

Next of Kin- Mother- Eva Labonte. Religion - R.C.  
 3424 City Hall Ave.  
 Montreal. P.Q. Swim - Yes

55—(Revised, Nov., 1921).  
 S. 55.

H.M.C.S. STADACONA "

OFFICIAL No. IF KNOWN.  
 Space to be left vacant  
 if not known

2408 3A

## Continuous Service Engagement, or Re-engagement

To be forwarded to the Chief Accountant, Naval Service Department, with Form S. 59

CHRISTIAN AND SURNAME IN FULL		PRESENT RATING
Laurent Joseph Lucienne Bertrand.		Ord Seaman
DATE OF BIRTH*	PLACE OF BIRTH†	NAME, RANK AND STATION OF RECRUITING OFFICER
8th January 1911	Montreal	Commander
	County	V. G. Brodeur,
	Province: Quebec.	Senior Naval Officer

### Personal Description at the Date of this Document

Height	Chest	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	WOUNDS, SCARS OR MARKS	TRADE OR OCCUPATION
		Brown	Blue	Fresh	NIL	Painter

Commencing date of Engagement or Re-engagement.	19th August 1929	Period of Engagement or Re-engagement.	Seven Years,
Date of actually volunteering to engage or re-engage	19th August 1929	Date of entering present ship.	18th August P.M. 1929

Particulars of former Continuous Service Engagements, if any; but, if none, and the person engaging has had previous Service, the date of his First Entry should be given. If the person has not previously served, write the words "First Entry" here.

First Entry,

If an Engagement is ante-dated for any period, the man's services for such period should be forwarded into Office, with the Engagement, on Form S.—1243.

### Declaration of Entry or Re-entry from Shore for Continuous Service

The following questions are to be put by the Commanding Officer to the person about to engage for Continuous Service, whose answers are to be recorded hereon:—

- Are the particulars given above of your name and date and place of birth correct? **Yes**
- Are you a British subject?† **Yes**
- Have you ever served in the Imperial Army, Navy or Air Force or any of their Reserves, Colonial, Indian, Territorial or Volunteer Forces or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police?‡ **No.**
- Do you now belong to any branch of the Navy, Militia or Air Force or any of their Territorial Regiments, Corps or Reserve Forces or to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police? **No.**
- Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's service, or discharged from it on that account? If so, state reason of rejection or discharge, and date. **No.**
- Have you ever been discharged from the Navy, Militia, Air Force or Royal Canadian Mounted Police for misconduct? **No.**
- Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? & Inoculated. **Yes**
- Nationality of Parents; Father **French Canadian** Mother **French Canadian**

\*When evidence of age is obtained on First Entry, it should be attached to this Form.

†Foreigners are not to be entered. On the entry of a person born out of the British Empire, it should be ascertained that he is (and in the case of a boy, that his father is) a British Subject, and evidence of the fact should be attached to the "Entry Papers."

‡Particulars of service in the Army, Army Reserve, Air Force, Naval Reserve, Marines, Militia, or H. M. Indian or Colonial Military forces, or in the Merchant Service should be forwarded in to Office with this Engagement. If a member of the Royal Fleet Reserve, the man's Registrar is to be immediately informed of his entry (Royal Fleet Reserve Instructions. If an R.N.R. man state number of R. V. 2.



I—Declaration and Certificate for Men newly entered and Men who have been out of the Service since expiration of their previous C. S. Engagement

I, Laurent Joseph Luciene / Bertrand, do solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the questions overleaf are true, and I do hereby agree to serve honestly and faithfully in the Naval Service of Canada\* For Seven Years ----- from 19th August 1929 provided my service should be so long required. And I do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty. As witness my hand this 28th day of August 1929

Man's Signature in full. Laurent Joseph Luciene Bertrand  
Witness to Signature G. E. Muller

Attested before me this 28th day of August 1929

[Signature] {Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service.

