



CANADA

ATTESTATION FORM (HOSTILITIES FORM)

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME Gaetano, OFFICIAL NO. V35858
CHRISTIAN NAMES Valentino Joseph MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER married

PERMANENT ADDRESS: 481 Douglas St., Sault Ste Marie, Ont. RELIGION: R. C.

DATE OF BIRTH: 23 Nov. 1922 PLACE OF BIRTH: Sault Ste Marie NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN: Wife, Mrs. Ileen Gaetano, 481 Douglas St., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Original Nationality of:
Father Italian
Mother Italian

*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>34 1/2</u>	<u>black</u>	<u>brown</u>	<u>dark</u>	<u>appendix oper scar</u>
Inches..... <u>7 1/2</u>	Deflated..... <u>33</u>				
	Mean..... <u>33 3/4</u>				

EDUCATIONAL STANDING: Grade VIII TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY: Tin worker, Algoma Steel Corp, Sault Ste Marie, Ont.

DATE OF ENROLMENT: May 1/42 RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED: Ord Smn R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED: Port Arthur Div.

(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) ~~XXXXXX~~ for the period ~~XXXXXX~~ and ~~XXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ in cooperation of this statement.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM	TO
<u>FAIR</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.

Has unemployment Ins. book

Personnel Records Division.

1. Noted in Records M.R.B.

2. Non-Sub. Card M.R.B.

3. Statistical Card [Signature]

4. Roneo Strip M.R.B.

5. Pension Card

6.

7.

8.

DATE 2/2/5/42

ENTERED IN PAY LEADS
H. M. C. S.
ROUGH

10-670 NATIONAL N.V. 5
50M-1-41 (8973)
N.S. 815-11-5
MAY 13 1942
CANADA

(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..... **first** day of..... **May 1942**

Signature of applicant..... *V. J. Gaetano*

(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..... **first** day of..... **May 1942**

Albert G. Seymour **Sub-Lieut. RCNVR**
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.

(D) **OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

I,..... **Valentino Joseph Gaetano** 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..... *V. J. Gaetano*

Witness..... *Albert G. Seymour*

Date..... **May 1st/42** 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**

..... **Valentino Joseph Gaetano** 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.

Albert G. Seymour **Sub-Lieut. RCNVR.**
Attesting Officer.

..... **May 1st/42** 194..... R.C.N.V.R. Division **PORT ARTHUR DIV. R.C.N.V.R.**
(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.

V. J. Gaetano
Signature

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

Valentino Joseph GAETANO

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

I.C.N.B. 55797

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number <i>135858</i>
	<i>H.M.C.S. 'Giffon'</i>	"
		"

Date of Birth <i>23rd November 1922</i>	Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil)
Place of Birth <i>Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario</i>	<i>WIFE</i>
Place of Residence <i>481 Douglas St. Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario</i>	<i>Mrs. Helen Gaetano</i>
Trade brought up to <i>Tim worker</i>	<i>(same address)</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>1 May 42</i>	<i>Duration of Hostilities</i>	<i>Ord. Soldier</i>			

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry.....	<i>5</i>	<i>7 1/2</i>	<i>33 3/4</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Dark</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
	Griffon		Ord. Smm.	1 May '42	13 July '42	
	Ord Active Service 14 July 1942					
	Griffon		Ord. Smm.	14 July '42	18 Oct '42	
	Cornwallis		Ord. Smm.	19 Oct '42	21 Dec '42	
	Stadacona		"	22 Dec '42	13 July '43	
	"		SAB #1913	14 July '43	12 Sep '43	
	Niobe		"	13 Sep '43	5 Oct '43	
	Niobe (Athabaskan)		"	6 Oct '43	29 Feb '44	PRESUMED DEAD CNM 516.132109 JAN '45 (21061)

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

Date	Details	Captain's Signature
1 Jan '43	S.C.T.W # B43858	(3507)
22 May '43	SCTW # B69264	

