



DEPT NATIONAL DEFENCE

N. V. 4
2M-2-40 (4016)
N.S. 815-4

MAR 23 1940
N.S. 103 H 110
CANADA

P 33939

ATTESTATION FORM

FOR OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

(A) DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

SURNAME <i>Holland</i>		PERMANENT ADDRESS
CHRISTIAN NAME <i>Thomas Vincent</i>		<i>Souris</i>
RELIGION <i>Roman Catholic</i>		<i>P.E.I.</i>
DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<i>Jan. 24, 1919</i>	Town <i>Edmunda</i> County Province <i>P.E.I.</i> Country	<i>(F) Peter E. Holland</i> <i>Souris, P.E.I.</i>

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PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COM- PLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet..... <i>5</i>	Inflated..... <i>36 1/2</i>	<i>Light Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>None</i>
Inches..... <i>11</i>	Deflated..... <i>33</i>				
<i>139 lbs</i>	Mean..... <i>34</i>				
DATE OF ENROLMENT	RANK IN WHICH ENROLLED	MARRIED, SINGLE, OR WIDOWER	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY		
<i>Dec. 13, 1940</i>	<i>Prob. Sub. II.</i>	<i>single</i>	<i>Teacher</i> <i>H. Dunstons</i> <i>University</i>		

(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 an Officer of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Force, and that I accept and will 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 *R.C.N.V.* for the period shown, and attach my record of service.

* Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM	TO
<i>R.C.N.V.</i>	<i>ENTERED IN PAY LEDGERS</i> <i>H.M.C.S. "BYTOWN"</i> <i>FAIR</i> <i>Harvey</i>	<i>June 1937</i>	<i>June 1940</i>

- (c) I have never been rejected for 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.

Noted in Service
Records by *L.D.*

(OVER)

(*) On being enrolled as an Officer of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, I undertake and myself:—

(a) To serve from the date thereof for as long as my services may be required, being subject to the provisions of the Naval Service Act, and of the regulations made in pursuance thereof for the governing 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 provide myself with the necessary uniform as laid down in R.C.N.V.R. Regulations.

Dated this 13th day of December 19 40

Thomas V. Holland
Signature of Applicant.

The above declaration was made and signed in my presence this 13th day of December 19 40

[Signature]
Signature of Enrolling Officer.
Lieut. R.C.N.V.R.

(C) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I Thomas V. Holland 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 Thomas V. Holland

Signature of Witness [Signature]

Date Dec. 13, 1940

Rank Lieut. R.C.N.V.R.

The Oath of Allegiance may be administered by any commissioned officer of the Naval Service.

NOTE.—This form when completed is to be forwarded to Naval Service Headquarters, Ottawa, together with Certificate of medical examination B-207, and record of any previous service.

The record of previous service will be returned after examination at Naval Service Headquarters.

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

103-H-110

0-33770

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME

HOLLAND
(Surname)

Thomas Vincent
(Given Names)

DATE OF BIRTH

24 January, 1919

PLACE OF BIRTH

Elmira, P.E.I.

OCCUPATION

Teacher

RELIGION

Roman Catholic

EDUCATION

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No.

Town

Souris

Province, etc

P.E.I.

ENGAGEMENTS			Period	DESCRIPTION					PREVIOUS SERVICE			
Date (in figures)				Height	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Marks or Scars	Served in	Rank or Rating	Dates	
Day	Month	Year								From	To	
13	12	40	H.O.	5'11"	Light Brown	Blue	Fair	Nil	R.C.A.M.C.	Pte.	6-37	6-40

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil)

Father

NAME (in pencil)

Peter J Holland

ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No.

Town

Souris

Province, etc

P.E.I.

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	2	44	Ribbon & Clasp of C.V.S.M.	21	11	41	A/S New Entry Off. Crse. 89%				
8	2	44	Ribbon of 1939-43 Star	1	2	43	Watchkeeping Certificate				
14	8	45	Mention in Despatches	2	2	45	Result Short "n" Course 84.3%				

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. WSR-4328-8
DATE

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED						In diff. Char.
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial		
									O. H. F. received

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From

To

W.S.G.
APPLICATION
10-25-6
RECEIVED 10/6/48

V.R.

