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A WREN at WAR: Program Summary

The objectives of this educational program are to teach students about Isabel McDonald, who enlisted in the Women Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS or Wrens as they were called) and the contribution of women to the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II with a particular focus on their involvement in military communications. Students will be guided by research questions and encouraged to think critically while examining primary documents. From these documents, students will glean information about McDonald, Naval signals and the contributions of women to the war effort. Students will also have the opportunity to learn, decode and send messages in International Morse code as well as the concept of Wabun (Kana) Code (Japanese Morse Code). There will also be an opportunity for students to learn about wartime vocabulary, both slang and technical terms that they may not be familiar with.

To complete this program, **4 classes** will be required with the third activity having assigned homework prior to the in class activity. Not all the activities have to be completed. Teachers have the discretion to pick and choose which activities will most benefit their students. Each activity has its own separate section to allow for this flexibility. However the first step for Activity #3 is dependant on the completion of Activity #1 (this step is optional but highly encouraged).

Activities Include

- Sifting Through the Evidence Primary Document Analysis
- Dits and Dahs! Learning Morse Code
- Talking the Talk: War Time Vocabulary

Activity #1 - Sifting Through the Evidence: Primary Document Analysis

Time Allotment: 1 - 2 classes

The **Primary Document Analysis** activity will use a series of primary documents related to the WWII service of Wren Isabel May McDonald. The students will be broken into groups (4-5 depending on the size of the class). The first section of this activity will involve students choosing two documents from their folder and analyzing them based on a critical thinking framework. Once they have analyzed those documents, they will move on to the second section of the activity where they use the information within those documents to answer questions about the service of Wren McDonald. They must make reference to the document where they find the answer.

Part of this package included a Teacher's Resource where you will find a detailed list of the documents, the framework for the document analysis and the research questions in a chart format (with answers). Also included in the Teacher's Resource is a summary of the formation of the Wrens, Wren training, Gordon Head and a profile of Wren McDonald. Also there are web links to further resources.

Activity #2 Dits and Dahs: Learning Morse Code

Time Allotment: at the teacher's discretion, this could be done in one class or you may want to assign 10 minutes of each class to give students time to practice their Morse Code.

Together as an entire class, you will discuss the Learn Morse Code in One Minute handout (included in the Student Activity Sheet). You will then listen to a Morse Code message on Youtube, so the students can hear what it sounds like (the dits and dahs). Then individually, students will decode the message provided on their worksheet (answer is in the Teacher's Resource for this activity). After that, students will be split into groups and they can send their own messages with flashlights to other members of their groups. You may choose to just allow the students to send their messages or you could turn it into a competition. The choice is yours.

Activity #3 Talking the Talk: Wartime Vocabulary Activity

Length: 1 class (with preparatory homework)

War changes the way people live. Accordingly, day-to-day language also changes as new terms and concepts become incorporated into the vernacular. War time produces an abundance of these terms. Students are asked to define several words in order to better understand the primary materials they will be working with. As a class, students will also suggest other terms to add to their "dictionary".

Assign Homework (preparatory task): ask students to compile a list of unfamiliar words they have heard or read while "Sifting Through the Evidence". They will need this list in class the next day. (if you choose to not do the "Sifting Through the Evidence" activity, skip this step).

With the students, compile a list of present day sayings/slang words that are new. Challenge them to teach you something, or ask them to define "teen talk" that is unfamiliar to you.

Introduce the topic of war time vocabulary, linking it to present day slang and vernacular. Hand out Student Vocabulary Assignment sheets and ask students to define the terms listed. As a class, add any other words that you feel are unfamiliar or interesting from the primary sources. Have students consult the list they made for homework (if you did the first part of this assignment). Review the definitions together to ensure that all students have the same information. Hand out crossword and have students complete it – they may work individually or in small groups.



Activity #1 - Shifting Through the Evidence, Primary Document Analysis - Teacher's Resource

This part of the program will take 1-2 classes to complete

Primary Sources are the raw materials of history, the original resources historians look to uncover first hand accounts of history. Engaging with primary resources can be challenging to students who have never been exposed to them before. The language of a different time, the writing style and the context all create barriers. Encouraging critical thinking is key.

Prior to distributing the assignment, engage the students in discussion about what they think a primary resource can teach them about a particular topic. Brainstorm these ideas. Instruct them to pick out information such as dates, names, places, events etc.

A brief introduction to the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service will help students understand the context of the documents they will be examining. There are links below to basic information about the service.

List of Documents to Examine For the Assignment

The Students are not to be given this list with the explanations of the documents. It's their job to discover this information for themselves. This is only for reference should the student be unable to decipher the documents.

