
<u>33 Chamberlain Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.</u>	<u>Presbyterian</u>

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<u>13 November 1924</u>	Town <u>Toronto</u> County <u>York</u> Province <u>Ontario.</u>	<u>Mother</u> <u>Marion</u> <u>Same Address.</u>
*Original Nationality of: Father <u>Scotch</u> Mother <u>Scotch</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>37</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Hazel</u>	<u>Med</u>	<u>None.</u>
Inches..... <u>7</u>	Deflated..... <u>34</u>				
<u>145</u>	Mean..... <u>35</u>				

EDUCATIONAL STANDING	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<u>two years of High School</u>	<u>Machine Set Up Man,</u> <u>York Arsenal Limited,</u> <u>Weston Road,</u> <u>Toronto, Ontario.</u>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	H.M.C.S. ESTABLISHMENT IN WHICH ENROLLED
<u>DIV. STRENGTH</u> <u>18th May, 1943.</u>	<u>ORDINARY SEAMAN W/T</u> <u>R.C.N.V.R. (TEMP)</u>	<u>H.M.C.S. "YORK"</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, Air Force, 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 Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I undertake and 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 when called and 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 naval establishment 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, until called into active service, 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.

(e) I have not been induced to enter as..... ORD. DIV. 4/T by the prospect of being transferred at some future date to any other branch or rating.

Dated this..... 18th day of..... May, 1943.....

Signature of applicant..... Robert Chalmers.....

(C) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

I hereby certify that all the foregoing statements were made by the volunteer above named and that he has made and signed the above declaration in my presence on this..... 18th.....

day of..... May, 1943.....

My authority for attestation is.....

Goderson
Signature and rank of Attesting Officer.

Lieutenant R.C.N.V.R.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I,..... Robert James Chalmers..... 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..... Robert Chalmers.....

Witness..... Goderson.....

Date..... 18th May, 1943..... Rank..... Lieutenant R.C.N.V.R......

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

NOTE.—Attestation Form in duplicate, Certificate of Medical Examination (B-207) in duplicate, Occupational History Form in triplicate and certificates of previous service are to be forwarded to Naval Service Headquarters **immediately** after attestation.

Certificates of previous service will be returned after examination.

N.V. 17
 COM-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

Robert James CHALMERS

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve *89361* *1st*

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
	<i>H.M.C.S. York</i>	<i>V-62740</i>

Date of Birth	<i>13 November 1924</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)
Place of Birth	<i>Toronto, York, Ontario</i>	<i>Mother</i>
Place of Residence	<i>33 Chamberlain Ave., Toronto, Ont.</i>	<i>Marion</i>
Trade brought up to	<i>Machine St. Rep. Man</i>	<i>1006 Pope Ave 3/10/44</i>
Religion	<i>Presbyterian Church</i>	<i>Toronto Ont</i>
Can Swim:—P.P.T. Date	<i>2/1/43</i>	Signature <i>[Signature]</i> Rank <i>S/Lt</i>
P.S.T. Date		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>18 May '43</i>	<i>Duration 7 months w/1.</i>	<i>Duration 7 months w/1.</i>			

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry	<i>5</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>Fair Hazel</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Fil.</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

NAVAL TRAINING and ACTIVE SERVICE

Year	SHIP OR ESTABLISHMENT	NON-SUB. RATE	RATING	FROM	TO	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE
				<i>Divisional Strength</i>		
	<i>"York"</i>		<i>Lieut. Comm.</i>	<i>18 May '43</i>	<i>29 June '43</i>	
	<i>On Active Service</i>			<i>30 June '43</i>	<i>30 June '43</i>	
	<i>"York"</i>		<i>Ord. Comm.</i>	<i>30 June '43</i>	<i>1 July '43</i>	
	<i>"Montcalm"</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>2 July '43</i>	<i>2 Aug '43</i>	
	<i>Cornwallis</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>4 Aug '43</i>	<i>2 Nov '43</i>	
	<i>St. Hyacinthe</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>3 Nov '43</i>	<i>2 Feb '44</i>	
	<i>"</i>		<i>Off. Del.</i>	<i>5 Feb '44</i>	<i>29 June '44</i>	
	<i>"</i>		<i>Del.</i>	<i>30 June '44</i>	<i>2 July '44</i>	
	<i>Stadocora</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>25 July '44</i>	<i>31 July '44</i>	
	<i>Fort Ramsay</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>1 Aug '44</i>	<i>18 Jan '45</i>	
	<i>Leguine</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>19 Jan '45</i>	<i>6 Feb '45</i>	
	<i>Stadocora (Guysborough)</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>7 Feb '45</i>	<i>7 Feb '45</i>	<i>ASB</i>
	<i>Stadocora</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>8 Feb '45</i>	<i>28 Feb '45</i>	
	<i>Niobe (Guysborough)</i>		<i>"</i>	<i>1 March '45</i>	<i>18 March '45</i>	<i>Reported missing A#045</i>
	<i>Presumed dead to date 18 March '45 (CMM# 241751B) (May '45) (4 Oct '45)</i>					

