



CANADA

N. V. 5  
50M-1-41 (8973)  
N.S. 815-11-5

**O.H.F.**

**ATTESTATION FORM  
(HOSTILITIES FORM)**

FOR MEN OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL VOLUNTEER RESERVE

SURNAME **ROBERTSON** OFFICIAL NO. **V33909**  
CHRISTIAN NAMES **IAN ANDERSON** MARRIED, SINGLE OR WIDOWER **SINGLE**

PERMANENT ADDRESS	RELIGION
<b>1502 10th Street, Saskatoon, Sask</b>	<b>Church of England</b>

DATE OF BIRTH	*PLACE OF BIRTH	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN
<b>23 March 1924</b>	Town <b>Kincady</b>	<b>Mrs. Wendella Robertson</b> (Mother)
*Original Nationality of: Father <b>Scotch</b> Mother <b>Scotch.</b>	County Province <b>Scotland.</b>	<b>1502 10th Street</b> <b>Saskatoon, Sask.</b>

\*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
Fect. <b>5</b>	Inflated <b>34</b>	<b>Brown</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Birth mark right collar bone and lump on same should</b>
Inches <b>9 3/4</b>	Deflated <b>32</b>				
	Mean <b>33</b>				

EDUCATIONAL STANDING	TRADE OR CALLING AND IN WHOSE EMPLOY
<b>GRADE IX</b>	<b>OFFICE CLERK</b> <b>SASKATOON CARTAGE CO.</b> <b>SASKATOON SASK.</b>

DATE OF ENROLMENT	RATING FOR WHICH ENROLLED	R.C.N.V.R. DIVISION, OR OTHER ESTABLISHMENT, AT WHICH ENROLLED
<b>6 April 1942.</b>	<b>O. Seaman (Temp)</b>	<b>H.M.C.S. "UNICORN"</b>

(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~~ ~~XX~~ ~~for the period shown, and attach my~~ ~~XX~~ ~~record of service, in corroboration of this statement.~~

\*Cross out Clause not applicable.

SERVED IN	RANK	FROM	TO
	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	

(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 **H.M.C.S. "UNICORN"** ..... 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 **6th APRIL 1942.** ..... day of.....

Signature of applicant *I.A. Robertson*.....

(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 **6th** day of **ABRIL 1942.**.....

*J.B. Fairbairn*  
Signature of and rank of Attesting Officer.  
*Sub-Lieut V.R.*

(D) **OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

I, **Ian Anderson Robertson** ..... 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 *I.A. Robertson*.....

Witness *J.B. Fairbairn*.....

Date **6 April 1942.** ..... Rank *Sub-Lieut V.R.*.....

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

(E) **CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER**

**Ian Anderson Robertson** ..... 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. "UNICORN"** ..... Division of the R.C.N.V.R. or in the appropriate official documents.

*J.B. Fairbairn*  
Attesting Officer.

**6 April 1942.** ..... 194..... R.C.N.V.R. Division **H.M.C.S. "UNICORN"**  
(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 *Reserve* Branch of the Naval Service by the prospect of being transferred at some future date to another Branch.

*I.A. Robertson*  
Signature

CERTIFICATE of the SERVICE of

*Jan Anderson* ROBERTSON.

in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve

Training Headquarters	R.C.N.V.R. Division	Official Number
<i>Esquimalt</i>	<i>H.M.C.S. "Unicorn"</i>	<i>V. 33909</i>

Date of Birth *23 March, 1924* Name and Address of Nearest Relative or Friend (in pencil) *30014v*  
 Place of Birth *Kincaldy, Scotland* *Mrs. Wendella Robertson*  
 Place of Residence *1502-10<sup>th</sup> St. Saskatoon, Sask.* *(mother)*  
 Trade brought up to *Office Clerk* **O.H.F.** *1502-10<sup>th</sup> St. Saskatoon, Sask.*  
 Religion *Anglican*  
 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>28 Mar '42</i>	<i>6 Apr '42</i>	<i>Hostilities</i>	<i>(Temp) Ord. Sea.</i>	<i>21 Nov '43</i>		<i>Awarded Ribbon for 1939-43 Star</i>

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								
	Height		Chest (mean)	Weight	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	MARKS, WOUNDS, SCARS
	Feet	Inches						
On Entry	<i>5</i>	<i>9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub></i>	<i>33</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Birth mark right shoulder Lump on collar bone.</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









V33909

OFFICIAL NUMBER

FILE NUMBER

113-R-1402

OFFICIAL NUMBER V33909

NAME ROBERTSON Ian Anderson DATE OF BIRTH 23 March, 1924  
(Surname) (Given Names)PLACE OF BIRTH Kircaldy, Scotland OCCUPATION Office ClerkRELIGION C. of E. EDUCATION Grade 9RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENLISTMENT: Street and No. 1502 -10th Avenue Town Saskatoon Province, etc. Sask.

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
6	4	42	H.O.	5'9 1/2"	Brown	Blue	Fair	Birthmark rt. shoulder lump on collar bone (Broken)				

NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP (in pencil) Mother 18/2/42 NAME (in pencil) Mrs. Walter DobbADDRESS (in pencil): Street and No. 1502 - 10th Ave N Town Saskatoon Province, etc. Sask.