Date 28th August 1929

This is to certify, that we have examined the person named on the other side hereof, as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from all physical malformation, active and intelligent; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

[Signature] Commander R.C.N. Senior Commanding Officer  
[Signature] Medical Officer.  
Capt. R.C.A.M.C., M.O., R.C.N.

II—Certificate and Declaration for Boys

Date.....192.....  
This is to certify, that we have examined the boy named on the other side hereof, as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is a well grown, stout, intelligent lad; of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, and free from all physical malformation; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

‡The consent of his parents or guardian has been obtained in writing, and they are willing and desirous that the boy should be entered for.....years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till he attains that age.

.....Commanding Officer...  
.....Lieutenant.  
.....Medical Officer.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge or belief the answers to the questions on the other side of this form are true, and that I am not indentured as an apprentice.

I am willing to enter and serve in the Naval Service in Canada for.....years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till I attain that age. And I do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.

.....Boy's signature in full.  
Witness to Signature.....

Attested before me this.....day of.....192.....

{Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service.

III—Re-engagement for Continuous Service

To be executed by men who have not been out of the Service since the expiration of their first engagement

The particulars indicated on the other side are also required when this Form is used. I,....., now serving as a.....

on board H.M.C.S....., who on the.....of.....192.....

engaged to serve in the Naval Service of Canada for a period of §.....years, do hereby

engage to serve for a further period ¶.....from ¶.....192..... provided my services should be so long required.

.....Man's Signature in full.  
.....192.....  
Witness.....Commanding Officer.

\*Insert "for the term of (number in words) years," or "to complete (number) years for pension," or "until I attain the age of ..... years,  
†Insert the date from which the Engagement actually commences.  
‡The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age).  
§To be written in words.  
¶Insert as follows:—"Of (number) years," or "to complete time for pension," or "until I attain the age of ..... years, as the case may be.  
¶Insert the date of commencement of the re-engagement, which must either be coincident with, or (when the re-engagement is ante-dated) earlier than the date of execution.



H. M. C. S. "STADACONA".

OFFICIAL No. IF KNOWN  
Space to be left vacant  
if not known

2403

## CONTINUOUS SERVICE ENGAGEMENT, OR RE-ENGAGEMENT

To be forwarded to the Naval Secretary, Department of National Defence, with Form S. 59

CHRISTIAN AND SURNAME IN FULL  <b>Laurent Joseph Lucien BERTRAND.</b>	NEXT OF KIN Mother, Eva. Name..... 451, Grande Allee, Address..... MACKAYVILLE, QUE.	PRESENT RATING  <b>Able Seaman.</b>
DATE OF BIRTH*  <b>8th. January, 1911.</b>	PLACE OF BIRTH† Town..... <b>Montreal.</b> County..... Province..... <b>Quebec.</b>	NAME, RANK AND STATION OF RECRUITING OFFICER  <b>Commander C.R.H.                  Taylor, RCN.,                  Commanding Officer                  HMCS "STADACONA".</b>

### Personal Description at the Date of this Document

Height	Chest	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	WOUNDS, SCARS OR MARKS	Religious Denomination	TRADE OR OCCUPATION
5'6 3/4	37, 33, 35	Brown	Blue	Med.	<i>Tattooed left forearm</i>	<b>Roman Catholic</b>	<b>Painter.</b>

Commencing date of Engagement or Re-engagement	<b>19th. August, 1936.</b>	Period of Engagement or Re-engagement	<b>Seven Years OS.</b>
Date of actually volunteering to engage or re-engage	<b>10th. January, 1935.</b>	Date of entering present ship	<b>6th. January, 1935.</b>

Particulars of former Continuous Service Engagements, if any; but, if none, and the person engaging has had previous Service, the date of his First Entry should be given. If the person has not previously served, write the words "First Entry" here.

If an Engagement is ante-dated for any period, the man's services for such period should be forwarded in to office, with the Engagement, on Form S.—1243.