Wounds Received in Action, Hurt Certificates, Meritorious Service, Special Recommendations, Prizes or other Grants

Date	Details	Captain's Signature
<i>3 July '44</i>	<i>S.B. TM wound #B-101509</i>	

Year	Date
	<i>9 Sep</i>
	<i>1 Oct</i>
	<i>5 Feb</i>
	<i>30 June</i>
	<i>3 Oct '44</i>

V62740

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-G-4664

OFFICIAL NUMBER V62740

NAME **CHALMERS** **Robert James** DATE OF BIRTH **13 Nov. 1924.**
(Surname) (Given Names)PLACE OF BIRTH **Toronto, Ont.** OCCUPATION **Machine Set Up Man**RELIGION **Presbyterian** EDUCATION **2 years High School**RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. **33 Chamberlain Ave.,** Town **Toronto,** Province, etc **Ont.**

Date (in figures)			Period	DESCRIPTION					PREVIOUS SERVICE		
Day	Month	Year		Height	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Marks or Scars	Served in	Rank or Rating	Dates From To
18	5	43	H.O.	5' 7"	fair	hazel	medium	none			

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) **mother** NAME (in pencil) **Miss Marion Chalmers**ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. **1006 Paper Ave.,** Town **Toronto** Province, etc **Ont.**

Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			PARTICULARS
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
				9	9	43	Qual. Anti-Gas, one day.				
				1	10	43	Marked Tr.				
				30	6	44	Qual. for Tel. 21-2-5.3				
				5	2	44	Qual. Ord. Tel.				

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. DATE
WSP-5946-6

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED						O.H.F. Received
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.	
									Last Will & Testament number 3704 received.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From To



V62740

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME **CHALMERS**
(Surname)

Robert James
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V62740

PTB

Ship or Establishment	Rating	From			Remarks	Character	Efficiency	Date			Non-Sub. Rating	Qualified			-Qualified		
		Day	Month	Year				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
HMCS "York"	Ord. Sm. W/T	18	5	43	Div. Str. Toronto	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43	T.O. W/T	3	10	44	4900-946/452		
"	"	30	6	43	Act. Ser. D.L. 30-6-43												
Montcalm	"	2	7	43	D.L. 2-7-43												
Cornwallis	"	3	8	43	D.L. 3-8-43.												
St. Hyacinthe	"	3	11	43	Ord. Tel. 5.2.44. Ser. Cert.												
Stadacona	"	27	7	44	DRD #226 P.1.												
Fort Ramsay	"	1	8	44	DRD Sh. 240 P.7	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	44.							
	Telegraphist	30	6	44	Back Dated Transf. 249A 48290	V.G.	Sat.	18	3	45							
Peregrine	"	31	1	45	DRD S/122 p-5.												
Guyborough	"	8	2	45	DRD S/38 p-2.												
DISCHARGED	"	18	3	45	"Missing") per Casualty List) Presumed Dead. (Casualty list)												

GENERAL REMARKS

Canadian Memorial Cross awarded to (Mother) Mrs. Marion Chalmers, 1006 Pape Ave., Toronto, Ont. to date 5.6.45.

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL OCCU.		REL.	ED.	PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENLI.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT		
BY	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GIOW	P.	CTV.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A	BR	RANK	
13	1	24	11	270	0	50	31	56	14	0	23	0	08	75	
ENLIST. DATE			ACT. SERV. DATE			STR.	ACT. SERV. DATE			SHIP OR	RANK OR RATE				
BY	MO.	YR.	BY	MO.	YR.	CAT.	BY	MO.	YR.	ESTAB.	A	BR	RANK		
18	03	43	30	06	43					962570	08	95			
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB		M				CODED	CHECKED				
BY	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.									
30	06	43	13	00	00					8913					

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

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REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

ADDRESS: NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

Name: CHALMERS Robert James
(Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating: Telegraphist Official No. V-62740 Unit: ~~R.C.N.~~ ~~R.C.N.R.~~ R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth: Toronto, Ont. Date of Birth: 13 November, 1924.

Occupation in Civil Life: Machine Set Up Religion: Presbyterian
Man

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): From 18th May, 1943 to 18 March, 1945.

Date of Death: 18 March, 1945 Place of Death: At Sea.

Cause of Death: Missing, presumed dead. He was serving in H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH" (If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)
which was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action at sea.

Nearest known relative or friend: Name: Mrs. Marion Chalmers Relationship: Mother
Address: 1006 Pape Ave., TORONTO, Ont.

Date on which the above was informed by ship: Naval Service Headquarters: 21 March, 1945.

