



CANADA

N. V. 5
50M-1-41 (8973)
N.S. 815-11-5

ATTESTATION FORM (HOSTILITIES FORM)

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME CROSSON OFFICIAL NO. ✓ 36397
CHRISTIAN NAMES ABRAHAM BULLARD MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Single

PERMANENT ADDRESS		RELIGION
3925 West 14th Ave., Vancouver, B. C. A1. 1367 R		Presbyterian
DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
26th Sept. 1913	Town North Bend County Province B. C.	Mother: Mrs. Madeline CROSSON 3925 West 14th Ave., Vancouver, B. C.
*Original Nationality of:		
Father <u>Scottish</u>		
Mother <u>Scottish</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</u>	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>NIL</u>
Inches..... <u>9 3/4</u>	Deflated..... <u>33</u>				
	Mean..... <u>34</u>				
EDUCATIONAL STANDING			TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY		
completed 3 yr. high school			Unemployed O.H.F.		
DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED			
27th Feb. 1942 Div. Strength	Ord. Coder	H.M.C.S. "DISCOVERY"			

(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
-----	----- N I L -----	-----	-----

(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 Vancouver 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 27th day of February, 1942

Signature of applicant Abrosson

(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 27th day of February, 1942

Jar Clark Sub-Lieut. RCNVR
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Abraham Bullard Crosson 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 Abrosson

Witness Jar Clark

Date 27th Feb. 1942 Rank Sub-Lieutenant, RCNVR

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

(E) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

Abraham Bullard Crosson 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. or in the appropriate official documents.

Jar Clark Sub-Lieut. RCNVR
Attesting Officer.

27th Feb. 194 2 R.C.N.V.R. Division (or other establishment) H.M.C.S. "DISCOVERY"

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 CODER Branch of the Naval Service by the prospect of being transferred at some future date to another Branch.

Abrosson
Signature

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

A
.....ABRAHAM BULLARD CROSSON.....

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Identification Card No 43125 Issued

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
<u>ESQUIMALT</u>	<u>VANCOUVER</u>	<u>V-36397</u>
		"
		"

Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil) 6/12/44

Date of Birth 26 Sept, 1913

Place of Birth North Bend, B.C.

Place of Residence 3925 W. 14 Ave, Vancouver, BC

Trade brought up to OFFICE CLERK **O.H.F.** same address

Religion Presbyterian

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	
	<u>27 Feb. '42</u>	<u>HOSTILITIES</u>	<u>ORD. COOR.</u>			

	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<u>5</u>	<u>9 ³/₄</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>Brown</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Nil.</u>
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	LEDGER		RATING	FROM	TO	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE
		List	No.				
1942	H.M.C.S. "DISCOVERY"			ORD. CODER	27 Feb '42	13 Mar '42	
					<i>ACTIVE SERVICE</i>		
1942	H.M.C.S. "Discovery"			Ord. Coder	14 Mar '42	9 May '42	
1942	H.M.C.S. "St. Hyacinthe"			Ord. Coder	10 May '42	3 July	
	NADEN			"	4 July	15 July '42	
	Greenby (Canso) ✓			"	16 July '42	21 Jan '43	
	Chatham (Canso) ✓			"	22 Jan '43	19 Feb '43	
	Chatham			"	20 Feb '43	13 Mar '43	
	"			"	14 Mar '43	18 Oct '43	
	NO 21 Montreal Stadacona			Coder	14 Mar '43	14 Dec '43	
	for (Lynsborough)			"	19 Oct '43	19 Feb '44	
	Nishe (Lynsborough) ✓			A/H/Coder (17)	15 Dec '43	29 Nov '44	20113
	Stadacona (— — —)			"	30 Nov '44	25 Feb '45	
	Nishe (— — —)			"	1 Mar '45	18 Mar '45	Reported Missing Crested Sig 20192019 7 Mar '45 Presumed Dead Crested Sig 2417518 May '45

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

Date	Details	Captain's Signature
3 Sep '43	S.C.T.M. # 40904	

V36397

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-G-2207

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V36397

NAME CROSSON (Surname) Abraham Bullard (Given Names) DATE OF BIRTH 26 September, 1913

PLACE OF BIRTH North Bend, B.C. OCCUPATION Unemployed

RELIGION Presbyterian EDUCATION 3 years High School

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 3925 West 14th Ave. Town Vancouver Province, etc. B.C.

Table with columns: ENGAGEMENTS (Date, Period), DESCRIPTION (Height, Hair, Eyes, Complexion, Marks or Scars), PREVIOUS SERVICE (Served in, Rank or Rating, Dates).

NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) NAME (in pencil)

ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. Town Province, etc.

Table with columns: MEDALS, CLASPS, HURT CERTIFICATES, PRIZE MONEY; EXAMINATIONS, CERTIFICATES, ETC. (Date, Particulars).

Table with columns: BADGES, G.C. OR G.S.; BRIEF PARTICULARS OF WARRANT OR C.M. PUNISHMENTS AND C.P. CHARGES (SHIP OR ESTABLISHMENT, Wt. No., Date, BRIEF PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE, PUNISHMENT).

Table with columns: DAYS FORFEITED (Date, Prison, Det'n, Cells, C. Power, W. Trial, In diff. Char.); O.H.F. Received; Un. Ins. Bk. at 425 Howe St., Vancouver, B.C.; Last Will & Testament #18891 Received.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT From To

FILM NO. 5550-8 DATE

W.S.G. APPLICATION 1165 RECEIVED

V36397

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME

CROSSON

(Surname)

Abraham Bullard

(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V36397

P.I.B.