- Certificate of Service
 - Wren McDonald's physical description and summary of service
- DND Letter Report for Interview (1 Sep 1943)
 - A Letter from the Department of National Defence about coming to Toronto for an interview to join the WRCNS
- DND Memo Report for Duty (10 Jan 1944)
 - o Memorandum of instructions for Wren McDonald after she enlisted
- DND Naval Service Letter of Discharge 31 Dec 1945
 - Letter from Department of National Defence received upon Wren McDonald's discharge
- Instructions for Rating Discharged from HMCS York
 - A list of instructions for Wren McDonald when she was discharged
- Leave Request Form
 - Wren McDonald's request to visit a friend in Detroit
- Newspaper Article Army Camp Transformed into Big Navy Signal School
 - Describes the founding of St Hyacinthe Naval Signals School 6 Oct 1944
- Newspaper Article Jenny The Wren Is Unveiled
 - Article describing the unveiling of the Jenny Wren Statue in Galt (Cambrigde) Ontario 10 Oct 1972
- Newspaper Article The Past Revisited
 - An article commemorating the HMCS Conestoga 10 Aug 1985
- Nominal List (typed) of Wren Personnel at Gordon Head
 - List of Wrens who served at Gordon Head



- Selections from Wren McDonald's Basic Training and Instructions and Class Notes
 - NOTE: this is a very long document (50+ pages) the relevant pages for the assignment are 13, 14, 15, 26, 32, 34, 36, 44, 45, 46, 50, 52, 53
 - This document covers a variety of topics including Naval history, discipline, basic training
 - There is a second version a transcription (typed) without the hand drawn diagrams,
 (corresponding page numbers are 6 (13,14), 7 (15), 12 (26), 16 (32), 17 (34), 18 (36), 24 (44),
 25 (44,45), 28 (50), 29 (52,53))
- Station Card
 - ID card for Wren McDonald with basic biographical information
- Wireless History Sheet
 - Wren McDonald's examinations report card

Primary Document Analysis

When engaging with a primary document it is important to remember a number of key questions:

- 1. What kind of document is it?
 - a. Is it a letter?
 - b. Is it a photograph?
 - c. Is it a certificate?
 - d. Is it a newspaper article?
 - e. Is it an essay?
 - f. Is it a government document?
- 2. What are its parts?
 - a. Is there an author?
 - b. Is there a date?
 - c. Are there locations mentioned?
 - d. Who is mentioned within the document?
- 3. Next is the Analysis
 - a. What is it talking about?
 - b. Can you summarize in your own words the content in the document?
 - c. Can you explain why it was written?
 - d. What is the historical context? Or What was happening at that time in history?

For this exercise the student groups will choose two documents from their folder and perform an analysis of those documents using the questions above.

Example:

Primary Document Name	What Kind of Document?	Name the Parts	Analysis
Certificate of Service	Government document/record	Biographical information (address, date of birth, next of kin, physical description etc) All about Wren McDonald, filled out	This government record stated the service of a woman of the WRCNS. It is a vital piece of information to track the service of an individual. The document shows that Wren McDonald, though in the Navy never served on the seas nor did she serve outside of Canada. We can tell from the

	by Wren McDonald List of her service locations and dates of service, date of discharge and rehabilitation grant. Examination information. Dates included her birth in 1925, her attestation in 1943 and her service from 1944 to 1945.	document that her period of service was 1944 to 1945 during the Second World War. It was during this war that women were first allowed to serve in capacity beyond nursing. We can infer that because she replaced a male sailor on a shore base, that there was one more available for sea duties. The need for women to be recruited into this shore based service showed the need for more men on the front lines of the war.
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WREN Primary Document Questions and Answers

Question	Answer	Source
Who was Wren McDonald (Official Number, Rate, Given Names)	Official Number: W-4133 Rate: Wren Wireless Telegraphist, SO (W/T) (K) (Special Operations, Kana) Given Names: Isabel May McDonald	Station Card Certificate of Service
What did she look like? (physical description)	Medium Brown hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, 5 feet 6 ½ inches, mole on lower lid of right eye	Certificate of Service
When was she born?	26 August 1925	Certificate of Service
Where was she from?	North Bay Ontario (88 Jane St)	Certificate of Service
How old was Wren McDonald when she enlisted?	18	Certificate of Service
Was she employed prior to enlistment? If so, what did she do?	Yes, school teacher	Certificate of Service
When did she officially enlist in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (ie Date of Attestation)? What else did she have to do on this particular date?	10 September 1943 Interview and medical examination	DND Letter - Report for Interview 1 st of Sept 1943
When and where did she serve her country? (dates, places, locations) Be Specific	HMCS Conestoga (Galt ON) 31 Jan 1944 - 16 Mar 1944 HMCS St Hyacinthe Que 17 Mar 1944 - 20 Oct 1944 HMCS Givenchy (Esquimalt, BC) 21 Oct 1944 - 31 Oct 1945 HMCS Naden (Esquimalt, BC) 1 Nov 1945 - 22 Nov 1925	Certificate of Service