**RCN 19th. August, 1928<sup>a</sup> to date.**

### Declaration of Entry or Re-Entry from Shore for Continuous Service

The following questions are to be put by the Commanding Officer to the person about to engage for Continuous Service, whose answers are to be recorded hereon:—

1. Are the particulars given above of your name and date and place of birth correct?.....
2. Are you a British subject? †.....
3. Nationality of parents—Father..... Mother.....
4. Have you ever served in the Navy, Royal Fleet Reserve, Royal Naval Reserve, Army, Army Reserve, Marines, Militia, Volunteers (Naval or Military), Territorial Force, or in His Majesty's Indian or Colonial Military Forces, or in the R.C. Mounted Police? ‡.....
5. Do you now belong to the Militia, Volunteers (Naval or Military), Territorial Force or any Regiment or Corps in His Majesty's Army, or to any established Naval or Army Reserve Force, or to the R.C. Mounted Police? ‡.....
6. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's service, or discharged from it on that account? If so, state reason of rejection or discharge, and date.....
7. Have you ever been discharged from the Navy, Marines, Army or R.C. Mounted Police on account of misconduct?.....
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?.....
9. Can you swim?.....

\* When evidence of age is obtained on First Entry, it should be attached to this Form.  
 † Foreigners are not to be entered. On the entry of a person born out of the British Empire, it should be ascertained that he is (and in the case of a boy, that his father is) a British Subject, and evidence of the fact should be attached to the "Entry Papers."  
 ‡ Particulars of service in the Army, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marines, Militia, or H. M. Indian or Colonial Military Forces, or in the Merchant Service should be forwarded in to office with this Engagement. If a member of the Royal Fleet Reserve, the man's Registrar is to be immediately informed of his entry (Royal Fleet Reserve Instructions). If an R.N.R. man, state number of R.V. 2.

(OVER)



I—Declaration and Certificate for Men newly entered and Men who have been out of the Service since the expiration of their previous C. S. Engagement

I, ....., do solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the questions overleaf are true, and I do hereby agree to serve honestly and faithfully in the Naval Service of Canada\*.....from †.....193....., provided my service should be so long required. And I do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty. As witness my hand this.....day of.....193.....

Man's Signature in full

Witness to Signature.....

Attested before me this.....day of.....193.....

} Signature of a Commissioned  
} Officer of the Naval Service

Date.....193.....

This is to certify that we have examined the person named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from all physical malformation, active and intelligent; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

Commanding Officer

Medical Officer

II—Certificate and Declaration for Boys

Date.....193.....

This is to certify that we have examined the boy named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is a well grown, stout, intelligent lad, of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, and free from all physical malformation, and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

The consent of his parents or guardian has been obtained in writing, and they are willing and desirous that the

boy should be entered for.....years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till he attains that age.

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant

Medical Officer

I declare that to the best of my knowledge or belief the answers to the questions on the other side of this form are true and that I am not indentured as an apprentice.

I am willing to enter and serve in the Naval Service of Canada for.....years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, provided my service should be so long required, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till I attain that age. And I do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.

Boy's Signature in full

Witness to Signature.....

Attested before me this.....day of.....193.....

} Signature of a Commissioned  
} Officer of the Naval Service

III—Re-engagement for Continuous Service

To be executed by men who have not been out of the Service since the expiration of their first engagement

The particulars indicated on the other side are also required when this Form is used.

I, **Laurent Joseph Lucien BERTRAND**, now serving as a **an Able Seaman**.....

on board H.M.C.S. **"STADACONA"**, who on the **19th.** of **August, 1929**.....193.....

engaged to serve in the Naval Service of Canada for a period of **§ Seven Years**.....years, do hereby

engage to serve for a further period **|| of Seven Years**.....from **¶ 19th. August, 1936.**.....193..... provided my services should be so long required.

