

NOV 27 1940

C.N.S. 2417  
DOM-7-40 (6169)  
N.S. 815-9-2417

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE  
(Naval Service)

N.S.D. 6221-4  
CANADA

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY  
(PERMANENT FORCE)

The Naval Secretary,  
Department of National Defence,  
OTTAWA

*Norwood, Manitoba.*  
(Place)

*Oct. Nov 16, 1940*  
(Date)

SIR:—

I hereby make formal application for entry in the Royal Canadian Navy, under a seven years' continuous service engagement as a *Submarine*  
(Insert rating chosen)

I certify that the following particulars are in my own handwriting and are true in every respect:

- Name (to be given in full in Block Letters) *HOWARD NORMAN PARSONS*
- Date of Birth (Birth Certificate or sworn declaration by parent or guardian must be attached) *April 27, 1924*
- Place of Birth. Town *Winnipeg*, Province *Manitoba*
- Permanent Place of Residence. No. *128* Street *Traverse Ave.*  
Town *Norwood*, Province *Manitoba*
- Are you a British Subject? *Yes*
- Where was your father born? *Lancashire England*
- Where was your mother born? *London England*
- How long have you resided in Canada? *16 1/2 years*
- What is your Mother Tongue? *English*
- What other language do you speak? *None*
- Are you of the White Race? *Yes*
- Are you Single, Married or a Widower? *Single*
- How far advanced educationally are you? *1st Grade 9*

(Certificates of School Authorities must be attached)

- What practical experience have you had?  
(Details and certificates from employers, trade credentials, etc., must be attached to substantiate employment reported)  
*None*

- Do you belong to any Naval, Military, Air or Police Force? *Yes*
- If so, give details *Winnipeg Sea Cadets given 1 yr. service*
- Have you ever served in such forces? *Yes*
- If so, give dates and details
- Have you ever been discharged from His Majesty's Forces as medically unfit? *No.*
- Have you ever offered to serve in His Majesty's Forces and been rejected? *No.*

Why?.....

- Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offence? *No.*  
(Enclose two character references, one of which must confirm your answer to Question 19)
- What is your weight? *129 lbs* Height *5 FT. 7 1/2 IN* Chest Measurement (Not inflated) *31 inches*
- Have you ever had fits? *No.*
- Do you suffer from any deformity? *No.*
- Have you suffered the loss of any fingers, toes, etc.? *No.*
- Do you suffer from any disease? *No.*
- Do you wear glasses? *No.*
- Are you subject to any disability which might cause your rejection?  
*No.*

- Give details
- Are you willing to be vaccinated and inoculated as considered necessary by the appropriate authorities? *Yes*  
*H. M. Griffith* Signature of Witness *Howard Norman Parsons* Signature of Applicant

CERTIFICATE TO BE SIGNED BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF CANDIDATES UNDER 21 YEARS OLD

I agree to refund to the Department of National Defence the expenses incurred by that Department for transportation to a Naval Base of the above applicant, should he, on arrival at such Base, fail to enrol for seven years' continuous Naval Service for reasons which in the opinion of the Department are within his own control. Signed and Sealed at *Norwood, Man*

this *19th* day of *Nov*, 19*40*, in the presence of  
*H. M. Griffith* Signature of Witness *Howard Norman Parsons* Signature of Parent or Guardian

CERTIFICATE TO BE SIGNED BY CANDIDATES OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE

I agree to refund to the Department of National Defence the expenses incurred by that Department for my transportation to a Naval Base, should I, on arrival at such Base, fail to enrol for seven years' continuous Naval Service for reasons which in the opinion of the Department are within my own control.

Signed and Sealed at....., this.....day of....., 19....., in the presence of.....  
Signature of Witness Signature of Candidate

NOV 27 1940

N.S. 622141 CANADA

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M 79373

# CONSENT PAPER

(This paper is required in all cases where the Candidate is under the age of 18 years, in addition to the Certificate of Birth or Declaration.)

\*Strike out "son" or "ward" as the case may be.

I hereby certify that my ~~son,\*~~ ward *Howard N. Parsons* has my full consent (being himself willing) to enter the Naval Service of Canada for a period of seven years' continuous and general service, from the age of 18, in addition to whatever period may be necessary until he attains that age, agreeably to the King's Regulations.

