



CANADA

**ATTESTATION FORM**  
(HOSTILITIES FORM)

N. V. 5  
50M-10-41 (1994)  
N.S. 815-11-5

DEPT. NATIONAL DEFENCE  
MAY 14 1942  
No. 113701886  
CANADA

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME WATSON OFFICIAL NO. V 3 5 9 5 3  
CHRISTIAN NAMES Reginald John MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER Married

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
<u>2440 Amsterdam Ave., New York, New York, U.S.A.</u>	<u>Roman Catholic</u>

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<u>6th March 1921</u>	Town <u>Newcastle-on-Tyne</u> County <u>Northumberland</u> Province <u>England</u>	Wife: <u>Mrs. Ann Watson,</u> <u>2440 Amsterdam Avenue,</u> <u>New York, N.Y. U.S.A.</u>
*Original Nationality of: Father Mother		

\*If not the son of natural born British parents, particulars to be given at foot of next page

(A) PERSONAL DESCRIPTION ON ENROLMENT

HEIGHT	CHEST MEASUREMENT	HAIR	EYES	COMPLEXION	WOUNDS, SCARS, MARKS
Feet <u>5</u>	Inflated <u>36</u>	<u>Dark Brown</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>None</u>
Inches <u>9</u>	Deflated <u>34</u>				
<u>129</u>	Mean <u>35</u>				

EDUCATIONAL STANDING	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<u>3 years private school Argyle House School Sunderland, England</u> <u>Equal to High School</u>	<u>Steward</u> <u>P. &amp; O. Steamship Navigation Co.,</u> <u>London, England</u>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED
<u>12th May 1942</u>	<u>Ord. Smn. W/T</u>	<u>H.M.C.S. "MONTREAL"</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 the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve Force for the period shown and attach my record of service, in corroboration of this statement.~~

\*Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM
<u>H. M. C. S. "BYTOWN"</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>---</u>

ENTERED IN PAY-LEDGERS  
H. M. C. S. "BYTOWN"

FAIR [Signature]

ROUGH [Signature]

ENTERED IN PAY LEDGERS  
H. M. C. S. "BYTOWN"

FAIR

Personnel Records Division.

1. Noted in Records.
2. Index Card [Signature]
3. Non-Sub. Card [Signature]
4. Statistical Card [Signature]
5. Photo Strip [Signature]
6. Pension Card [Signature]

DATE [Signature]

(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 H.M.C.S. "MONTREAL" Division  
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 12th day of May 1942

Signature of applicant Reginald John Watson

(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 12th day of May, 1942

ABO Kelly  
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.  
Sub-Lieut. R.C.N.V.R.

(D) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, Reginald John Watson 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 Reginald John Watson

Witness ABO Kelly

Date 12th May Rank Sub-Lieut. 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

Reginald John Watson 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. "MONTREAL" Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

ABO Kelly  
Sub-Lieut. R.C.N.V.R. Attesting Officer.

12th May 1942 R.C.N.V.R. Division H.M.C.S. "MONTREAL"  
(or other establishment)

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

Reginald John Watson  
Signature

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

*Reginald John WATSON*

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Training Headquarters <i>Halifax, N.S.</i>	R.C.N.V.R. Division <i>HMCS Montreal</i>	Official Number... <i>V-35953</i>
Date of Birth... <i>6<sup>th</sup> March, 1921</i>	Place of Birth... <i>Newcastle-on-Tyne</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (In pencil) <i>Wife: Ann same address</i>
Place of Residence... <i>2440 Amsterdam Ave. New York City, U.S.A.</i>	Trade brought up to... <i>Steward</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>2 May '42</i>	<i>12 May '42</i>	<i>Hostilities</i>	<i>Admiral</i>	<i>21 Jan. 1943</i>		<i>awarded Ribbon for 1939-1943 Star.</i>

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<i>5</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>Dk Brun</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Nil</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







V35953

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME WATSON  
(Surname)

Reginald John  
(Given Names)

OFFICIAL NUMBER V35953

P.I.B. 1

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
H.M.C.S. "MONTREAL"	Ord. Smn. W/T	12	5	42	Div. Str. Montreal	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
"	"	15	7	42	Active Service	Fair	Sat.	31	12	43							
St. Hyacinthe	"	17	9	42	SL61 230518	V.G.	Sat.	29	4	44							
	Ord. Tel.	9	1	43	Trans. 249A 41779												
Stadacona	" "	12	5	43	DRD # H1422												
"	Tel.	15	7	43	RATED (249A, #27337)												
Niobe(R.C.#5)	"	14	9	43	DRD H-2603												
Athabaskan	"	24	10	43	Niobe DRD # 299												
DISCHARGED	"	29	4	44	Missing per Casualty List Presumed Dead per Casualty												

List page #70

GENERAL REMARKS

Awarded Canadian Memorial Cross to  
Wife: Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Joan Watson  
2440 Amsterdam Avenue,  
New York, N.Y. U.S.A. to date  
6/3/45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE OF BIRTH	CIVIL OCCU	RELI-ED	PERM RESIDENCE			PREV ENL	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT				
DY	MO	YR	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	GION	P	CTY	TOWN	SERV	DIV	A	BR	RANK
06	3	21	22	792	0	104	X	36	00	0	09	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		A	BR	RANK	
12	05	42	15	07	42					9740	0	12	94	
SENIORITY			STR	NON-SUB		M	P.H.P.			CODED		CHECKED		
DY	MO	YR	CAT	A	B	ST								
15	07	43	13	00	00	20	11229/10/44			CB				

V35953

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-W-1886

OFFICIAL NUMBER

V35953

NAME WATSON Reginald John DATE OF BIRTH 6th March, 1921  
 (Surname) (Given Names)  
 PLACE OF BIRTH Newcastle-on-Tyne, England OCCUPATION Steward  
 RELIGION Roman Catholic EDUCATION 3 years private school  
 RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 2440 Amsterdam Ave., New York, Town New York Province, etc. U.S.A.