*Laurent Joseph Lucien Bertrand* Man's Signature in full

**10th. January, 1935.**.....193.....

Witness,.....**COMMANDER**.....Commanding Officer

\* Insert "for the term of (number in words) years," or "to complete (number) years for pension," or "until I attain the age of ..... years."  
† Insert the date from which the engagement actually commences.  
‡ The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age.)  
§ To be written in words.

¶ Insert as follows:—"Of (number) years," or "to complete time for pension," or "until I attain the age of ..... years," as the case may be.  
|| Insert the date of commencement of the re-engagement, which must either be coincident with, or (when the re-engagement is ante-dated) earlier than the date of execution.

*X H.M. Stephens, Lt., R.C.A. M.B.*  
*(M.O., R.C.N.)*



194377

C. S. "ATHABASKAN"

OFFICIAL No. IF KNOWN  
Space to be left vacant  
if not known

2408

62-B-182

# CONTINUOUS SERVICE ENGAGEMENT, OR RE-ENGAGEMENT

To be forwarded to the Naval Secretary, Department of National Defence, with Form S. 59

CHRISTIAN AND SURNAME IN FULL		NEXT OF KIN (Wife)	PRESENT RATING
Joseph Lucienne BERTRAND		Name: Mary BERTRAND Address: 130 Windsor Street, Halifax, N.S.	Chief Petty Officer
DATE OF BIRTH*	PLACE OF BIRTH†		NAME, RANK AND STATION OF RECRUITING OFFICER
8th January, 1911	Town: Montreal	County:	
	Province: Quebec		

173

### Personal Description at the Date of this Document

Height	Chest	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	WOUNDS, SCARS OR MARKS	Religious Denomination	TRADE OR OCCUPATION
5 ft. 7 in.	35½"	Brown	Blue	Medium	Tattoo, left forearm.	R.C.	

Commencing date of Engagement or Re-engagement	19th August, 1943.	Period of Engagement or Re-engagement	Seven Years.
Date of actually volunteering to engage or re-engage	19th August, 1943.	Date of entering present ship	4th February, 1943.

Particulars of former Continuous Service Engagements, if any, but, if none, and the person engaging has had previous Service, the date of his First Entry should be given. If the person has not previously served, write the words "First Entry" here.

19th August, 1929, (7 years).  
19th August, 1936, (7 years).

If an Engagement is ante-dated for any period, the man's services for such period should be forwarded in to office, with the Engagement, on Form S.-1243.

### Declaration of Entry or Re-Entry from Shore for Continuous Service

The following questions are to be put by the Commanding Officer to the person about to engage for Continuous Service, whose answers are to be recorded hereon:—

- Are the particulars given above of your name and date and place of birth correct?.....
- Are you a British subject?.....
- Nationality of Parents—Father..... Mother.....
- Have you ever served in the Navy, Royal Fleet Reserve, Royal Naval Reserve, Army, Army Reserve, Marines, Militia, Volunteers (Naval or Military), Territorial Force, or in His Majesty's Indian or Colonial Military Forces, or in the R.C. Mounted Police?.....
- Do you now belong to the Militia, Volunteers (Naval or Military), Territorial Force or any Regiment or Corps in His Majesty's Army, or to any established Naval or Army Reserve Force, or to the R.C. Mounted Police?.....
- Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's service, or discharged from it on that account? If so, state reason of rejection or discharge, and date.....
- Have you ever been discharged from the Navy, Marines, Army, or R.C. Mounted Police on account of misconduct?.....
- Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?.....
- Can you swim?.....

\* When evidence of age is obtained on First Entry, it should be attached to this Form.  
† Foreigners are not to be entered. On the entry of a person born out of the British Empire, it should be ascertained that he is (and in the case of a boy, that his father is) a British Subject, and evidence of the fact should be attached to the "Entry Papers."  
‡ Particulars of service in the Army, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marines, Militia, or H.M. Indian or Colonial Military Forces, or in the Merchant Service should be forwarded in to office with this Engagement. If a member of the Royal Fleet Reserve, the man's Registrar is to be immediately informed of his entry (Royal Fleet Reserve Instructions). If an R.N.R. man, state number of R.V.2.