He has not been in a Reformatory, nor has he been sentenced to imprisonment. *no*

I declare that he has never had fits. *no*

† No alteration or erasure is to be made in the date of birth given.

The date of the boy's birth is † *April 27<sup>th</sup> 1924*

His Religious persuasion is *Church of England*

Witness my hand at *128 Traverse Ave Norwood*

*19<sup>th</sup>* day of *November* 19*40*

††Strike out "Parent's" or "Guardian's" as the case may be.

Parent's †† ~~Guardian's~~ Signature in full *Mr Eli Parsons*

‡ Must be signed by the Father, if alive, or satisfactory explanation made.

Parent's ‡ ~~Guardian's~~ Address *128 Traverse Ave Norwood*

In the case of a Guardian see other side.

I, the above named..... do consent to enter the Naval Service of Canada.

§ The Boy and Parent or Guardian must sign in the presence of the witness to their signatures.

§ Boy's signature in full *Howard Norman Parsons*

Signed by the said [Here write boy's name] *Howard N. Parsons*

And [Here write Parent's or Guardian's name] *Mr Eli Parsons*

In the presence of { *H. W. Griffith* Witness to signature of Boy, and Parent or Guardian  
*126 Traverse Ave.* Address [OVER]

CERTIFICATE

§ Strike out "Parent" or "Guardian" as the case may be.

\*\* Strike out "he" or "she" according to sex of Parent or Guardian.

† The assertion of the ~~brother~~ himself should not be taken as sufficient warrant for this statement.

I certify that I am personally acquainted with this Boy's § Parent, and am † aware\*\* he has consented to the Boy's entry as above, and I believe the particulars stated herein to be true.

.....Clergyman of the Parish

or *H. W. Griffith* ..... Resident Householder }

*Carpenter* ..... Occupation..... }

*126 Travere Ave.* ..... Address

*Nov 19th* ..... 19*10*

Particulars to be stated, if possible, in the case of a Boy whose Father is dead

Date of Father's death.....

Place of death.....

Signed..... Mother

Particulars to be stated, if possible, in the case of a Boy whose Parents are both dead

Date of Father's death.....

Place of death.....

Date of Mother's death.....

Place of Mother's death.....

Signed..... Guardian

Ident. card # 7350 issued

C. S. OFFICIAL No. IF KNOWN  
Space to be left vacant  
if not known  
4470 P 96123E

## 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  Howard Norman PARSONS	NEXT OF KIN (Mother) Name Louise PARSONS Address 128 Traverse Ave., NORWOOD, Man.	PRESENT RATING Boy Seaman. 17
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DATE OF BIRTH*  27th April, 1924	PLACE OF BIRTH† Town..... WINNIPEG County..... Province..... Manitoba.	NAME, RANK AND STATION OF RECRUITING OFFICER D.C. Mackintosh Lieutenant Wpg. Div., R.C.N.V.R.
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### Personal Description at the Date of this Document

Height	Chest	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	WOUNDS, SCARS OR MARKS	Religious Denomination	Trade or Occupation
5' 7½"	32	Light Brown	Green	Fair	Scar on left index finger.	C.of E.	Student.

Commencing date of Engagement or Re-engagement	15th July, 1941.	Period of Engagement or Re-engagement	Seven Years.
Date of actually volunteering to engage or re-engage	15th July, 1941.	Date of entering present ship	15th July, 1941.

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 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:—

1. Are the particulars given above of your name and date and place of birth correct? Yes.
2. Are you a British subject? Yes.
3. Nationality of Parents—Father English Mother English
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? No.
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? No.
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. No.
7. Have you ever been discharged from the Navy, Marines, Army, or R.C. Mounted Police on account of misconduct? No.
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated? Yes.
9. Can you swim? No.

NOTED ON  
ESTIMATE CARD

Date 5-8-41

Initial JMR

Personnel Records  
Division:

1. Noted in Records	✓
2. Index Card	✓
3. Non-Sub. Card	✓
4. Statistical Card	✓
5. Roneo Strip	✓
6. Pension Card	✓
7. ....	
8. ....	

DATE 1.8.41

\* 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. "BYTOWN"

FAIR J. Senchak  
6-8-41

ROUGH J. Senchak  
7-8-41

(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, Howard Norman PARSONS, 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\* 7 years from 15th July 1941, 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 15 day of July 1941.