	HMCS York (Toronto ON)	
	23 Nov 1945 - 12 Dec 1945	
When and where did Wren McDonald request to go on leave?	1300 hours Saturday 11 Mar 1944 - 2300 hours Sunday 12 March 1944 Miss Shirley Craig, 8177 American Avenue Detroit Michigan	Leave Request Form
What kind of leave did she request? A Long Weekend or a Short weekend	Short leave	Selection of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes, pg 26
What was the daily rate of pay for Probationary Wrens? Could this amount increase? If so, for what reason?	\$1.05 per day Yes - increased to \$1.10 after Basic Training may be given additional proficiency pay in the selected category in accordance with Canadian Wren Regulations	DND Memo Report for Duty 10 Jan 44
What was she instructed to bring with her when she reported for training?	1 coat (preferably a rain coat); 1 suit and 1 dress (or 2 dresses); 2 night-dresses or pyjamas; 2 prs bloomers, closed at the knee; 1 pr low-heeled walking shoes; shoe cleaning kit (black & white); drinking glass (preferably plastic); sewing kit; money belt; 1 pr bedroom slippers; 1 dressing gown; 1 hat; toilet requisites & soap; clothes pins; name tags; collar studs; bathing costumes; 2 suitcases (one reserved for issued uniform); no jewellery, except watch, ID bracelet; tie pins & cuff links; civilian ration book	DND Memo Report for Duty 10 Jan 44
On which date did her pay begin?	31 January 1944	Certificate of Service / DND Memo Report Duty 10 Jan 44
When and where was she required to report for training as a Probationary Wren?	Thursday 3 February 1944 HMCS Conestoga Galt Ontario	Certificate of Service / DND Memo Report Duty 10 Jan 44
On which date did she complete her Telegraphist Examination?	20 October 1944	Wireless History Sheet pg 2
On what topics was she tested? What was the required grade? What grade did she receive?	Typing Morse - Req 85, Rec 96 Typing Plain:Req 90, Rec 97 Theory - Req 60 Rec 87 Spec Foreign Proc & Organ: Req 90, Rec 97, Req 70, Rec 84 Technical Req 75 Rec 88 British Procedure Req 90 Rec 99 Buzzer Receiving Req 95 Rec 96	Wireless History Sheet pg 2

What special qualification did she earn? Typewriting Teletyping: D/F (direction finding) Wireless History Sheet pg (direction finding) Wireless History Sheet pg (direction finding) Wireless History Sheet pg (direction finding) Instruction for Ratings disciplination from HMCS York	4
so important? Service; required when seeking from HMCS York	
future civilian employment	charge
What was the purpose of St Hyacinthe (what kind of training did they provide?) Signals Training - one of the biggest school in the world (at the time) Newspaper article former Hyacinthe Army Camp transformed into Big Navy School	
Examine nominal list of the Wrens who served at Gordon Head Special Wireless Telegraphy (W/T) station. How many Wrens came from each province? Make a chart. How many Wrens came from Kingston ON (include names and addresses). ON - 45 QUE - 18 MAN - 6 AB - 3 SASK - 5 BC - 6 NS - 1 NB - 2 Other - 1 (USA) 2 Wrens came from Kingston BM Grant (Mrs KC Corbett) 115 Gore St H Hamilton - 303 Alberta St	
According to Wren McDonald's Basic Training Notes, what does the salute signify? Mutual respect and trust between officers and Wrens Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction Class Notes pg 15	
What is Morale and why is it important to the military? Mental state of individual and military unit founded on pride tradition and custom also founded on respect for and confidence in ability of superior officers and greatly influenced by conditions of service and contentment of personnel - essential component of military discipline Morale and discipline - most consistent source of victory	
Which areas of the ship are referred to as the following a) Brain, b) Eye, c) Ears, d) Heart, e) Arteries, f) Fists a) Bridge b) Range Finder c) Radar and ASDIC d) Control Room e) Voice pipes f) Guns, torpedoes, depth charges	
What are the four branches of the Royal Canadian Navy 1) RCN permanent force Selections of Wren McDo Basic Training Instruction	

	Reserve (professional seaman of the merchant marine) 3) Royal Canadial Naval Volunteer Reserves (volunteers from civilian life) 4) Womens Royal Canadian Naval Service	Class Notes pg 34
In her personal log, Wren McDonald uses the phrase "Make and Mend". What does she mean by this?	Spare time from regular duties	Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes pg 36
According to her Basic Training notes, there are 3 branches (or types) of Communication in the Navy. What are they? Give examples of each.	 Visual Signalling - semaphore, lamps, bells, heliograph Wireless Telegraphy - radio Line Telegraphy - telephone, telegraph, teletype, codes and ciphers 	Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes pg 44-46
What is the daily scale of rations per Wren (including weekly specialty items)?	Sugar 1 ¾ oz Tea 3/16 oz Coffee ¼ oz Bacon 2 oz Cocoa ½ oz Milk ½ pt Eggs 2 without bacon (12 weekly) Fruit Juice 3 oz Tomato Juice Twice weekly Poultry Twice weekly	Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes pg 50
How much did it cost to feed a Wren per day?	36 cents	Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes pg 50
List the traditional Naval toasts for each day of the week?	Monday: Our ships at sea Tuesday: Our ship Wednesday: Ourselves Thursday: A Bloody War Friday: Blank Saturday: Our Sweethearts and Wives Sunday: Absent Friends	Selections of Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instruction and Class Notes pg 52 (Wed to Sun) - 53 (Mon-Tues)
Did Wren McDonald serve on the high seas?	No	Certificate of Service
Upon Discharge and demobilization did she receive a rehabilitation grant? If so, how	Yes \$100	Certificate Service

much did she receive?		
When and where was Wren McDonald officially discharged (provide date and location)?	12 December 1945 Toronto Ontario	Certificate of Service / DND Naval Service Letter of Discharge 31 Dec 45
Who designed Jenny the Wren Statue?	Francis Gage (former Wren)	Newspaper Article Jenny the Wren is Unveiled pg 1
Where was the statue erected and when was it unveiled?	Galt ON (now Cambridge) October 1972	Newspaper Article Jenny the Wren is Unveiled pg 1

Teacher Reference Pages:

Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS or WRENS)

Background

Initially formed by King George V during the First World War, the Women's Royal Naval Service would enlist women to provide services that men had previously done on land. This was a huge step forward for women who were not even allowed to vote. The WRNS was established in 1917 and disbanded at wars end in 1919. They were reformed in 1939 and served throughout the Second World War. More than one hundred thousand women contributed to the WRNS over the war years.

