

ATTESTATION FORM

(HOSTILITIES FORM)

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

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- (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.

transitifed at some	c future date to any othe	branch of facing.
Dated this	2nd day o	f February, 1944
	Signature of applic	cant James Peter blanke.
(C)	CERTIFICATI	E OF ATTESTING OFFICER
I hereby certif	fy that all the foregoing s	statements were made by the volunteer above named and that
he has made and si	igned the above declarati	ion in my presence on this
day of		Februay, 1944
My authority	for attestation is	nil
		Gh Bott
		Signature and rank of Attesting Officer.
(D)	OATH	Lieutenant, RCNVR. I OF ALLEGIANCE
	be faithful and bear true	do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly e allegiance to His Britannic Majesty, His heirs and successors of Applicant
		Witness 4. Date

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

Rank Lieutenant RCNVR.

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.

Date......2 February, 1944.....

N.V. 17 60M-9-42 (5943) N.S. 815-11-17

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

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 ner is cut off, the fact is to be noted in the James Peter CLARKE Ledger.

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

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Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

	CLARKE, James Peter
	(Christian names in full)
Rank	or Rating Ordinary Seaman Official No. V-77951 Unit R.C.N.V.R.
Place	of Birth OTTAWA, Ontario. Date of Birth 15 January, 1925.
Occuj	ation in Civil Life Student Religion Church of England
Numl	er 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 2nd February, 1944 to 18th March, 1945.
Date	of Death 18th March, 1945 Place of Death At sea.
	of Death "Missing, PRESUMED DEAD". He was serving in H.M.C.S. "GUYSBORO" (If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)
wnlo	was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action at sea.
•••••	Wes Shows Clarks Nother
Neare	Name Mrs. Huna Clarke, Relationship Relationship
	tive or iend. Address 566 Wellington St., OTTAWA, Ontario.
	Warning Warning Washington 23 March
Date	on which the above was informed by Ship Naval Service Headquarters: 21 March,
Date	on which death was registered with local Officials
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In the transfer of the state of	on which death was registered with local Officials case of Imperial Service men, whether Active Service, Pensioner or Reserve, date on which he prescribed return was rendered to the Registrar General in London, Edinburgh or Dublin, ecording to Nationality lace of Burial No burial Date of Burial ocation, Number, etc., of grave
In the transfer of the state of	on which death was registered with local Officials case of Imperial Service men, whether Active Service, Pensioner or Reserve, date on which he prescribed return was rendered to the Registrar General in London, Edinburgh or Dublin, ecording to Nationality lace of Burial No burial Date of Burial ocation, Number, etc., of grave

The Secretary, Naval Board
Department of National Defence,
Ottawa, Canada.

Date OTTAWA, Ontario. 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.

C.N.S. 1121 10M—6-44 (774) N.S. 7570-S-1121

noted p.a. 10.5.45 p.

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N.S. V-77951 Pers. (N)

21 March, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Clarke:

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, James Peter Clarke, Ordinary Seaman, Official Number V-77951, 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. Huna Clarke, 566 Wellington Street, OTTAWA, Ontario.



23 April, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Clarke:

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, James Peter Clarke, Ordinary Seaman, Official Number V-77951, 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. While there is no official confirmation of these statements, they are believed to be authentic, considering their source:

"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.

"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. Mrs. Huna Clarke, Despatched by 566 Wellington Street, Sec. N. B. OTTAWA, Ontario.

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

Dear Mrs. Clarke:

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 without and I can truthfully say there was not a better seaman 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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