

(5) On being enrolled as a member of the..... H.M.C.S. CHIPPAWA 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..... 23rd day of..... November, 1942

Signature of applicant X..... J. Johnston

(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..... 23rd day of..... November, 1942.

..... [Signature]

LIEUTENANT R. C. N. V. R.

(D)

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Lawrence Richard JOHNSTON 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 X..... J. Johnston

Witness..... [Signature]

Date..... 23rd November, 1942. Rank..... LIEUTENANT R. C. N. V. R.

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

(E) **CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER**

..... Lawrence Richard JOHNSTON 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..... H.M.C.S. CHIPPAWA. Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

..... [Signature]

LIEUTENANT R. C. N. V. R.

R.C.N.V.R. Division

..... 23rd November 194..... (or other establishment)..... H.M.C.S. CHIPPAWA.

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

X..... J. Johnston

Signature

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

Lawrence Richard JOHNSTON

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

I.C.N.S. 69963.

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
	<i>"Chippawa"</i>	<i>V-51370</i>

Date of Birth	<i>10th July 1924.</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)
Place of Birth	<i>St Jean Baptiste, Manitoba.</i>	
Place of Residence	<i>113 South St, Winnipeg, Man.</i>	
Trade brought up to	<i>Typewriter Mechanic</i>	
Religion	<i>Roman Catholic</i>	

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	
	<i>23 Nov '42</i>	<i>Duration of Hostilities</i>	<i>Ord. Sqn</i>	<i>23 Nov '42</i>		<i>Baron's Ribbon</i>

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry	<i>5</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>127½</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Appendectomy Scar</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
	"Chippawa"		Ord. Imm.	23 Nov. '42	24 Feb. '43	
	On Active Service				25 Feb. '43	
	"Chippawa"		Ord. Imm.	25 Feb. '43	11 Apr. '43	
	"Cornwallis"		"—"	12 Apr. '43	6 July '43	
	— (Beaver)		"—"	7 July '43	9 July '43	N/O.
	Cornwallis		"—"	10 July '43	10 July '43	
	Stadacona		"—"	11 July '43	13 Sep. '43	
	Niobe		"—"	14 Sep. '43	5 Oct. '43	
	Niobe (Athabaskan)		"—"	6 Oct. '43	24 Feb. '44	
	—"—"		A.B.	25 Feb. '44	29 Apr. '44	reported "missing" (20135) Presumed dead. (21061) ENMO's sig 132109 Jan '45

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

Date	Details	Captain's Signature
2 Aug '43	DY 222 # B-80592	

V51370

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-J-1098

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V51370

NAME JOHNSTON (Surname) Lawrence Richard (Given Names) DATE OF BIRTH 10 July 1924.PLACE OF BIRTH St. Jean Baptise, Man. OCCUPATION Typewriter Mechanic.RELIGION Roman Catholic. EDUCATION Grade XRESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 113-Scott St., Town Winnipeg, Province, etc. Man.

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
23	11	42	H.O.	5'7	Brn.	Blue	Fair	Appendectomy scar.			

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Mother NAME (in pencil) Margaret Johnston 6/3/43ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 113 Scott St. Town Winnipeg Province, etc. Man.

Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			PARTICULARS
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
				17	5	43	Qual. anti-gas 1 day				
				9	7	43	Marked "TR" 249A#42404				

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		Day	Month	Year			

FILM
NO WSR-5879-2
DATE

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

O.H.F. Received.

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From

To

H.Q. 35-30M-4-42 (4260)

N.S. 815-7-35

W.S.G.
APPLICATION
6610
RECEIVED

V51370

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME (Surname)

JOHNSTON

Lawrence Richard
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V51370

P. L. S.

Ship or Establishment	Rating	From			Remarks	Character	Efficiency	Date			Non-Sub. Rating	Qualif.			Re-Qualified		
		Day	Month	Year				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
HMCS Chippawa	Ord. Smn.	23	11	42	Div. Str. Winnipeg.	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
"	"	25	2	43	Active Service D.L. 2-3-43	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
Cornwallis	"	11	4	43	D.L. 13-4-43	V.G.	Sat.	29	4	44							
Stadacona	"	11	7	43	D.R.D. #H-2023 (via Beaver)												
Niobe	"	14	9	43	D.R.D. #H-2607.												
Athabaskan	"	4	10	43	DRD N-281												
"	Able Smn.	25	2	44	Memo 23-2-44												
DISCHARGED	" "	29	4	44	"Missing" per Casualty List	"Presumed Dead"											

GENERAL REMARKS

Canadian Memorial Cross awarded to;
Mother, Mrs. Marie L. Johnston,
113 Scott Str.,
WINNIPEG, Man. 19-2-45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE	CIVIL	OCCU.	RELI-ED	PERM. RESIDENCE	PREV. ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT					
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GRON	P	CTV	TOWN	SERV	DIV.	A	BR	RANK
10	7	24	16	280	0	10	3	6	66	06	0	08	95	
ENLIST. DATE			ACT. SERV. DATE			STR.	ACT. SERV. DATE			SHIP OR ESTAB.	RANK OR RATE			
DY.	MO.	YR.	DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	DY.	MO.	YR.	ESTAB.	A	BR	RANK	
23	11	42	25	02	43					0230	0	08	94	
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB	M	CODES			CHECKED					
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.								
04	10	43	10	00	00	20								

7
9-1098
File No: ...113-.....

