



CANADA

ATTESTATION FORM (HOSTILITIES FORM)

1 25730
N. V. 5
50M-1-41 (8973)
N.S. 815-11-5
SEP - 7 1941
N.S. 113-77-323
CANADA

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME Nicholas OFFICIAL NO. 24016615

CHRISTIAN NAMES Joseph Russell MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Single

PERMANENT ADDRESS 120 St Harold St, Ford William, Ont RELIGION Presbyterian

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<u>May 11/21</u>	Town <u>Ford William</u> County Province <u>Ont</u>	<u>Mother</u> <u>Mrs. Almeda Nicholas</u> <u>120 St Harold St</u> <u>Ford William, Ont</u>

*Original Nationality of:
Father Irish
Mother English

*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> Inches <u>8 3/4</u>	Inflated <u>37</u> Deflated <u>34</u> Mean	<u>Dark Brown</u>		<u>Fair</u>	<u>Upper</u>

EDUCATIONAL STANDING	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<u>Grade 1x</u>	<u>Papermaker, Abitibi</u> <u>Powers & Pape Co</u>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED
<u>Aug 11/41</u>	<u>Sto. II</u>	<u>Port Arthur, Ont</u>

(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

ENTERED IN PAY LEDGERS
H. M. C. S. "BYTOWN"
FAIR
ROUGH James A. Jupp

Military Reserve or Territorial Personnel Records Division	
1. Noted in Records	<u>Noted</u>
2. Index Card	<u>Noted</u>
3. Non Sub Card	<u>Noted</u>
4. Statistical Card	<u>Noted</u>
5. Roreo Strip	<u>Noted</u>
6. Pension Card	<u>Noted</u>
7.	
8.	
DATE	<u>18/9/41</u>

(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 Port Arthur 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 Eleventh day of August 1941

Signature of applicant Russell Joseph Nicholas

(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 11th

day of August 1941

J. Sinclair
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Joseph Russell Nicholas 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 Russell Joseph Nicholas

Witness J. Sinclair

Date Aug 11 1941

Rank Pay 1 Head

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

(E) CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER

Russell Joseph Nicholas 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 Port Arthur Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

J. Sinclair
Attesting Officer.

Aug 11th 1941 R.C.N.V.R. Division (or other establishment) Port Arthur

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.

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

Joseph Russell **NICHOLAS**

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve ^{I.C.N.S. 36462}

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
<i>Esquimalt</i>	<i>Port Arthur</i>	<i>V.16615</i>
		"
		"

Date of Birth	<i>11 May 1921</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)		
Place of Birth	<i>Fort William, Ontario</i>			
Place of Residence	<i>1202 - N - Harold St - Fort William Ont</i>			
Trade brought up to	<i>Paper</i>			
Religion	<i>Presbyterian</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>11 Aug '41</i>	<i>Hostilities Sto 2/c</i>			

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry	<i>5</i>	<i>8 3/4</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>Dark Brown</i>	<i>Fair</i>		<i>Appendix 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	LEDGER		RATING	FROM	TO	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE
		List	No.				
1941	Port Arthur Division			Sto 2/c	11 Aug '41	30 Sep '41	
	On Active Service					1 Oct '41	
	Port Arthur Division			Sto 2/c	1 Oct '41	7 Dec '41	
	Maden (N.S.H.Q)			"	8 Dec '41	10 Dec '41	
	"Maden"			"	11 Dec '41	31 Dec '41	
	Stadacona			"	1 Apr '42	10 Apr '42	
	D.E.M.S. (Foundation Arronmore)			"	11 Apr '42	17 Apr '42	
	Stadacona			"	18 Apr '42	21 Apr '42	
	Witch			"	22 Apr '42	13 Aug '42	
	Witch			Sto 1	14 Aug '42	16 Oct '42	
	Georgetown			"	17 Oct '42	4 Apr '43	
	Stadacona			"	5 Apr '43	14 Aug '43	
	Stadacona			A/dg Sto 1/5	15 Aug '43	22 Nov '43	27339
	York			"	25 Nov '43	21 Nov '43	
	Stadacona (Postillon)			"	25 Nov '43	23 Jan '44	
	Niobe (Postillon)			"	24 Jan '44	23 Feb '44	
	Niobe			"	24 Feb '44	7 Apr '44	
	Athabaskan			"	8 Apr '44	29 Apr '44	Reported Missing 29 Apr '44 Capt. D. Plymouth Signal 30/4/19 B of Apr '44 Presumed Dead to date 29th Apr '44 C.N.M.O.'s Log 132109 Jan 45 21064