RECORDS IN DEPT. OF NAT. DEF.  
Records by  
12/11/43  
(OVER)



I.—Declaration and Certificate for Men newly entered and Men who have been out of the Service since the expiration of the previous C. S. Engagement

I, ....., do solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the questions overleaf are true, and I do hereby agree to serve honestly and faithfully in the

Service of Canada\*..... from†..... 19....., provided my service should be so long required. And I do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will

be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty. As witness my hand this..... day of..... 19.....

Man's Signature in full

Witness to Signature.....

Attested before me this..... day of..... 19.....

Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service

Date..... 19.....

This is to certify that we have examined the person named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from all physical malformation, active and intelligent; and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

Commanding Officer

Medical Officer

II.—Certificate and Declaration for Boys

Date..... 19.....

This is to certify that we have examined the boy named on the other side hereof as to his fitness for the Naval Service of Canada, and we find as follows:—He is a well grown, stout, intelligent lad, of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, and free from all physical malformation, and we consider him in all respects fit for His Majesty's Service.

The consent of his parents or guardian has been obtained in writing, and they are willing and desirous that the boy should be entered for..... years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till he attains that age.

Commanding Officer

Lieutenant

Medical Officer

I declare that to the best of my knowledge or belief the answers to the questions on the other side of this form are true and that I am not indentured as an apprentice.

I am willing to enter and serve in the Naval Service of Canada for..... years' continuous and general service from the age of 18, provided my service should be so long required, in addition to whatever period may be necessary till I attain that age. And I do sincerely promise and swear, (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty.

Boy's Signature in full

Witness to Signature.....

Attested before me this..... day of..... 19.....

(Signature of a Commissioned Officer of the Naval Service

III.—Re-engagement for Continuous Service

To be executed by men who have not been out of the Service since the expiration of their first engagement

The particulars indicated on the other side are also required when this Form is used.

I, Laurent Joseph Lucienne BERTRAND, now serving as a Chief Petty Officer.....

on board H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN"....., who on the 19th of August, 1936

engaged to serve in the Naval Service of Canada for a period of §..... seven..... years, do hereby

engage to serve for a further period\*\* of seven years..... from†† 19th August, 1943, provided my services should be so long required.

Laurent Joseph Lucienne Bertrand Man's Signature in full

21st October, 1943.

Witness..... (F. R. Miles) COMMANDER, R.C.N. Commanding Officer

\* Insert "for the term of (number in words) years," or "to complete (number) years for pension" or "until I attain the age of..... years."
† Insert the date from which the engagement commences.
†† The document conveying the consent to be attached to this paper. (N.B.—Not required in the case of youths over 17 years of age.)
§ To be written in words.
\*\* Insert as follows:—"Of (number) years," or "to complete time for pension," or "until I attain the age of..... years," as the case may be.
†† Insert the date of commencement of the re-engagement, which must either be coincident with, or (when the re-engagement is ante-dated) earlier than the date of execution.



If a copy of this Form is required, Form S. 1243 is to be used.

Can. S. 459 (late S. 421). (Revised Sept., 1921).  
 Imp. S. 459 (late S. 536).

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 the Naval Service. If the corner is cut off, the fact is to be noted in the Ledger.