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME HOLLAND
(Surname)

Thomas Vincent
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

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
Div Str Charlottetown	Prob Sub-Lt T	13	12	40													
Duty Div. Hdqtrs.	Prob Sub-Lt T	18	8	41													
H.M.C.S. Stadacona	Prob Sub-Lt T	20	8	41													
" Minas	Sub. Lieut. T	29	12	41													
H.M.C.S. Minas	Lieutenant T.	18	8	43	per Appt. 17-8-43												
H.M.C.S. Kings	Lieutenant T.	6	11	44	addl. for short (n) Crse.	per Appt. 28-10-44											
HMCS Guysborou, h	Lieutenant(n) T	29	1	45	per Appt 7-2-45												
DISCHARGED	Lieutenant	18	3	45	"Missing" Per Casualty List 26-3-45 Page 138	-Presumed Dead-per											

GENERAL REMARKS

*Transferred from 13/12/43
 28 days leave from 11-5-45
 Address: Roberts, P.F.S.
 28 days leave from 7-10-44
 18 days leave from 3-1-45*

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL	OCCL.	RELI.	ED.	PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT		
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB.	GION	P.	CTV.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A.	BR.	RANK	
24	1	19	13	7200	0	10	3	01	049	18	2	01	12		
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.	DR.	RANK		
13	12	40	18	08	41					3450	0	01	09		
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB.		M.	CODED			CHECKED					
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A.	B.	ST.									
18	08	43	12	00	00										

INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS' RECORDS

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

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REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

H.M.C.S. NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

Name HOLLAND Thomas Vincent
(Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Lieutenant Official No. -- Unit R.C.N.
R.C.N.R.
R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth Elmiro, P.E.I. Date of Birth 24 January, 1919.

Occupation in Civil Life Teacher Religion Roman Catholic

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 13 December, 1940 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 Mr. Peter E. Holland Relationship Father
Address SOURIS, P.E.I.

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

H.B. Money

(Commanding Officer)
for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

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

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.

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

*Noted
D.N.P.A.
9-5-45
L.D.*

ATTESTATION

H-453

NON-PERMANENT ACTIVE MILITIA OF CANADA

UNIT.....

REGTL. No. F544387

1. Surname? (Block letters) HOLLAND
2. Christian names? THOMAS
3. Present address? St Dunstan's College Belmont
Phone No. 1286
4. Date of Birth?* 24-1-19 5. British subject? Yes
6. Occupation? Singer 7. Religion? R.C.
8. Next of Kin Peter Holland 9. Relationship? Father
Address Paris
10. Previous Naval, Military or Air Force Service.....
(Give particulars, qualifications, etc.)

298381

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Height 5' 11 3/4 Weight 138 Chest max 37 min 35"

Descriptive marks nil

I have examined the above named man in accordance with instructions laid down in Instructions for the R.C.A.M.C. and C.A.D.C. 1937 Appendix V and find him fit Category regular

Date Oct 17/40 Signature G. H. Smith General

DECLARATION TO BE MADE ON ATTESTATION

I, the undersigned Thomas Holland do sincerely and solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above answers (made by me) to the foregoing questions are true; that I am willing to be attested for the term of three years or until legally discharged, and do understand the nature and terms of this engagement, that I will safeguard all clothing, arms and equipment issued to me and will return same when required, and that I will report any change in address of myself, or my next of kin to my Commanding Officer.

OATH TO BE TAKEN

I, Thomas Holland do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.

Signature of Witness Thomas Holland Signature of Man

Dated this 17 day of October 1940 at

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

The recruit above-named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answers to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished by law. The above questions were then read to the recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question and that his answer to each question has been duly entered and replied to, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath.