Formation of the WRCNS

As in many areas of the war effort, women began replacing men in jobs on the home front. As more and more men were required to fight, women were targeted to fill their places and keep factories, transit, offices, running. During the Second World War Canadian officials asked for representatives of the WRNS to help set up a similar organization in Canada. By July 1942 the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service was established.

Service in this organization was popular and two thousand applicants applied for seventy spaces in the first WREN class. On September 19 1942, twenty-two women were passed as officers in His Majesty's Royal Canadian Navy. They were the first women to ever carry the King's commission in any British Commonwealth Navy. The graduates of the first class were to organize a service that would eventually have over six thousand members.

The first basic training centre was established in Galt, Ontario and carried the name HMCS Conestoga (all training centers were named as ships because they were part of the Navy). Women who were destined to be coders, visual signalers, teletype operators, switchboard and radio operators, plotters and telegraphists were trained at St. Hyacinthe, following their basic training at Galt.

Further information on the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service can be found at: http://www.naval-museum.mb.ca/wrens

Specific to Kana Code: http://www.thememoryproject.com/stories/1203:bea-corbett/ (Testimony of Bea Corbett who served with Isabel McDonald)

Websites of Interest:

The Women's Royal Naval Service (W.R.N.S.) Wren Associations Canada: http://thewrens.com/

The Naval Museum of Manitoba: https://naval-museum.mb.ca/winnipegs-navy/wrens-a-proud-heritage/

Katakana Lessons: http://japanese.about.com/blkatakana.htm

Books of Interest:

The Girls of the King's Navy. By: Rosamund "Fiddy" Greer (1983)

<u>Greatcoats and Glamour Boots: Canadian Women at War (1939-1945).</u> By: Carolyn Gossage (2001)

WRCNS Signal Training - St. Hyacinthe

HMCS St Hyacinthe began operations as a naval signals school in October 1941 after the realization that the school would need to expand beyond its current capacity. It was deemed economical to use the already built Militia Training Centre No 46 in Saint Hyacinthe Quebec instead of building onto the existing school in Halifax.

The school grew quickly, eventually training 2600 sailors and WRCNS in a variety of signalling trades. These included visual signalling, telegraphy, coding, radar and as radio artificers. The WRCNS arrived in 1943 to this training base and took part in all of these courses except for radio artificers.

Their training was specialized to allow them to serve as Signals Officers on shore bases.

The Wireless Telegraphy (W/T) Special Operators course required 160 days of instruction for the women of the WRCNS to gain proficiency in receiving coded transmissions. Eventually St. Hyacinthe would become the largest communications training school in the entire British Empire.

Special Wireless Station Gordon Head and the Japanese Kana Code

Gordon Head is a quiet seaside community on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. During World War II, a secret Special Wireless Station was established in June of 1940. It was a vital outpost in the Royal Canadian Navy's radio intelligence operation against the Japanese.

Messages were intercepted and bearings on enemy transmission were provided. These messages were in Wabun (also called Kana) Morse Code. Wabun Morse code is a form of Morse Code used to send the Japanese language in Katakana characters. The Wrens and other signals personnel used specialized Kana keyboards, which translated Japanese characters into Roman letters. Around 85 Wrens were trained on Wabun Code and by early 1945, the station was operated by the WRCNS.

After the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941, Gordon Head became part of the US Navy West Coast Network, as the US, UK and Canada rationalized their intelligence operations. All raw messages intercepted at Gordon Head went through the Seattle headquarters and were then relayed to Washington. This cooperation was vital for the war's eventual successful outcome. The station was closed in 1946 and the building that housed the station is now on the University of Victoria's campus.

WREN McDonald Profile

Isabel McDonald, a native of North Bay, Ontario, joined the Women's Royal Canadian Navy Service (WRCNS) in 1942. She completed her basic training at HMCS Conestoga (also known as the Stone Frigate) in Galt, Ontario. When this training was complete Wren McDonald was selected to train at the Naval Communications School at St-Hyacinthe, Que. It was here that she was trained to read the special Kana Morse symbols used by the Japanese Navy.

After the completion of her training she was first sent to Esquimalt, then to a secret signal outpost in Gordon Head, British Columbia. As part of McDonald's service, she signed the Official Secrets Act. The Wrens worked in shifts, mostly at night, and their work location was secret, being transported there in canvas covered trucks. Wren McDonald and her colleagues helped to capture and decode valuable intelligence from the enemy and discover the points of origins for the intercepted messages.