**CERTIFICATE of the Service of**

*Laurent Joseph Lucienne Bertrand.*

**IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY**

63

**HALIFAX N.S.**

Official Number *2408*

Date of Birth	<i>8<sup>th</sup> January 1911</i>	Nearest known Relative or Friend. (To be noted in pencil.)
Where born { Province	<i>Quebec</i>	Name: <i>MARY, MADELBINE, VERONICA, BERTRAND</i>
{ Town or County	<i>Montreal</i>	Relationship: <i>Wife</i>
Trade brought up to	<i>Painter</i> <b>O.H.F.</b>	Address: <i>130 Windsor St., HALIFAX N.S. CANADA</i>
Religious Denomination	<i>Roman Catholic</i>	
Date passed Swimming Test	<i>P.S.I. (V.G) 25 Nov '30</i>	
Man's signature on discharge.	<i>[Signature]</i>	

All Engagements, including N.C.S., to be noted in these Columns.

Date of actually volunteering	Commencement of time	Period volunteered for	Date of actually volunteering	Commencement of time	Period volunteered for
<i>1. 19 Aug 1929</i>	<i>19 Aug 1929</i>	<i>Seven Years.</i>	5.		
<i>2. 10 Jan 1935</i>	<i>19 Aug 1936</i>	<i>Seven Years.</i>	6.		
<i>3. 19 Aug 1943</i>	<i>19 Aug 1943</i>	<i>Seven Years</i>	7.		
4.			8.		

**Medals, Clasps, Etc.**

Date received or forfeited	Nature of Decoration	Date received or forfeited	Nature of Decoration
<i>12 May 37</i>	<i>King George VI Coronation Medal</i>		
<i>21 Nov. '43</i>	<i>Ribbon for 1939-43 Star.</i>		

Description of Person	Stature		Chest, In.	Colour of			Marks, Wounds and Scars
	Feet	In.		Hair	Eyes	Complexion	
On Entry as a Boy.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	
On advancement to man's rating, or on entry under 28 years.....				<i>Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fresh</i>	<i>Mil</i>
On re-entry for C.S. or for Non-C.S. after attaining 28 years.....	<i>5</i>	<i>6 3/4</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Med.</i>	<i>Tattooed left forearm.</i>
Further description if necessary.....							







Service

Ship's Name (Tenders to be inserted in brackets)	List and No.	Rating	From	To	Cause of Discharge
"Stadacona"	- -	Act P.O.	1 Sep.'37	16 June '38	
"Saguenay"	- -	" - "	17 June '38	31 Aug.'38.	
" - "	- -	Petty Officer.	1 Sep.'38.	28 Nov.'38	
"Stadacona"	- -	" - "	29 Nov.'38	31 Dec.'38	
Victory		-1-	1 Jan '39	31 Dec '38	
Excellent		- - -	1 Jan '39	3 Oct. '39	
Victory		- - -	4 Oct. '39.	18 Oct. '39.	
Assiniboine		- - -	19 Oct '39	6 Aug '40	
Stadacona		- - -	7 Aug '40	30 Sep '40.	
" - "	- -	Chief P.O. (Try)	1 Oct '40.	30 Nov '40.	
" - "	- -	Chief P.O.	1 Dec '40.	30 Apl '42	
Comwallis		" - "	1 May 42	6 Sep. '42	
Niobe		- - -	7 Sep. '42	3 Feb. '43	
Atkashtan	- -	" - "	4 Feb. '43	29 Apl 44	Missing 20131 Presumed Dead 21058

Examinations passed and Notations or Qualifications other than those entered on History Sheets.

Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature	Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature
5 Nov 29	Passed Educ Test Part I	J. E. G. Hand	DEC 9 1940	Issued Ident. Card No. 15866	
21 Aug '30	Supplied M/G app	H. G. Wier			
31 Mich '31	Q. A/G- 2 days	S. J. Coad			
17 May '34	Passed professionally for Leading Seaman	M. Murray			
15 Dec '36	Passed professionally for petty officer	W. L. Bidwell			
1 Oct '40.	Rated Chief P.O. (Try)	W. Murray			
22-23 Oct '42	Passed advanced course in F. O.	H. Kingley			
13 June '35	O & R. "Diver"	E. Brock			







Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

219

H.M.C.S. NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, at OTTAWA, Ont.