G. A. Macdonald
Signature of Magistrate, Justice of Peace, or Attesting Officer

Statement of Services

Promotions, Reductions, Transfers, Casualties, Annual Training, Qualification Certificates, etc.	Effective Date	Authority for Entry	Signatures of Officers Certifying Correctness of entries
Accepted for Service with effect from..... <i>October 17, 1940</i>	<i>17-10-40</i>	<i>Part IV Orders #2, 29-11-40</i>	<i>G.A. Macdonald Akoff</i> Officer Commanding Unit, <i>St. Demetrius Unit</i>
<i>Training Period 1940-41 - 115 hrs Passed first paper (Common to all arms) Struck off strength to take commission in R.C.N.V.R. effective 31-3-41</i>		<i>Part II Order #8, 21-4-41</i>	<i>C.O.T.C</i> <i>H. h. Johnston</i> h t
Medals and Decorations			

NOTE.—These entries are to be made from time to time as they occur and certified by the Officer making the entry.

Attestations to be made out in duplicate, the original being forwarded to be filed in Regimental Orderly Room, the duplicate to be kept in the Battery, Squadron, Company, etc

Statement of Services

M.F.B. 235d
20M-1-40 (3608)
H.Q. 1772-39-1545

Promotions, Reductions, Transfers, Casualties, Annual Training, Qualification Certificates, etc.	Effective Date	Authority for Entry	Signatures of Officers Certifying Correctness of entries
Accepted for Service with effect from..... Officer Commanding Unit.....

NOTE.—These entries are to be made from time to time as they occur and certified by the Officer making the entry.

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KA/CM

R E G I S T E R E D

AIR MAIL 42

N.S. 0-33770. PERS.(N)

21 March, 1945.

Dear Mr. Holland:

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, Lieutenant Thomas Vincent Holland, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, is missing at sea.

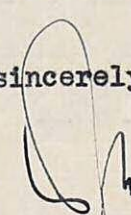
The only information that can be given at this time is that your son is missing at sea as the result of enemy action. The position of the action is such that there is little possibility of him being a prisoner of war and slight hope can be held for his survival.

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.

Mr. Peter E. Holland,
SOURIS, P.E.I.

GMA *JD* 4 *M*

C O P Y

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

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Dear Mr. Holland:

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

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.

Tommy was only in the ship for a short time but we had already become close friends and had much in common, particularly because he was so extremely keen on navigation. I can truthfully say I have never met a better navigator and he was a credit to you and his ship at all times. I cannot praise him too highly. He was most popular on the ship and his loss is deeply felt by those of us who survived.

Regulations prevent me from giving a detailed description of all that happened but I can say that Tommy, although injured in the back, was able to get to a carley float where after saying a prayer and enquiring if I was safe, he died. He could not have suffered long as he died very soon after his injury but he died for his country a gallant gentleman.

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.

21 April, 1945. 52

Dear Mr. Holland:

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, Lieutenant Thomas Vincent Holland, 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."

One of the survivors is reported to have stated:

"The navigating officer, Lieut. Thomas Holland, of Souris, P.E.I., was one of those who made my raft but he died in it of a broken back."

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.

Mr. Peter E. Holland,
Souris, P.E.I.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

Date 22.4.45
Time 1330

"There was just one fatality from the torpedoing, although some members of a gun's crew were injured."
One of the survivors is reported to have stated:
"The navigating officer, Lieut. Thomas Holland, of Souris, P.E.I."

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

RCNVR Jan. 46 "GUYSBOROUGH"

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

1) MEDALS
PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Katherine Holland - Executrix

ADDRESS: c/o Melvin J. McQuaid,
Barrister & Solicitor,
Souris, P.E.I.

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP.....

REGN. NO. 196

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(2)

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER

*Special award - amended ruling.
Step Mother qualified - Now deceased
Issued to Mrs. Beatrice (Holland) White (Sister)*

~~DECEASED~~ *Souris West, P.E.I. →*

Prushie

JUN 17 1970
(3)

ADDRESS:

DECEASED 18 March 1945

AWARDS NAVY

D&D.

OLLAND		Thomas Vincent	0-33770	Lieut	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	
Atlantic Star & Clasp	Souris West, P.E.I. (Req).
C.V.S.M. and Clasp	
War Medal	2502, 2-2-50
M. In D.	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)