Wren McDonald left the navy in 1946 and studied at the University of Toronto. She married Rudy Mauro and the couple later wrote a book on the RCAF airmen from their hometown of North Bay who died during the war. In 2016, Isabel Mauro (nee McDonald) was awarded the Bletchley Commemorative Badge for her service at Gordon Head. She passed away on August 22, 2018 just before her 96th birthday.



Activity #1 - Sifting Through the Evidence, Primary Document Analysis - Student Worksheet

Examining primary documents can be a challenge if you have never examined them before. A Primary Source refers to a document that reflects the first hand life experience of the person in question. They are very important for historians to learn about the past but are not always clear in what they mean. Primary document analysis requires *interpretation*. We need to figure out what this particular source is trying to say to us.

When first looking at the document, you want to try to identify what kind of document it is; such as certificates, letters, poems, photographs, newspaper articles, etc and try to discover as much information about the person as possible. Look for dates, places, people's names, events to build a biographical sketch of the person's life.

This file tells the story of Isabel McDonald, a member of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS, or Wrens) during World War II. Your task is to find out as much as you can about her and her service. The following questions have been prepared to provide you with an idea of what researchers look for. Answer them and you will have an idea of what Wren McDonald's service was like.

Length: 1-2 class periods

Primary Document Analysis

When engaging with a primary document it is important to remember a number of key questions:

1. What kind of document is it?

- a. Is it a letter?
- b. Is it a photograph?
- c. Is it a certificate?
- d. Is it a newspaper article?
- e. Is it an essay?
- f. Is it a government document?

2. What are its parts?

- a. Is there an author?
- b. Is there a date?
- c. Are there locations mentioned?
- d. Who is mentioned within the document?

3. Time to Analyze

- a. What is it talking about?
- b. Can you summarize in your own words the content in the document?
- c. Can you explain why it was written?
- d. What is the historical context? Or What was happening at that time in history?

Assignment: For this exercise, choose two documents from your folder and perform an analysis of those documents using the questions above.

Primary Document Name	What Kind of Document?	Name the Parts	Analysis

Now that you understand how to interpret a primary document, use this knowledge to answer the Research Questions about Isabel McDonald's service using all the documents in your folder.

Assignment: Along with the other members of your group, look through and examine the Primary Source Documents & Materials in this file. Read the following questions, and answer them accordingly. Be sure to note the source of your answers.

Fill Out You Answers in this Table

Question	Answer	Source
Who was Wren McDonald (Official Number, Rate, Given Names)		
What did she look like? (physical description)		

When was she born?	
Where was she from?	
How old was Wren McDonald when she enlisted?	
Was she employed prior to enlistment? If so, what did she do?	
When did she officially enlist in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (ie Date of Attestation)? What else did she have to do on this particular date?	
When and where did she serve her country? (dates, places, locations) Be Specific	
When and where did Wren McDonald request to go on leave?	
What kind of leave did she request? A Long Weekend or a Short weekend	
What was the daily rate of pay for Probationary Wrens? Could this amount increase? If so, for what reason?	
What was she instructed to bring with her when she reported for training?	
On which date did her pay begin?	
When and where was she required to report for training as a Probationary Wren?	

On which date did she complete her Telegraphist Examination?	
On what topics was she tested? What was the required grade? What grade did she receive?	
What special qualification did she earn?	
Why was her Certificate of Service so important?	
What was the purpose of St Hyacinthe (what kind of training did they provide?)	
Examine nominal list of the Wrens who served at Gordon Head Special Wireless Telegraphy (W/T) station. How many Wrens came from each province? Make a chart. How many Wrens came from Kingston ON (include names and addresses).	
According to Wren McDonald's Basic Training Notes, what does the salute signify?	
What is Morale and why is it important to the military?	

Which areas of the ship are referred to as the following a) Brain, b) Eye, c) Ears, d) Heart, e) Arteries, f) Fists	
What are the four branches of the Royal Canadian Navy?	
In her personal log, Wren McDonald uses the phrase "Make and Mend". What does she mean by this?	
According to her Basic Training notes, there are 3 branches (or types) of Communication in the Navy. What are they? Give examples of each.	
What is the daily scale of rations per Wren (including weekly specialty items)?	
How much did it cost to feed a Wren per day?	
List the traditional Naval toasts for each day of the week?	
Did Wren McDonald serve on the high seas?	
Upon Discharge and demobilization did she receive a	

rehabilitation grant? If so, how much did she receive?	
When and where was Wren McDonald officially discharged (provide date and location)?	
Who designed Jenny the Wren Statue?	
Where was the statue erected and when was it unveiled?	



Activity #2 - Dits and Dahs! Learning Morse Code - Teacher's Resource

International Morse Code is an alphabet that encodes the 26 English letters and some additional characters into a series of dots and dashes, or dits and dahs. This is achieved by differing the duration of the sound, with dots or dits being quick and dashes or dahs being longer. Kana Code is a form of Morse code that used to send the Japanese language in katakana characters. It's official name is Wabun code. It is a far more difficult and complicated form of Morse code to learn due to the complexity of the Japanese language. During her training, Wren McDonald was taught Kana (Wabun) code in order to intercept Japanese radio traffic off the west coast of North America. It took her 160 days of intensive training to learn how to receive this code.

Task: For this activity students will have the opportunity to listen to, as well as practice decoding and sending messages in (standard) Morse Code.