Name BERTRAND, Laurent Joseph Lucien

(Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Chief Petty Officer Official No. 2408 Unit R.C.N. R.C.N.R. R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth Montreal, P.Q. Date of Birth 8th January, 1911

Occupation in Civil Life Typographer 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 19th August, 1929, to 29th April, 1944

Date of Death 29 April, 1944 Place of Death At Sea

Cause of Death Missing, presumed dead, when H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action in the English Channel

Nearest known relative or friend Name Mrs. Mary M. V. Bertrand, Relationship Wife Address 130 Windsor St., Halifax, N.S.

Date on which the above was informed by Ship Naval Service Headquarters: 1 May, 1944

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

ENTERED IN N.P.A.'s LOG BOOK JAN 20 1945 CLERK No. 1

W.B. Money for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD

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

Date 12 January, 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.



TFH/MC

REGISTERED  
AIR MAIL

N.S. N/2408 Pers. (N)

1 May, 1944.

178

Dear Mrs. Bertrand:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of 1st of May, 1944, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your husband, Laurent Joseph Luciene Bertrand, Chief Petty Officer, Royal Canadian Navy, Official Number 2408, is missing from H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan".

According to the report received from overseas, your husband's loss occurred when H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan" was torpedoed and sunk by enemy action on the 29th of April, 1944, in the English Channel. Further particulars of this Naval disaster are being published in the newspapers.

While Chief Petty Officer Bertrand is reported as "missing", there is a possibility of his survival. It is understood that a number of the crew have been taken prisoners of war by the enemy. The Red Cross have been informed and are attempting to obtain from the German Government a list of those taken. Please be assured that as soon as any further information respecting your husband has been received you will be informed.

Please allow me to express the sincere sympathy 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.

*267*  
Mrs. Mary M.V. Bertrand,  
130 Windsor Street,  
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia.

LETTER DISPATCHED BY  
PERSONNEL NAVAL  
MAY 2 1944



196

10th October, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Bertrand:

I must regretfully inform you that since your husband was reported missing no further information has been received of his survival or that he is a prisoner of war.

I wish to assure you, however, that the Department makes every endeavour to discover the fate of missing men and draws upon all likely sources of information about them.

In the case of men who are believed to be prisoners of war continuous efforts are made to speed up the machinery whereby their names and camp addresses can reach this country. The official means is by lists of names prepared by the enemy government. These lists take some time to compile, especially if there is a long journey from the place of capture to a prisoners of war camp. Consequently "capture cards", filled in by the prisoners themselves soon after capture and sent home to their relatives, are often the first news received in this country that a man is a prisoner of war.

Very slight hope is now held, however, that your husband is a prisoner of war as the total number of names of men who are known to be prisoners from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" coincides with the number which the Germans claim to have captured from this ship.

Even if no news is received that a missing man is a prisoner of war, endeavours to trace him do not cease. Enquiries are pursued, not only among those who were serving with him, but also through diplomatic channels and the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva. The moment reliable news is obtained from any of these sources it is sent to the Department and is immediately passed on to the next of kin.

Should no information be received to the contrary your husband will be presumed dead by the Canadian Naval Authorities at a later date.

May I extend my sincere sympathy in this time of anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD

Despatched  
Sec. N.

Date /  
Time

Mrs. Mary M.V. Bertrand  
130 Windsor St.  
HALIFAX, N.S.



LA/DL

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

N.S. N-2408 (Pers. N)

*223*

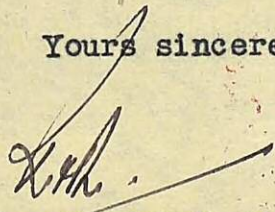
15 January, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Bertrand:

Further to my letter of the 10th of October, 1944, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your husband Laurent Joseph Lucien Bertrand, Chief Petty Officer, Official Number 2408, Royal Canadian Navy, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN", 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 29th of April, 1944.