V 35858

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-G-1653

OFFICIAL NUMBER V 35858

NAME **GAETANO** **Valentino Joseph** DATE OF BIRTH **23 November, 1922.**
(Surname) (Given Names)PLACE OF BIRTH **Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.** OCCUPATION **Tin Worker, Algoma Steel Corp., Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.**
RELIGION **Roman Catholic** EDUCATION **Grade VIII**RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. **481 Douglas Street,** Town **Sault Ste. Marie,** 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
1	5	42	Hostilities Only	5' 7½"	Black	Brown	Dark	Appendix scar.	--nil--			

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) **Wife** NAME (in pencil) **Mrs. Joseph Gaetano**ADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. **Moore Point** Town **Steeltown West** Province, etc. **Ontario**
on file 5745

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	
				19	12	42	Marked "TR" (219A #26932)				
				27	7	43	Qual. anti-gas 2nd issue 249A 19261				
				13	3	44	Qual. Preliminary FF Crse 1 day				

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		

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

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From

To

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

FILM
NO **WSR-5584-3**
DATE

S.G.
APPLICATION
6140
RECEIVED

V 35858 OFFICIAL NUMBER NAME GAETANO Valentino Joseph (Surname) (Given Names) OFFICIAL NUMBER V 35858 **P.I.B.**

Ship or Establishment	Rating	From			Remarks	Character	Efficiency	Date			Non-Sub. Rating	Qualified			Re-Qua		
		Day	Month	Year				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
Div. Str. HMCS Griffon	Ord. Smn.	1	5	42		V.G.	Sat.	31	12	42							
"	"	14	7	42	Active Service	V.G.	Sat.	31	12	43							
Cornwallis	"	18	10	42	D.I. 19/10/42 #45	V.G.	Sat.	29	11	44							
Stadacona	"	22	12	42	DRD # H229												
Niobe (R.C.#6)	A/Able Seaman	14	7	43	Rated. 249A 26953												
Athabaskan	" " "	14	9	43	DRD H-2607.												
DISCHARGED	" " "	5	10	43	Niobe DRD # 281 Conf. A.B. 14.7.44 249A 40670												
		29	4	44	Missing per Casualty List												
					Presumed Dead per Casualty List page #65												

GENERAL REMARKS

Canadian Memorial Cross awarded to
 Wife: Mrs. Barbara E. Gaetano,
 181 Douglas St.,
 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, to date
 22/2/45
 Awarded Canadian Memorial Cross to
 Mother: Mrs. Gaetano, Sr.,
 181 Douglas St.,
 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, to date
 17/3/45

DATE OF BIRTH			PLACE		CIVIL OCCU.		REL.	ED.	PERM.	RESIDENCE	PREV.	ENL.	RANK OR RATE ON ENLISTMENT			
DY	MO	YR	BIRTH	MAIN	SUB	CLASS			P.	CTV	TOWN	SERV.	DIV.	A	SR	RANK
23	X	22	1	3	0	10	1	1	02	05	0	10				08895
ENLIST. DATE			ACT. SERV. DATE			STR.	ACT. SERV. DATE			SHIP	CR.	RANK OR RATE				
DY	MO	YR	DY	MO	YR	CAT.	DY	MO	YR	ESTAB.	A	SR	RANK			
01	05	42	14	07	42											
										0230			10894			
SENIORITY			STR.	NON-SUB		M	CODED			CHECKED						
DY	MO	YR	CAT.	A	B	ST.										
14	07	43	13	00	00	20	7h. S.			20-04-44						

VERIFICATION FORM
 CAMPAIGN STARS, DEFENCE MEDAL, WAR MEDAL, C.V.S.M.
 NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915)

NAME IN FULL GAETANO Valentino Joseph RANK/RATING .. A/B .. OFF.

SHIP	SERVICE			AREA	QUALIFYING PERIOD			
	FROM	TO	DAYS		FROM	TO	1939-45	ATLANTIC
	14-7-42							
<i>Mahe</i>	14-9-43	5-10-43	22	<i>UK</i>				
<i>Atabascan</i>	6-10-43	29-4-44	204	<i>at.</i>				
	<i>Disch Dead 29-4-44</i>							

VERIFIED BY .. Roger Seguin ..