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

Date	Details	Captain's Signature
17/04/43	S.C.T.W # B 58312	

V16615

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-N-323

OFFICIAL NUMBER V16615

NAME NICHOLAS (Surname) Jos. Russell (Given Names) DATE OF BIRTH 11th May, 1921.

PLACE OF BIRTH Fort William, Ontario. OCCUPATION Papermaker

RELIGION Presbyterian EDUCATION Grade IX

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 120 N. Harold St. Town Fort William Province, etc. Ontario

ENGAGEMENTS				DESCRIPTION					PREVIOUS SERVICE			
Date (in figures)			Period	Height	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Marks or Scars	Served in	Rank or Rating	Dates	
Day	Month	Year									From	To
11	8	41	H.O.	5' 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	Dark	Brown	Fair	Appendix-scar				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Wife NAME (in pencil) Margaret Catharine Nicholau

ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 530 E. Christina St. Town Fort William Province, etc. Ont

MEDALS, CLASPS, HURT CERTIFICATES, PRIZE MONEY				EXAMINATIONS, CERTIFICATES, ETC.			
Date (in figures)			Particulars	Date (in figures)			Particulars
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
15	2	44	1939-1943 Star. (1021-8-53)	7	4	43	Granted Aux. W/K Cert.
5	7	44	C.V.S.M. (R&C).	4	10	43	Qual. for S.P.O. (1021-8-53)

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-5380-3
DATE

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

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT
From _____ To _____

11456
W.S.G.
APPLICATION RECEIVED
7/6/45

V16615

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME NICHOLAS
(Surname)

Jos. Russell
(Given Names)

P.I.B.
OFFICIAL NUMBER V16615

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
Pt. Arthur Div.Str.	Stoker 2	11	8	41		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	41							
Duty Div. Hdqts.	"	1	10	41		V.G.	Supr.	31	12	42							
Naden	"	8	12	41	D.	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
Stadacona	"	5	4	42	184679	V.G.	Sat.	29	4	44							
Foundation Arronmore	"	11	4	42	H.K.J.												
Stadacona	"	17	4	42	146741												
Witch	"	22	4	42	S.C.												
	Stoker 1	14	8	42	Rated. 249A(3685)												
Georgetown	"	17	10	42	DRD H-32												
Stadacona	"	5	4	43	DRD H-1107												
"	A/Idg.Sto.	15	8	43	Adv. Memo 12-8-43												
Postillion	"	23	11	43	DRD H-3298 "Niobe" 24.2.44	(S.C.)											
Athabaskan	"	8	4	44	S.C.												
DISCHARGED	"	29	4	44	"Missing" Casualty List.												

"Presumed Dead" per Casualty List. P.#68.

GENERAL REMARKS

X-Ray Approved
 Canadian Memorial Cross to Wife:
 Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas,
 530 East Christina St.,
 Fort William, Ontario. 6-3-45.
 Canadian Memorial Cross Awarded to
 Mother: Mrs. Almeda Sutton,
 Rosslyn Villiage,
 via Fort William Ont. 17-3-45.