Date on which death was registered with local Officials: ---

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: ---

If applicable: Place of Burial: No burial. Date of Burial: ---
Location, Number, etc., of grave: ---
Undertaker employed: ---

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

*Noted
D.N.P.A.
4.5.45
E.F.*

H.B. Money

for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.
Date: Ottawa, Ont., 1 May, 1945.

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, Sec. C.P.C., Dir. of Records.

LA/CM

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

N.S. V-62740, PERS. (N) ¹⁸

21 March, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Chalmers:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 21st of March, 1945, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your son, Robert James Chalmers, Telegraphist, Official Number V-62740, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea.

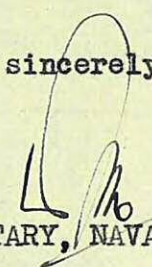
The only information that can be given at this time is that your son is missing at sea as the result of enemy action. The position of the action is such that there is little possibility of him being a prisoner of war and slight hope can be held for his survival.

Please be assured that as soon as further particulars can be released or any other news received, you will be informed.



For security reasons, it is requested that you regard the name of your son's ship in connection with his loss as confidential at this time.

Please accept the sincere sympathy of the Department in your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,


SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Marion Chalmers,
1006 Pape Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.

 
A/A D.P.R.

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c/o C.F.M.O.
London, E.C.2.
April 3, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Chalmers:

It is with deep regret that I write this letter. I am the former Commanding Officer of H.M.C.S. Guysborough in which your son was serving.

I know there is nothing I can say that will take away the grief you are suffering, but I do want you to know how extremely sorry I am.

Your son was one of the ship's company ~~for some time~~ and I can truthfully say there was not a better telegraphist under my command, a fine boy cheerfully disposed under the most trying situations. He was a credit to you and his ship at all times and died gallantly for his country.

If I am ever in your vicinity I hope you will allow me to call on you to express my condolences in person. In the meantime if there is anything I can do please let me know and I will be only too pleased to oblige.

Yours sincerely,

B.R. Russell,
Lieutenant, R.C.N.R.

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23 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Chalmers:

Further to my letter of the 21st of March, 1945, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your son, Robert James Chalmers, Telegraphist, Official Number V-62740, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH", 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 18th of March, 1945.

H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH", a Royal Canadian Navy minesweeper, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine while on operational duty at sea. Five Officers and 48 ratings, including one Royal Navy Officer and one rating who were taking passage, are missing and now presumed dead.

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.

"Only one death occurred from the explosion but many died during the 19 hours the men who had survived the explosion spent in the water clinging to five Carley floats. Only six men of 42 on one overcrowded float lived until the rescue ship, a Royal Navy frigate, arrived.

"Both the air and the water were cold," said one of the survivors. "Most of the men who died, died smiling. If they suffered any, you'd never have known it."

"With the whaler overturned and the ship's motor boat holed by the explosion, only the Carley floats remained for the survivors. Four of the five floats were lashed together and from these the majority of the survivors were picked up. Seven hours after the men abandoned ship only 10 men remained alive on the one overcrowded Carley float. Four others died before rescue came.

"Exposure accounted for the largest number of deaths. Survivors were unanimous in saying that those who died did so quietly and with little apparent suffering.

"When the torpedo struck the Guysborough so much debris littered the decks that the Commanding Officer, Lieut. B. T. R. Russell, R.C.N.R., at first glance, thought his ship had been the victim of two simultaneous torpedoes.

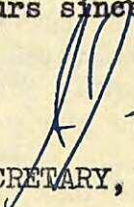
"It looked at first as if the ship would survive. Guns crews were closed up, water-tight doors were closed, bulkheads shored up and every effort made to save the little vessel.

- 2 -


"There was just one fatality from the torpedoing,
although some members of a gun's crew were injured."

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,

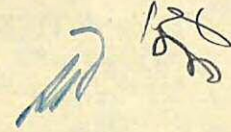

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.


Date 24/4/42
Time 1600

Mrs. Marion Chalmers,
1006 Pape Avenue,
TORONTO, Ontario.





D OF D 18-3-45

AWARDS

(NAVY)

D.D.

CHALMERS	Robert James	V-62740	Tel.	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 NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED
Atlantic Star	<div data-bbox="1100 740 1728 959" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>02-69036 M</p>  <p>P</p> </div>
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	
	9094 22/11/49

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL
RCNVR Nov. 45 "GUYSBOROUGH"

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS
PERSON

No Later Add 8-5-45

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Marion Chalmers - Mother

ADDRESS: 1006 Pape Ave.,
TORONTO, Ont.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER Mrs. M. Chalmers

ADDRESS: 1006 Pape Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

MEMORIAL BAR
(1)
DATE DESP
CANCELLED
REGN. NO

(2)

(3)

5-6-45