VERIFIED BY

VERIFICATION FORM

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

RANK/RATING .. *A.B.* OFF.NO. *V-35858* ADDRESS

AREA	QUALIFYING PERIODS IN DAYS						STARS MEDALS	✓ 1 2	ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS OF
	FROM	TO	1939-45	ATLANTIC	DEFENCE	CLASP C.V.S.M.			
							1939-45	/	<i>star</i>
							ATLANTIC	/	<i>star</i>
<i>U.K.</i>							FRANCE G.		
<i>ad.</i>							AFRICA		
							PACIFIC		
<i>29-4-44</i>							BURMA		
							ITALY		
							DEFENCE		
							C.V.S.M.	<i>2</i>	<i>clasp</i>
							" CLASP		
							WAR 1945	/	<i>medal</i>
							WAR 1915		

VERIFIED BY *P.L.*

VERIFIED BY DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS.

(Information extracted from Records at Naval Service Headquarters)

Six copies to be rendered to Naval Service Headquarters

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF AN OFFICER, MAN OR BOY

65

~~H.M.C.S.~~ NAVAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS at OTTAWA, Ontario.

Name GARTANO, Valentino Joseph.
(Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Able Seaman Official No. V-35358 Unit R.C.N. (R.C.N.V.R.)

Place of Birth Sault Ste Marie, Ont. Date of Birth 23rd November, 1922.

Occupation in Civil Life Tin Worker 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) May 1st 1942 to April 29th 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 torpedoed and sunk by enemy action in the English Channel.
(If due to accident, violence, or enemy action, particulars to be stated briefly)

Nearest known relative or friend. { Name Mrs. Barbara Eileen Gartano Relationship Wife
Address 481 Douglas Street,
Sault Ste Marie, Ontario.

Date on which the above was informed by ~~Ship~~ Naval Service Headquarters: 1st 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
R.N.P.A.'s LOG BOOK
JAN 19 1945
CLERK No. 1
mms

H.B. Money
Commander
for SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

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

Date Ottawa, Ont. 12 January, 1945.

EMC

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/AE

REGISTERED
AIR MAIL
N.S. V-35858 Pers.(N)

1 May, 1944.

35

Dear Mrs. Gaetano:

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, Valentino Joseph Gaetano, Able Seaman, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, Official Number V-35858, 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 Able Seaman Gaetano 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,

LETTER ATTACHED BY
PERSONNEL NAVAL
MAY 1 1944
SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.
RT.

Mrs. Barbara Eileen Gaetano,
481 Douglas St.,
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

LA/GFM

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL
N.S. V-35858 PERS. (N)

69

13/ January, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Gaetano:

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, Valentino Joseph Gaetano, Able Seaman, Official Number V-35858, 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 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. M.

Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

cam

Mrs. Barbara Eileen Gaetano,
481 Douglas Street,
Sault Ste. Marie,
Ontario.

A.S. M

Despatched by
Sec. N. B.

V. M.
Date 15/1/45
Time 1800

8-1251
SEE 5

DECEASED 29 April 1944

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

NAVY

D.D.

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

GAETANO	Valentino Joseph	V-35858	A.B.	FILE No.
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SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	CHRISTIAN NAMES	REG. No.	RANK ON DISCHARGE	C.A.S.F. UNIT
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WAR SERVICE

BADGE

(CLASS)	No.	DATE DESPATCHED:
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ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AN DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	709
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	

02-87402 M



P

(THE REVERSE)

RCNVR Sep.45 "ATHABASKAN"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION NO. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS

PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Barbara E. ~~Gaetano~~ - Widow

CRAWFORD (Re-married)

ADDRESS:

~~481 Douglas St.,~~ Moores Point,
SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont.

~~30-10-49~~

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP

REGN CANCELLED

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

Same address 17-12-57
Mrs B. E. Gaetano
481 Douglas Street
SAULT STE MARIE, Ontario

(2) 22 February 1945

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER

ADDRESS:

Mrs Gaetano
481 Douglas Street
SAULT STE MARIE, Ontario

(3) 17 March 1945