Howard Norman Parsons Man's Signature in full
Witness to Signature James A. Holder

Attested before me this 15 day of July 1941.

James A. Holder Signature of a Commissioned Sub-Lieutenant, R.C.N.V.R. Officer of the Naval Service
Date 15th July 1941.

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 15th July 1941.

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

W. Corde Commanding Officer
James A. Holder Sub-Lieutenant, R.C.N.V.R.
L. D. Jacks 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 Seven 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.

Howard Norman Parsons Boy's Signature in full
Witness to Signature James A. Holder

Attested before me this 15th day of July 1941.

James A. Holder (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 19

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

engage to serve for a further period\*\* from†† 19 provided my services should be so long required.

Man's Signature in full 19

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 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.

**O.H.F.**

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

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

**CERTIFICATE of the Service of**

*Howard Norman PARSONS*

**IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY**

*C.N.S. 7906 Cancelled*

*Esquimalt*

Official Number *4470*

Date of birth <i>27 April, 1924</i>	Nearest known Relative or Friend (To be noted in pencil)
Where born { Province <i>Manitoba</i>	Name: <i>ELI PARSONS.</i>
{ Town or county <i>Winnipeg</i>	Relationship: <i>FATHER.</i>
Trade brought up to <i>Student</i>	Address: <i>128 TRAVERSE AVE</i>
Religious denomination <i>Church of England</i>	<i>NORWOOD.</i>
Date passed swimming test	<i>Man.</i>
Man's signature on discharge to pension }	

**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>15 July 41</i>	<i>27 Apr 42</i>	<i>Seven Years</i>	5.		
2.			6.		
3.			7.		
4.			8.		

**Medals, Clasps, Etc.**

Date received or forfeited	Nature of decoration	Date received or forfeited	Nature of decoration

Description of Person	Stature		Chest, In.	Colour of			Marks, Wounds and Scars
	Feet	In.		Hair	Eyes	Complexion	
On entry as a boy.....	<i>5</i>	<i>7 1/2</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>Light Brown</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Scar on left index finger</i>
On advancement to man's rating or on entry under 28 years.....							
On re-entry for C.S. or for Non-C.S. after attaining 28 years.....							
Further description if necessary.....							

Name Howard Norman PARSONS

Ship's Name (Tenders to be inserted in brackets)	List and No.	Rating	From	To	Cause of Discharge
"Naden"		Bay 1/c	15 July '41	25 Oct '41	
"Naden"		Old Smn	26 Oct '41	10 Feb '42	
Givenchy (Quatino)		"	11 Feb '42	31 Mch '42	
Chatham (Quatino)		"	1 Apr '42	17 Aug '42	
Givenchy (Quatino)		"	18 Aug '42	25 Oct '42	
(- - -)		OB	26 Oct '42	12 Nov '42	
Naden.		"	13 Nov '42	16 Nov '42	
Star		"	17 Nov '42	24 Jan '43	
Naden		"	25 Jan '43	6 May '43	
Givenchy		A/Edg. Smn. (Ty.)	1 May '43	2 July '43	
Givenchy (Carso)		"	3 July '43	8 July '43	
Stadacona (Carso)		"	9 July '43	30 Nov '43	
Protector		"	1 Dec '43	21 Dec '43	Prot II Det 39
Stadacona		"	22 Dec '43	9 Feb '44	
Cornwallis		"	10 Feb '44	7 Apr '44	
Stadacona		"	8 Apr '44	30 Apr '44	
Stadacona (Shawigan)		Ldg. Sica	1 May '44	10 May '44	
(- - -)		"	11 May '44	14 May '44	A.5278
(- - -)		A/P.O. (TY)	13 May '44	30 May '44	A.6072
(- - -)		"	13 May '44	24 Nov '44	D.D.