Required Materials

- Standard Morse Code chart (included below)
- Wabun/Kana Code chart (included below)
- Student Handout: Learn Morse Code in One Minute Instructions and Chart (included in the Student Handout for this activity)
- Morse code sound clip video with letters on screen, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_J8YcQETyTw
 Morse Code Message: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8psJg4Zs-ag
- Flashlights/Pens/Pencil/sheets of paper

Length: at the teacher's discretion, this could be done in one class or you may want to assign 10 minutes of each class to give students time to practice their Morse Code.

Procedure

- Discuss with students (as an entire class) the nature of Wren Isabel McDonald's work for the Naval service. Discuss the differences between standard Morse Code and Japanese Morse Code or Kana Code (use charts to visualize), and the history of Morse Code in general.
- Explain to students that they will have an opportunity to learn and use standard Morse Code (Kana code requiring much more time to learn).
- Have students practice listening to Morse Code as suggested on the Student Handout: Learn Morse Code in One Minute! (there are various videos on YouTube that could be used for practice, such as the one linked above).
- Once students have a sufficient grasp of this particular activity, have them decode the provided message
- Next they will have the opportunity of sending and reading their own messages in Morse Code using flashlights.
- Option: Have a Morse Code competition between Learning Groups. Send a message in Morse Code and time how long it takes each group to decipher it.

Answer Sheet

Can You Decode the Morse Message?

Follow the Morse Code Alphabet to decipher the message

The slashes indicate a break between the letters and the start and finish of a word

Japanese Morse Code

				2 9						
He		ヌ	Nu			5	5		6	6
- AMu	0 E E 1000	2	Ku		*****	4	4		メ	Me
5 Ra	3 4 300 1	チ	Chi			\geq			Ŧ	Mo
· ウu		1	No			3	3		ユ	Yu
J Na		力	Ka			卜	To		+	Ki
'Y Ya			Ra		*****	111	Mi		サ	Sa
		ツ	Tsu			۰	0	2000 1 2000 par 1	W	Ru
7 Wa		F	Wo			2	2		エ	Ε
U Ri		/\	Ha	-		才	0	2000 2000 2 1 E	7	7
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MORSE CODE ALPHABET

0	N	A
1	O	В
2	Р	C
3	Q	D
4	R	E .
5	S	F
6	Т -	G
7	U	н
8	V	I
9	W	J
Fullstop	X	K
Comma	Y	L
Query	Z	M
f .	The state of the s	

Teacher Resource Links

Morse Code

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morse code

https://www.artofmanliness.com/articles/morse-code/

https://www.britannica.com/topic/Morse-Code

https://nrich.maths.org/2198

Wabun (Kana) Code

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wabun code

http://self.gutenberg.org/articles/eng/Wabun code

https://www.zl2al.com/3488/wabun-the-japanese-morse-code/



Activity #2: Dits and Dahs! Learning Morse Code - Student Handout

For this activity you will be given the opportunity to compare two forms of Morse code; International/Standard Morse code used by the Allies in World War II and Wabun (Kana) code used by the Japanese. You will listen to clip(s) of Morse code and decipher provided message(s), then you will decode the message below using the Morse alphabet and finally you will get to send your own Morse messages using flashlights.

LEARN MORSE CODE IN ONE MINUTE!

This is a code listening tool.

Place your pencil where it says START and listen to Morse code. Move down and to the right every time you hear a DIT (a dot). Move down and to the left every time you hear a DAH (a dash).

Here's an example:

You hear **DAH DIT DIT**, which is a **dash** then **dot** then **dot**.

You start at **START** and hear a **DAH** then move *DOWN* and *LEFT* to the *T* and then you hear a **DIT** so you move down and *RIGHT* to the *N* and then you hear another **DIT** so you move *DOWN* and *RIGHT* again and land on the *D*. You then write down the letter *D* on your code copy paper and jump back to **START** waiting for your next letter.

The key to learning the code is hearing it and comprehending it while you hear it. The only way to get there is to practice 10 minutes a day.

Listen to code tapes or computer practice code while tracing out this chart and you will find yourself writing down the letters in no time at all without the aid of the chart.

The chart brings repetition together with recognition, which you don't get from any other type of code practice aid.

M DIT START O G K D W R U S O Q Z Y C X B J P L F V H O 9 8 7 61 2 3 4 5

Can You Decode the Morse Message?

Follow the Morse Code Alphabet to decipher the message The slashes indicate a break between the letters and the start and finish of a word



Activity #3 - Talking the Talk: War Time Vocabulary - Teacher's Resource

War changes the way people live. Accordingly, day-to-day language also changes as new terms and concepts become incorporated into the vernacular. War time produces an abundance of these terms. Students are asked to define several words in order to better understand the primary materials they will be working with. As a class, students will also suggest other terms to add to their "dictionary".