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

- NAVAL SERVICE -

NAME.....*Johnston*.....*Lawrence R.*.....
(Surname) (Christian Names)

RATING.....*P/S*.....OFFICIAL NUMBER..V..*51370*

ACTIVE SERVICE (Date of Commencement).....*2.5.43*.....(*Chippawa*)

Authority.....*W.S. 2-3-43*.....

Initials.....*W.S.*.....

Checked by.....*MC*.....

DATE	OF
ACTIVE	SERVICE

Noted by.....
APR 1 1943

Date.....

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BOOK DEPOSITED AT.....

W.S.

NC V 51370 PERS (N)
NPR PER TFM

S. 1320 D
20000M-11-43 (2667-8-9-70)
N. S. 815-9-1320-D.
K. P. 95440

NAVAL MESSAGE

To: MRS MARIE L JOHNSTON
103 SCOTT STREET
WINNIPEG MANITOBA

From NSHQ

17

CNP THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR NAVAL SERVICES
DEEPLY REGRETS TO REPORT THAT YOUR SON
LAWRENCE RICHARD JOHNSTON ABLE SEAMAN RCNVR V 51370
IS MISSING FROM HMCS "ATHABASKAN" LETTER FOLLOWS

/01

DELIVERY CONFIRMED

L/T

P/L

01/5/44

2031

ey W

MS

TFH/MCP.

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

N.S. V-51370 PERS.(N)

12

1 May, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Johnston:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 1st of May, 1944, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your son, Lawrence Richard Johnston, Able Seaman, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, Official Number V-51370, is missing from H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan".

According to the report received from overseas, your son'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 Able Seaman Johnston 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 son 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 son has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

DM
Mrs. Marie L. Johnston,
113 Scott Street,
WINNIPEG, Man.

LETTERS DISPATCHED BY
TELEPHONE NAVAL BOARD
MAY 2 1944

24

10th October, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Johnston:

I must regretfully inform you that since your son 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 son 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 son 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.

Mrs. Marie L. Johnston,
 113 Scott Street,
 WINNIPEG, Man.

Despatched by
 Sec. N. B.

Date 10/10/44
 Time 1800

Ontario, 8th June, x 50

Dear Mrs. Johnston:

Shortly after the sinking of H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" bodies from this ship were recovered and buried along the coast of Finistere, France, at Brignogan, Plouescat, Santec and L'Aberwrach. France at the time was under German occupation and in most cases all positive means of identification were taken from the bodies by the Germans. The citizens of the above mentioned French towns looked after the burials and held funeral services.

On the cessation of hostilities the Army Graves Services, Overseas, conducted searches on the Continent in an effort to locate graves and identify bodies. Exhumation reports, dental records, etc., of casualties from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" have since been turned over by them to the Secretary of the Imperial War Graves Commission, Wooburn House, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, Bucks., England, who, in turn, has forwarded them to Naval Headquarters with a view to definitely establishing the identity of bodies which were exhumed and over whose graves temporary markers have in some cases been placed.

As the dental particulars on the exhumation reports respecting your son, the late Able Seaman Lawrence Richard Johnston, Official Number V-51370, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, are similar to those on file at Naval Headquarters, such particulars have been accepted as positive identification.

Able Seaman Johnston's grave is located in the Plouescat Civil Cemetery, Plouescat, Finistere, France, in Plot Number 1, Row 'B', Grave Number 26. It is understood a permanent headstone will be erected in due course by the Imperial War Graves Commission (Overseas). It is suggested that any inquiries regarding your son's grave should be addressed direct to the Secretary of that Commission.

Yours very truly,


NAVAL SECRETARY.Despatched by
N. Sec.Date
Time..... mro
19.6.50

Mrs. Marie L. Johnston,
701 McIntyre Block,
WINNIPEG, Manitoba.

LA/YB

REGISTERED
AIR MAIL

38

N.S. V-51370, PERS.(N)

15 January, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Johnston:

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 son, Lawrence Richard Johnston, Able Seaman, Official Number V-51370, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, 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,

[Signature]
Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

cam

Mrs. Marie L. Johnston,
113 Scott Street,
WINNIPEG, Manitoba.

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

[Signature]
Date 15/1/45
Time 1.80

DECEASED 29 April 1944

303088

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

NAVY

D.D.
WAR SERVICE RECORDS

JOHNSTON	Lawrence Richard	V-51370	A.B.	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 AND DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	3787 4.7.50
	<i>Medals Ret'd. Medals Ret'd.</i>
	CANCELLED 8690 <i>Ret'd. To Stock.</i>
	(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

18/10/93

RCNVR Sep.45 "ATHABASKAN"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS
PERSON
ENTITLED TO Mrs. Marie L. Johnston - Mother
~~113 Scott St.,~~ 701 McIntyre Block,
ADDRESS: WINNIPEG, Man. Corres. on file.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS
WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS
MOTHER

Mrs. M. L. Johnston
701 McIntyre Block
ADDRESS: WINNIPEG, Man

Replacement Memorial Cross. I.R. II
Issued to: Mrs. Marie Louise Johnston (Mother)
275 Colony St, Apt. 103
Winnipeg, Man

MEMORIAL B R

DATE DESP

REGN. NO.

185

(2)

(3) 19 February 1945

→ SEP 2 1971