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
12	5	42	H.O.	5' 9	Dk.Br.	Blue	Fair	None				

NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Wife (89-43) NAME (in pencil) Reginald John Watson  
 ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 2440 Amsterdam Ave Town New York Province, etc. U.S.A.

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	
21	11	43	Awarded 1939-1943 Star 249A 20075	24	4	43	Qual. Tel. 21.25.3				

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		
					HMCS Stadacona	CP	22	6	43	Convicted by Civil Power.	10 days stoppage Wages and Time.

FILM NO. NSR-5585-5  
 DATE

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED						O.H.F. Received
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.	
22	6	43				10			

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From To

22.6.43.

H.Q. 35-15M-10-41 (2177)  
N.S. 815-7-35



VERIFICATION FORM

CAMPAIGN STARS, DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M. and CLASP.

NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

NAME IN FULL WATSON Reginald John RANK/RATING Tel. OFF. NO. V-35953 ADDRESS .....

SHIP	SERVICE			AREA	QUALIFYING PERIODS IN DAYS					STARS MEDALS	✓ 1 2	ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS OF		
	FROM	TO	DAYS		FROM	TO	1939-45	ATLANTIC	DEFENCE				CLASP C.V.S.M.	1915 MEDAL
	15-7-42											1939-45	1	star
<i>Roche</i>	14-9-43	23-10-43	40	<i>UK</i>								ATLANTIC	1	star
<i>Athabaskan</i>	14-10-43	29-4-44	189	<i>ad.</i>								FRANCE G.		
												AFRICA		
												PACIFIC		
												BURMA		
												ITALY		
												DEFENCE		
												C.V.S.M.		2 + clasp
												" CLASP		
												WAR 1945	1	medal
												WAR 1915		

Disch Dead 29-4-44

VERIFIED BY R.L.

VERIFIED BY Reginald Watson

VERIFIED BY .....

DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS.

AIR MAIL

NS. V-35953 Pers. (N)

1 May, 1944.

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Dear Mrs. Watson:

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, Reginald John Watson, Telegraphist, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, Official Number V-35953, 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 Telegraphist Watson 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.

Mrs. Ann E.J. Watson,  
2440 Amsterdam Avenue,  
NEW YORK, N.Y.,  
U.S.A.

LETTER DISPATCHED  
PERSONNEL NAVAL  
MAY 1 1944  
ms  
jt



CANADA

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.S.C.4160-355/3, Vol. 2,

N.S.9275-2, N.S.V-35953,

PERS.(N) "N" 1A.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

OTTAWA, Ontario, 8th June, 1945

Dear Mrs. Watson:

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 husband, the late Telegraphist Reginald John Watson, Official Number V-35953, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, are similar to those on file at Naval Headquarters, such particulars have been accepted as positive identification.

Telegraphist Watson's grave is located in the Plouescat Civil Cemetery, Plouescat, Finistere, France, in Plot Number 1, Row 'A', Grave Number 3. 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 husband's grave should be addressed direct to the Secretary of that Commission.

Yours very truly,

  
NAVAL SECRETARY.

Mrs. Ann E. Watson,  
2440 Amsterdam Avenue,  
NEW YORK, New York, U.S.A.

LA/YB

REGISTERED  
AIR MAIL

N.S. V-35953, PERS. (N)

15 January, 1945.

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Dear Mrs. Watson:

Further to my letter of the 10th October, 1944, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your husband, Reginald John Watson, Telegraphist, Official Number V-35953, 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,

*L.A.*

Deputy ~~SECRETARY~~, NAVAL BOARD. *can.*

*[Handwritten initials]*

Mrs. Ann E.J. Watson,  
2440 Amsterdam Avenue,  
NEW YORK, N.Y.,  
U. S. A.

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

Date *15/1/45*  
Time *1800*

RCNVR Sept. 45 "ATHABASKAN"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS

PERSON

ENTITLED TO

Curry (Re-married)  
Mrs. Ann E. J. Watson - Widow  
c/o McGarry  
2440 Amsterdam Avenue,

ADDRESS:

New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

Mrs. Ann E.J. Watson

ADDRESS:

2440 Amsterdam Ave., New York, N.Y., USA.

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER

deceased

ADDRESS:

MEMORIAL BAR

(1) DATE DESP

REGN. NO 520

(2)

6-3-45

(3)

D OF D 29-4-44

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

NAVY 1

D.D.  
WAR SERVICE RECORDS

WATSON                      Reginald John		V-35953	Tel. 4	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	1549
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)