Materials Required

- Student Vocabulary Assignment sheet
- Dictionary
- Crossword Activity Sheet
- Internet access some terms may not be in a standard dictionary, <u>www.dictionary.com</u>
- Some military abbreviations are difficult to understand, here is a resource website: https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/Pages/military-abbreviations.aspx

Length: 1 class (with preparatory homework)

Procedure

- Assign Homework (preparatory task): ask students to compile a list of unfamiliar words they have heard or read while "Sifting Through the Evidence". They will need this list in class the next day. (if you choose to not do the "Sifting Through the Evidence" activity, skip this step)
- With students, compile a list of present day sayings/slang words that are new. Challenge them to teach you something, or ask them to define "teen talk" that is unfamiliar to you.
- Introduce the topic of war time vocabulary, linking it to present day slang and vernacular.
- Hand out Student Vocabulary Assignment sheet and ask students to define the terms listed.
- As a class, add any other words that you feel are unfamiliar or interesting from the primary sources.
 Have students consult the list they made for homework (if you did the first part of this assignment)
- Review the definitions together to ensure that all students have the same information.
- Hand out crossword and have students complete it they may work individually or in small groups.

Task: Using a dictionary/Internet define the following terms from the Second World War. All of these terms were from Isabel McDonald's daily life as a WREN and she was required to be familiar with them. Use a piece of paper from your notebook to make a dictionary for these words. Be sure to indicate if the word is a noun, verb etc., and to define the word in the context of World War Two.

- D/F
- Rate
- Rank
- Draft
- Appoint
- Grog

- Victual
- S.O.
- W/T(K)
- Katakana
- Destroyer
- Minesweeper

- Cruiser
- Convoy
- Leave
- C.O.
- E.O.
- D.O.

Answer Key

D/F: (verb and/or noun): Direction Finding

Rate (noun): A naval rank (position) that is not conferred by commission or warrant. It may refer both to the rank and to the sailor. (British term for enlisted personnel)

Rank (noun): A naval rank (position) that is conferred by commission or warrant.

Draft (verb): to select for some purpose: as a: to conscript for military service b: to select by draft; refers to the reassignment of a rate (not an officer)

Appoint (verb): a: to fix or set officially; b: to name officially; refers to the reassignment of an officer (not a rate)

Grog (noun): alcoholic liquor; especially liquor (as rum) cut with water and now often served hot with lemon juice and sugar sometimes added

Victual (verb): to supply with food; to eat; to lay in provisions

W/T(K) (noun): Wireless Telegraphist (Kana)

S.O. (noun): Special Operations

Katakana (noun): form of Japanese syllabic writing used for scientific terms, official documents, Morse Code etc.

Destroyer (noun): A small, fast, highly maneuverable warship armed with guns, torpedoes, depth charges, and guided missiles

Minesweeper (noun): A ship equipped for detecting, destroying, removing, or neutralizing explosive marine mines

Cruiser (noun): One of a class of fast warships of medium tonnage with a long cruising radius and less armor and firepower than a battleship

Convoy (noun): A group, as of ships or motor vehicles, traveling together with a protective escort or for safety or convenience

Leave (noun): "vacation" time; must be formally requested, reviewed and granted; has specific timelines that must be abided by.

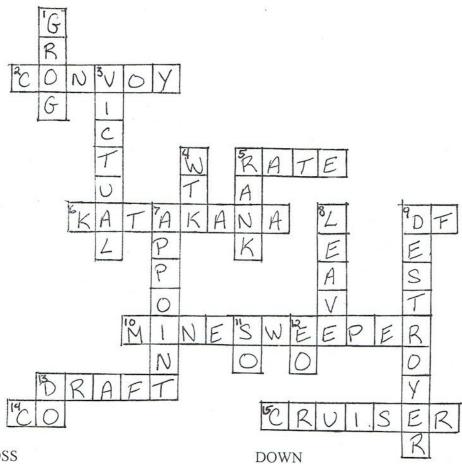
C.O. (noun): Commanding Officer

E.O. (noun): Executive Officer

D.O. (noun): Divisional Officer

Crossword Answer Key

Talking the Talk: World War Vocabulary Answer Key



ACROSS

- 2 A group, as of ships or motor vehicles, traveling together with a protective escort or for safety or convenience 5 A naval rank that is not conferred by
- commission or warrant
- 6 Form of Japanese syllabic writing
- 9 Directional Finding
- 10 A ship equipped for detecting, destroying, removing, or neutralizing explosive marine mines
- 13 To conscript for military service
- 14 Commanding Officer
- 15 One of a class of fast warships of medium tonnage with a long cruising radius and less armor and firepower than a battleship

- 1 Alcoholic liquor
- 3 To supply with food
- 4 Wireless Telegraphist (Kana)
- 5 A naval rank that is conferred by commission or warrant
- 7 To name officially, refers to the reassignment of an officer
- 8 "Vacation" time
- 9 A small, fast, highly maneuverable warship armed with guns, torpedoes, depth charges, and guided missiles
- 11 Special Operations
- 12 Executive Officer
- 13 Divisional Officer

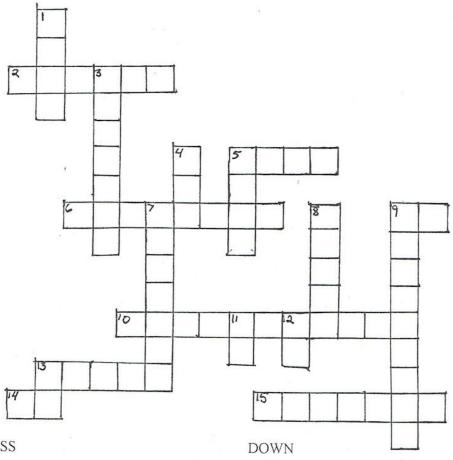


Activity #3 - Talking the Talk: War Time Vocabulary - Student Worksheet

Word	Noun/ Verb	Definition
D/F		
Rate		
Rank		
Draft		
Appoint		
Grog		
Victual		
S.O.		
W/T(K)		
Katakana		
Destroyer		
Minesweeper		
Cruiser		
Convoy		
Leave		
C.O.		
E.O.		
D.O.		