May I again 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.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Mary M.V. Bertrand,  
130 Windsor St.,  
HALIFAX, N.S.

*A.S. @* 

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

.....  
Date 15/1/45  
Time 1500



LA/DL

OTTAWA, Ont., 1st February, 9

N.S. N-2408; 9275-2;  
4160-355/3 Volume 1 PERS. (N)  
"N"/1A

Dear Mrs. Bertrand:-

Further to my letter of the 16th of January, 1947, Naval Headquarters is now in the process of rechecking exhumation reports, dental records, etc., received from the Army Graves Services, Overseas, in an effort to definitely confirm the identity of bodies recovered from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" and over whose graves temporary wooden markers have already been placed.

As the dental particulars on the exhumation reports respecting your husband correspond to those on file at Naval Headquarters, such particulars have been accepted as positive identification.

Chief Petty Officer Bertrand's grave is located in the Plouescat Communal Cemetery, Plouescat, Finistere, France, in Plot 1, Row B, Grave No. 38 and is temporarily marked with a wooden marker. A permanent headstone will be erected in due course by the Imperial War Graves Commission, (Overseas).

Enclosed is a snapshot of your husband's grave.

Yours truly,

Encl.

Mrs. Mary M.W. Bertrand,  
130 Windsor Street,  
HALIFAX, N.S.

Despatched by  
M. Sec.  
Date 3-12-49  
Time

NAVAL SECRETARY.

N.B.  
Dental Re-check  
states "probably"  
same man.

McC  
McC  
McC



Bloussac  
Finistère, France.  
Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>/45.

Madam,

It is my very painful duty to give you the following details about the dear one who has passed away to your great sorrow many months ago. I should have done this and sent you the enclosed souvenirs long ago but I know that you had official notice from the Mayor of our town of Mr. Bertrand's death on the field of honour.

Mr. Bertrand went down with his ship on the coast of Brittany, north of Finistère. Fifty-six bodies were picked



(9.)  
up from the wreck and  
giving a worthy burial in  
a common grave in our village  
cemetery near the grave of  
American compatriots who  
perished in the same cause.  
Unfortunately both officers  
and men were buried to-  
gether and their common  
grave is taken good care of  
by pious and friendly hands  
who keep it planted with  
flowers.

I am a fisherman. It  
was while engaged in my  
work that I found Mr.  
Bertrand's body on the beach.  
It bore no wounds, so that  
death was due to drowning.  
To get the enclosed souvenirs,  
I had to search his pockets,  
but watched as I was by  
Germans, I could not do



(3.)

very much searching. These  
Germans took his watch,  
etc., and they did likewise  
with the other bodies that  
were picked up, but I could  
not search them as the  
Germans took charge of the  
burial.

Accept, my dear madam,  
my very deep sentiments  
of respect and condolence  
with you in your great  
sorrow.

S. Eden,  
Plouescat,  
Finistère,  
France.

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D OF D 29-4-44

D.D.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

# AWARDS

# (NAVY)

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

P

BERTRAND Laurent Joseph Lucien		N-2408	C.P.O	FILE No.
SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT

WAR SERVICE

BADGE

(CLASS)

No.

DATE DESPATCHED:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AN DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star,	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">301</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 20px;">11-10-49</div>
Atlantic Star,	
Defence Medal,	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp,	
War Medal.	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)



Jan. 46 RCN "ATHABASKAN"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS  
PERSON  
ENTITLED TO Mrs. Mary M. Bertrand - Widow

ADDRESS: 130 Windsor Street,  
Halifax, N.S.

(1)

*English*

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS  
WIDOW Mrs. M.M.V. Bertrand

ADDRESS: 130 Windsor St., Halifax, N.S.

(2) 31-1-45

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS  
MOTHER Mrs. Eva Bertrand

ADDRESS: 4903 Wellington St.,  
Verdun, Que. (Issued 17-3-45)

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP.....

REGN. NO. 951