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL OCCU.		RELIED		PERM. RESIDENCE			PREV. ENL.		RANK OR RATE		
DY.	MO.	YR.	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GION	P	CTY.	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A	BR.	RANK		
11	05	21	11	295	0	50	2	1	49	01	0	10	0	15	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			
11	08	41	01	10	41					0230	1	15	93			
SENIORITY			STR.		NON-SUB		M		CODED		CHECKED					
DY.	MO.	YR.	CAT.	A	B	ST.										
15	08	43	23	00	08	20	29-04-44									

(Information compiled from records in Naval Service Headquarters)

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

56

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

Name NICHOLAS Joseph Russell (Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Leading Stoker Official No. V-16615 Unit R.C.N. R.C.N.R. R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth Fort William, Ont. Date of Birth May 11, 1921

Occupation in Civil Life Papermaker 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 11 th August, 1941, to 29th April, 1944

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

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

Nearest known relative or friend. Name Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas Relationship Wife Address 530 E. Christina Street, FORT WILLIAM, Ont.

Date on which the above was informed by Ship 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 S.N.P.A.'s LOG BOOK JAN 19 1945 0.04 1

ENTERED IN S.N.P.A.'s LOG BOOK JAN 19 1945 G.P. CLERK No. 1

H.B. Money (Commanding Officer) for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

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

Date 12 Jan., 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.

VERIFICATION FORM
 CAMPAIGN STARS, DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C
 NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (19...

NAME IN FULL NICHOLAS Joseph Russell.....RANK/RATING A/Ldg. Slt.....

SHIP	SERVICE			AREA	QUALIFYING		
	FROM	TO	DAYS		FROM	TO	1939-4
PORT ARTHUR.	1.10.41						
FOUNDATION ARRANMORE	11.4.42	17.4.42	7	atl.			
WITCH .	22.4.42	16.10.42	178	atl.			
GEORGETOWN .	17.10.42	4.4.43	170	atl			
POSTILLION .	25.11.43	23.2.44	91	atl.			
NIobe	24.2.44	7.4.44	44	UK.			
ATHABASKAN	8.4.44	29.4.44	22	atl			
<u>Dutch Deed</u>							
to date 29/4/44							

VERIFIED BY J. Rne.....

VERIFIED BY

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

RATING *A/Sdy Slt* OFF.NO. *V-16615* 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>Star</i>
							FRANCE G.		
							AFRICA		
							PACIFIC		
							BURMA		
							ITALY		
							DEFENCE		
							C.V.S.M.	2	<i>Clasp</i>
							" CLASP		
							WAR 1945	1	<i>Medal</i>
							WAR 1915		

VERIFIED BY

BY DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS.

49

10th October, 1944

Dear Mrs. Nicholas:

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.


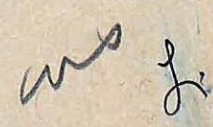
Very slight hope is now held, however, that your husband is a prisoner of war as the total number of names of men who are known to be prisoners from H.M.C.S. "ATHABASKAN" coincides with the number which the Germans claim to have captured from this ship.

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.

Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas,
530 E. Christina Street,
FORT WILLIAM, Ont.

A.S.



Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

Date
Time

10/10/44
1715

TFH/SCW

REGISTERED

gm

AIR MAIL

NS V16615 PERS (N)

34

1 May, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Nicholas:

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 husband, Joseph Russell Nicholas, Leading Stoker, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, Official Number V16615, 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 Leading Stoker Nicholas 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 tradition of which your husband has helped to maintain.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

LETTER dispatched by
PERSONNEL NAVAL

MAY 2 1944

SCW

Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas,
530 East Christina St.,
FORT WILLIAM, Ont.

RCNVR Aug. 45 "ATHABASKAN"
MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DISPATCH

(1) MEDALS

PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas - Widow

ADDRESS: ~~530 E. Christina Street,~~ Room 24,
Oddfellows Temple,
Fort William, Ont. 1-12-48

MEMORIAL BAR

(1) DATE DESP.
REGN. NO. 1991

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

Mrs. Margaret C. Nicholas

ADDRESS: 530 East Christina Street
FORT WILLIAM, Ontario

(2) 6 March 1945

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER

Mrs. Almeda Sutton

ADDRESS: Rosslyn Village
Via FORT WILLIAM, Ontario

(3) 17 March 1945

H DECEASED 29 April 1944

D.D.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

NAVY

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

NICHOLAS	Joseph Russell	V-16615	L.Sto.	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	947
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)