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	1939-1943 Star	23	6	42	Qual. anti-gas 2 days				
				27	8	42	"TR"				
				10	10	42	Rated A/L.F. 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		
					H.M.C.S. Athabackan	10	29	5	43	Absent over leave	Reduced to 2nd class for conduct

FILM  
NO. WAR-5635-4  
DATE

Date (in figures)			DAYS FORFEITED						O.H.F. Received.	
Day	Month	Year	Prison	Det'n	Cells	C. Power	W. Trial	In diff. Char.	Un. Ins. book, Saskatoon, Sask.	

SECOND CLASS FOR CONDUCT

From

To

20.5.4328.8.43H.Q. 35-15M-10-41 (2177)  
N.S. 815-7-35



(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

58

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

Name ROBERTSON, Ian Anderson  
(Christian names in full)

Rank or Rating Able Seaman Official No. V-33909 Unit R.C.N.  
R.C.N.R.  
R.C.N.V.R.

Place of Birth Kincaldy, Scotland Date of Birth 23 March, 1924

Occupation in Civil Life Office Clerk Religion Anglican

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 6th April, 1942 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 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. Wendela Dobb Relationship Mother  
Address 1502-10th Ave. N., SASKATOON, Sask.

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  
S.P  
CLERK No. 1

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

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.V.S.M. and CLASP.  
 NAVAL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (1915).

NAME IN FULL ROBERTSON, Ian Anderson RANK/RATING A.B. OFF. NO. V-33909 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
	15-4-42											1939-45	1	star
<i>Neobe</i>	12-12-42	3-2-43	54	<i>U.K.</i>								ATLANTIC	1	star
<i>Athabasca</i>	1-2-43	29-4-44	451	<i>at.</i>								FRANCE G.		
	<i>Dutch Dead 29-4-44</i>											AFRICA		
												PACIFIC		
												BURMA		
												ITALY		
												DEFENCE		
												C.V.S.M.		27 clasp
												" CLASP		
												WAR 1945	1	medal
												WAR 1915		

VERIFIED BY P.L.

VERIFIED BY P. Sepin

VERIFIED BY .....

DIR. OF PERSONNEL RECORDS

TFH:PMB

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

V-33909 (Pers.N.)

31

1 May, 1944

Dear Mrs. Dibb:

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, Ian Anderson Robertson, Able Seaman, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, Official Number V-33909, 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 Robertson 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

Mrs. Wendela Dibb,  
1502 - 10th Avenue North,  
SASKATOON, Saskatchewan.

567

LETTER dispatched by  
PERSONNEL NAVAL  
MAY 2 1944

MS  
MB

45

10th October, 1944.

Dear Mrs. Dobb:

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. Wendela Dobb,  
1502 - 10th Avenue North,  
Saskatoon, Sask.

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

Date 10/10/44  
Time 1830

LA/VB

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

NS: V33909 Pers.(N)

60

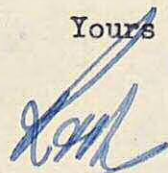
15 January, 1945.

Dear Mrs. Dobb:

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, Ian Anderson Robertson, Able Seaman, Official Number V33909, 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,

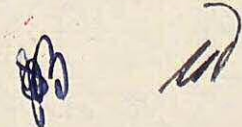


Deputy SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Mrs. Wendela Dobb,  
1502 - 10th Avenue North,  
SASKATOON, Sask.

Despatched by  
Sec. N. B.

Date 15/1/45  
Time 1800



LA/CAP

Ontario, 6th June, x50.

Dear Mrs. Dobb:

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, Gantec 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 to the Secretary of the Imperial War Graves Commission, 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 Ian Anderson Robertson, Official Number V-33909, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, are similar to those on file at Naval Headquarters, such particulars have been accepted as positive identification.

Able Seaman Robertson's grave is located in the Plouescat Communal Cemetery, Plouescat, Finistere, France, in Plot Number 1, Row 'B', Grave Number 43. It is understood a permanent headstone will be erected in due course by the Imperial War Graves Commission, Woburn House, Woburn Green, High Wycombe, Bucks., England. 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

.....  
19650

Mrs. Wendela Dobb,  
1502 - 10th Avenue,  
SASKATOON, Saskatchewan.

D OF D 29-4-44

NAVY

D.D.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

AWARDS

WAR SERVICE RECORDS

ROBERTSON Ian Anderson		V-33909	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 AN DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	1727. 16/1/50
Atlantic Star	
C.V.S.M. & Clasp	
War Medal	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

RCNVR Jun.45 "ATHABASKAN"

MEDALS AND MEMORIALS—DECEASED PERSONNEL

REGISTRATION No. DATE OF DESPATCH

(1) MEDALS

PERSON

ENTITLED TO Mrs. Wendela Dobb - Mother

ADDRESS: 1502 - 10th Ave., N.,  
SASKATOON, Sask.

(2) MEMORIAL CROSS

WIDOW

ADDRESS:

(3) MEMORIAL CROSS

MOTHER Mrs. Wendela Dobb

ADDRESS: 1502 - 10th Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.

MEMORIAL BAR

DATE DESP

REGN. NO

222

(2)

(3)

14-3-45