Date	Wounds received in Action and Hurt Certificate; also any Meritorious Service, Special Recommendations, Prize or other Grants	Captain's Signature

Issued S.C. T.W.# 23312 - 6 July 42

Ship's Name (Tenders to be inserted in brackets)	List and No.	Rating	From	To	Cause of Discharge

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

Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature	Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature
28 Nov '41	"TR"	Al. Stephens for Co.			
28 Nov '41	Q. 1/4 2 Days	Keeney for Co.			
6 Nov '41	Passed E. F. Jone	Al. Stephens for Co.			
6 Jan '42	Passed E. T. I. R. M.	Al. Stephens for Co.			
10 Apr '43	Passed Reg. for Lib. Sta. (stand)	W. P. Curry for Co.			
3 Sep '43	Night Vision	J. Davis for Co.			
19 Jan '44	Passed Prof for P.O.	W. M. Woodward for Co.			
24 Jan '42	Hurlough Warrant B 9789				





4470

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

N-4470

OFFICIAL NUMBER

4470

NAME PARSONS (Surname) Howard Norman (Given Names) DATE OF BIRTH 27th April, 1924

PLACE OF BIRTH Winnipeg, Man. OCCUPATION Student.

RELIGION Church of England. EDUCATION High School Entrance.

RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 128 Traverse Ave., Town Norwood Province, etc. Man.

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
15	7	41	Boy.									
27	4	42	Seven Years.	5' 7 1/2"	Lt. Brn.	Hazel	Fair	Scar on left index finger.				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Father Emt 337 of 22/10/42 NAME (in pencil) Mr. Eli Parsons  
ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 128 Traverse Ave. Town Norwood Province, etc. Man.

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	
				4	11	41	Passed E.T. 'ONE'.				
				28	11	41	"Tr".				
				28	11	41	Qual. A/G 2 days.				
				6	1	42	Passed E.T. 'ONE'.				
				25	1	43	Passed Westdale Tech. Course.				
				10	4	43	Passed Prof. for Ldg. Smn.				
				19	1	44	Passed Prof. for P.O.				

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. W.S.R. 4697-1  
DATE

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT  
From To

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

Last Will & Test. #15651 dated 9.11.43. Rec'd.  
O.H.F. Received.

W.S.G. APPLICATION RECEIVED 8137

4470

OFFICIAL NUMBER

NAME PARSONS

(Surname)

Howard Norman.

(Given Names)

P.L.B.

4470

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
DHQ. Winnipeg	Boy	15	7	41							S.D.	21	1	42			
Naden	"	2	8	41		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42	H.S.D.	9	4	43			
"	Ord. Smn.	26	10	41		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
Quatsino.	"	11	2	42		V.G.	Supr.	24	11	44							
"	A.B.	26	10	42													
Naden	"	13	11	42													
Star	"	17	11	42													
Naden	"	25	1	43													
"	A/Ldg. Smn. (Ty)	1	5	43													
Givenchy.	"	7	5	43													
Canso	"	3	7	43													
Protector	"	1	12	43													
Stadacona	"	22	12	43													
Cornwallis.	"	10	2	44													
Stadacona	"	8	4	44													
"	Ldg. Smn. (Ty)	1	5	44	Confirmed.												
Shawinigan	"	11	5	44													
"	A/P.O. (Ty)	15	5	44													
DISCHARGED	"	24	11	44	Missing, Presumed Dead.												

GENERAL REMARKS

Canadian Memorial Cross issued to Mother:  
 Mrs. Louise Parsons,  
 128 Traverse Ave.,  
 NORWOOD, Man. - 6.4.45.  
 Checked with Service Certificate on discharge.

DPR 6/3

Four copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

428125

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REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

Norman  
FD

H.M.C.S. "SHAWINIGAN" at Sea

Name PARSONS, Howard Norman  
(Christian names in full)

Rank of Rating Petty Officer Official No. 4470 R.C.N.  
(If unknown, date of first entry)

Place of Birth Winnipeg, Manitoba Date of Birth 27th April, 1924

Occupation in Civil Life Student Religion Church of England

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) 15th July, 1941 - 24th November, 1944

Date of Death 24th November, 1944 Place of Death At sea

Cause of Death Enemy action - lost at sea  
(If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)

Nearest known relative or friend { Name Mr. Eli Parsons Relationship Father  
Address 128 Traverse Ave., Norwood, Man.

Date on which the above was informed by Ship Not known

Date on which death was registered with local Officials Not known

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

Place of Burial (if known) Date of Burial (if known)

Location, Number, etc., of grave (if known)

Undertaker employed (if any)

If borne for discipline only, date D.S.Q. or invalidated

H. Raefan  
Commanding Officer,

11th April 1945

Noted  
D.M.P.A.  
16.4.45  
E.P.