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
HMCS "DISCOVERY"	Ord. Coder	27	2	42	Div. Str. Vancouver	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
" "	"	14	3	42	Active Service. (D)	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
St. Hyacinthe	"	10	5	42	T.L.	V.G.	Supr.	31	12	44							
Naden	"	4	7	42	85718	V.G.	Supr.	18	3	45							
Canso	"	16	7	42	90430												
	Coder	14	3	43	249A 13060												
Chatham	"	20	2	43	S.C.												
Guysborough	"	16	10	43													
	A/Ldg. Coder	15	12	43	Memo. 4.8.44												
DISCHARGED	"	18	3 rd	45	MISSING Per C.L.												

Presumed Dead (page #139)

GENERAL REMARKS

Awarded Canadian Memorial Cross to Mother
 Madeline Crosson,
 3925 West 14th Avenue,
 Vancouver, B.C. 4.6.45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE OF BIRTH		CIVIL OCCU.		RELI.	ED.	PERM.	RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT		
DY.	MO.	YR.	MAIN	SUB.	GION	R.	CTV.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A	BR	RANK			
26	9	13	18	RRR	0	50			19	04	10	0	08	0	09	95
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			
27	02	42	14	03	42					3290	1	04	93			
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB.		M.				CODED		CHECKED				
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.										
15	12	43	13	00	00											

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

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H.M.C.S. NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, Ottawa, Ont.

Name GROSSON Abraham Bullard (Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Leading Coxswain Official No. V-36397 Unit R.C.N. R.C.N.R. R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth North Bend, B.C. Date of Birth 26th Sept., 1913

Occupation in Civil Life Unemployed Religion Presbyterian

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 27th February, 1942 to 18th March, 1945

Date of Death 18th March, 1945 Place of Death At Sea

Cause of Death Missing, presumed dead. He was serving in H.M.C.S. "GUYSBOROUGH" which was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action at sea.

Nearest known relative or friend Mrs. Madeline Grosson Relationship Mother Address 3925 West 14th Ave. VANCOUVER, B.C.

Date on which the above was informed by Ship H.M.C.S. 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

H.B. Money Commanding Officer for Secretary, Naval Board Date Ottawa, Ont., 1 May, 1945

The SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD 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, Sec. C.P.C., Dir. of Records.

Noted D.N.P.A 9-5-45 G.D.

VERIFICATION FOR
 CAMPAIGN STARS, DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL
 NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL

NAME IN FULL CROSSON, Abraham Bullard RANK/RATING ... Lt./Cdr....

SHIP	SERVICE			AREA	QUA	
	FROM	TO	DAYS		FROM	TO
	14-3-42					
<u>Canso</u>	<u>16-7-42</u>	<u>19-2-43</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>WC.</u>		
<u>Guysborough</u>	<u>19-10-43</u>	<u>18-3-45</u>	<u>5-16</u>	<u>Atl F.g.</u>		
<u>Dis. Dead (Guysborough)</u> <u>to date</u>		<u>18-3-45</u>				

VERIFIED BY C. McHugh

VERIFIED BY

VERIFICATION FORM
 DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M. and CLASP.
 GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

RATING ... *L/Cdr.* ... OFF. NO. *V 36397* ... ADDRESS

QUALIFYING PERIODS IN DAYS							STARS MEDALS	✓ 1 2	ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS OF
FROM	TO	1939-45 ATLANTIC	DEFENCE	CLASP C.V.S.M.	1915 MEDAL				
						1939-45	1	<i>Star</i>	
						ATLANTIC	1	<i>Clasp</i>	
						FRANCE G.	2		
						AFRICA			
						PACIFIC			
						BURMA			
						ITALY			
						DEFENCE			
						C.V.S.M.	2	<i>Clasp</i>	
						" CLASP			
						WAR 1945	1	<i>Medal</i>	
						WAR 1915			

VERIFIED BY *E M Wagh*
EWS

BY DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS.

21 March, 1945. 21

Dear Mrs. Crosson:

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, Abraham Bullard Crosson, Leading Coder, Official Number V-36397, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea.

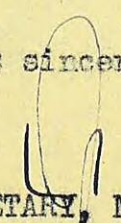
The only information that can be given at this time is that your son is missing at sea as the result of enemy action. The position of the action is such that there is little possibility of him being a prisoner of war and slight hope can be held for his survival.

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. Madeline Crosson,
3925 West 14th Ave.,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

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

Dear Mrs. Crosson:

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 **coder** 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.

N.S. V-36397, PERS.(N)

23 April, 1945.

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Dear Mrs. Crosson:

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, Abraham Bullard Crosson, Leading Coder, Official Number V-36397, 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.

"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. Madeline Crosson,
3925 West 14th Ave.,
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

Date
Time

22.4.45
1215

D OF D 18-3-45

AWARDS NAVY

D.D.

CROSSON	Abraham Bullard	V-36397	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 NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	8122.
Atlantic Star & Clasp	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

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

(1) MEDALS
PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Madeline Crosson - Mother

ADDRESS: 3925 West 14th Ave.,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER Mrs. M. Crosson

ADDRESS: West 14th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP.....

(1)

REGN. NO.....

283

(2)

(3)

4-6-45