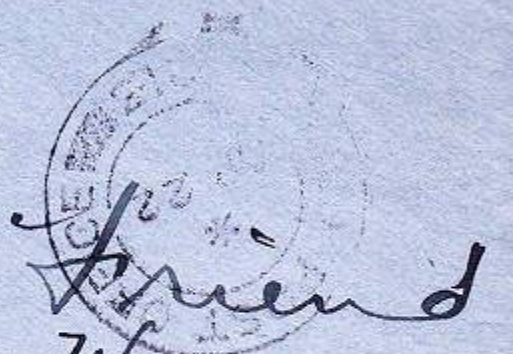


FROM H. M. C. SHIP  
EXAMINED BY DB/N 920



Mrs. James Friend.

Try

3549 3rd. Ave W.

~~410 Edinburgh St~~

In care Mrs Gibson

Vancouver, B.C.

~~New Westminster B.C.~~

Canada.

Dear Mrs. Friend: -

I am taking this liberty of writing because, although I realize that anything I might say could do little to ease the pain of a loss so great, I somehow felt that you might care to hear such details of your husband's death that I am at liberty to disclose.

As Group Signals Officer, I had the good fortune to have him on my Staff, and I can say in all sincerity that Jim contributed substantially to such successes as our Group may have had in the war at sea against the German U. Boat. In addition, I considered him one of my right hand men, and his loss to me, apart from the purely personal aspect, is a very bitter one indeed.

As you may have heard, his death took place during operations at sea in the face of the enemy, and his body, together with several others who

died at the same <sup>2.</sup> time, was taken to Belfast for burial.

The funeral, in which he and his ship-mates were accorded full Naval Honours, was held from a local funeral establishment, and the interment took place in a cemetery on the outskirts of the city. — one of the most beautiful I think I have ever seen. It is surrounded by the brilliantly green hills of County Antrim, and I felt as I stood there, that those who loved him, could have asked for no finer, nor more peaceful a resting place. The flowers, too, were magnificent & all of Jim's friends that were present are agreed that the service was very well organized and carried out with the quiet dignity befitting a man who had given his life for his country.

Those attending the last rites consisted of about two hundred and fifty ratings and a considerable number of officers — the latter including

3.  
Captain Harold Grant, the ex-Chief  
of Naval Personnel. But I am sure  
that the RCV Chaplains who  
conducted the service will advise  
you further of these details.

In closing, may I assure you  
of my deepest sympathy. James  
friend served his country faithfully  
and with good heart.

Yours most sincerely,

Donald C. Trice,  
to R.C.V.R.

Thursday, April nineteenth  
1945.

W. D. C. MILLER R. C. N. V. R.