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

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.

# 628

TFH/HS

REGISTERED

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N.S. N-4470 PERS. (N)

29 November, 1944.

Dear Mr. Parsons:

It is with deepest regret that I must confirm the telegram of the 29th of November, 1944, from the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services, informing you that your son, Howard Norman Parsons, Petty Officer, Official Number 4470, Royal Canadian Navy, is missing at sea.

The only information that can be given at this time is that your son is missing at sea when the ship in which he was serving was lost. Please be assured, however, that as soon as further particulars can be released, you will be informed.

It is regretted that slight hope is held for your son's survival. When it is considered, beyond all reasonable doubt, that no further hope exists and should no information be received to the contrary, an official presumption of death will be made by the Canadian Naval Authorities.

It is requested that, for security reasons, you regard the name of the ship in which your son was serving, as confidential until such time as an official announcement is made.

Please accept the sincere sympathy of the Department in your anxiety.

Yours sincerely,



SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mr. Eli Parsons,  
128 Traverse Avenue,  
Norwood, Man.

A.S.



R.T.  
A.S.

LA/GM

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL  
N.S. N-4470 PERS. (N)

50

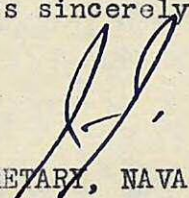
February, 1945.  
February, 1945.

Dear Mr. Parsons:

Further to my letter of the 7th of December, 1944, I regret to inform you that in view of the length of time which has elapsed since your son, Howard Norman Parsons, Petty Officer, Official Number 4470, Royal Canadian Navy, was reported missing from H.M.C.S. "SHAWINIGAN", 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 24th of November, 1944.



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. Eli Parsons,  
128 Traverse Ave.,  
NORWOOD, Manitoba.

ms.  
Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

   
Date 15.2.45  
Time 1800

FEB 20 1945

R E G I S T E R E D

N.S.N-4470, PERS.(N) 'N' 5

28 August, 1945.

Dear Mr. Parsons:

Further to my letter of the 15th of February, 1945, the Department is now able to release additional information regarding the loss of your son's ship and I am accordingly passing on the following particulars which will, no doubt, be of interest to you.

H.M.C.S. "SHAWINIGAN" sailed from Sydney, N.S., on the 24th of November, 1944, to escort a merchant ship to Port Aux Basques, Newfoundland, and arrived off Port Aux Basques that night. In accordance with orders she was then to carry out a patrol in the area for the duration of the night, after which she was to meet the same merchant ship the next morning and return with her to Sydney.

The merchant ship arrived in Sydney unescorted on the night of the 25th of November and after it was ascertained that "SHAWINIGAN" had not appeared at the designated rendezvous to provide escort as instructed, searches were instituted and "SHAWINIGAN" was discovered to be missing.

It was the opinion of the Department at the time that the ship had been torpedoed by an enemy submarine during the night of the 24th/25th of November, 1944, as submarines were known to be operating in that area; and this has since been confirmed from German evidence. Although no survivors were found, a few bodies were recovered by later searches, due to tidal movements, some distance from the area in which "SHAWINIGAN" was known to be operating. As a result, the position of the sinking can not be exactly ascertained, although from German evidence and the Department's computation, it is estimated to be in the vicinity of the three mile limit off Channel Head, near Port Aux Basques, Newfoundland.

Yours sincerely,

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

.....  
Date 29. 8. 45  
Time 1:545  $\frac{19}{8}$

SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mr. Eli Parsons,  
128 Traverse Avenue,  
NORWOOD, Manitoba.

Approval on N.S. 0-3690,  
See also N.S.S. 1156-33

DECEASED 24 November 1944

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

## AWARDS

NAVY

D.D.  
WAR SERVICE RECORDS

PARSONS	Howard Norman	N-4470	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	
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	
	8957 - 16-1-50

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)



RCN "SHAWINIGAN" Oct./45.  
MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS  
PERSON  
ENTITLED TO Mrs. Louise E. Parsons - Mother

ADDRESS: 128 Traverse Ave.,  
Norwood, Man.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS  
WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS  
MOTHER

Mrs. Louise Parsons

ADDRESS: 128 Traverse Avenue  
NORWOOD, Man.

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP

REGN. NO. 262

(2)

(3) 6 April 1945