Crossword Activity

Talking the Talk: World War Vocabulary



ACROSS

2 A group, as of ships or motor vehicles, traveling together with a protective escort or for safety or convenience 5 A naval rank that is not conferred by

commission or warrant

6 Form of Japanese syllabic writing

9 Directional Finding

10 A ship equipped for detecting, destroying, removing, or neutralizing explosive marine mines

13 To conscript for military service

14 Commanding Officer

15 One of a class of fast warships of medium tonnage with a long cruising radius and less armor and firepower than a battleship

- 1 Alcoholic liquor
- 3 To supply with food
- 4 Wireless Telegraphist (Kana)
- 5 A naval rank that is conferred by commission or warrant
- 7 To name officially, refers to the reassignment of an officer
- 8 "Vacation" time
- 9 A small, fast, highly maneuverable warship armed with guns, torpedoes, depth charges, and guided missiles
- 11 Special Operations
- 12 Executive Officer
- 13 Divisional Officer



Glossary of Terms

Morale	Mental state of individual and military unit founded on pride tradition and custom also
Minesweeper	A ship equipped for detecting, destroying, removing, or neutralizing explosive marine mines
Mend and Make	Spare time from regular duties
Leave	"vacation" time; must be formally requested, reviewed and granted; has specific timelines that must be abided by.
Katakana	form of Japanese syllabic writing used for scientific terms, official documents, Morse Code etc.
Heliograph	an apparatus for telegraphing by means of the sun's rays flashed from a mirror
Grog	alcoholic liquor; especially liquor (as rum) cut with water and now often served hot with lemon juice and sugar sometimes added
E.O.	Executive Officer
Draft	to select for some purpose: as a: to conscript for military service b: to select by draft; refers to the reassignment of a rate (not an officer)
Discharge	to release from service or duty
Destroyer	A small, fast, highly maneuverable warship armed with guns, torpedoes, depth charges, and guided missiles
Demobilization	the action of releasing someone from one of the armed forces, especially at the end of a war
D/F	Direction Finding
D.O.	Divisional Officer
Cruiser	One of a class of fast warships of medium tonnage with a long cruising radius and less armor and firepower than a battleship
Convoy	A group, as of ships or motor vehicles, traveling together with a protective escort or for safety or convenience
Commission	a warrant conferring the rank of officer in an army, navy, or air force.
Cipher	a secret or disguised way of writing; a code.
C.O.	Commanding Officer
Attestation	a formal statement that you make and officially say is true
ASDIC	Anti-submarine detector invention committee: an early form of sonar used to detect submarines.
Appoint	a: to fix or set officially; b: to name officially; refers to the reassignment of an officer (not a rate)

	,
	founded on respect for and confidence in ability of superior officers and greatly influenced by conditions of service and contentment of personnel
Morse Code	either of two codes consisting of variously spaced dots and dashes or long and short sounds used for transmitting messages by audible or visual signals
Nominal List	List of names
Official Secrets Act	a government law that is designed to prohibit and control access to and the disclosure of sensitive government information; offences cover espionage and leakage of government information.
Plotters	a device or person used to plot on charts/maps/graphs
Range Finder	an instrument used in gunnery to determine the distance of a target
Rank	A naval rank (position) that is conferred by commission or warrant.
Rate	A naval rank (position) that is not conferred by commission or warrant. It may refer both to the rank and to the sailor. (British term for enlisted personnel)
Ration	a food allowance for one day
Ration Book	he ration books contained removable stamps good for certain rationed items, like sugar, meat, cooking oil, and canned goods. A person could not buy a rationed item without also giving the grocer the right ration stamp
Rehabilitation Grant	an amount of money issued to discharged members of the armed forces for personal use. Payable at 6 months service
S.O.	Special Operations
Semaphore	a system of visual signaling by two flags held one in each hand
Telegraphy	the use or operation of a telegraph apparatus or system for communication
Teletype	a printing device resembling a typewriter that is used to send and receive telephonic signals
Travel Warrant	a document allowing for travel
Victual	to supply with food; to eat; to lay in provisions
W/T(K)	Wireless Telegraphist (Kana)
Wabun Code	is a form of Morse code used to send Japanese language in katakana characters. Unlike International Morse Code, which represents letters of the Latin script, in Wabun each symbol represents a Japanese kana.
Wren	nickname of Women of the WRCNS, following after the British example, Wren (the bird) is a prominent figure on their crest



Annex A - Primary Documents

(excluding Wren McDonald's Basic Training Instructions and Class Notes)



WOMEN'S ROYAL CANADIAN NAVAL SERVICE

CERTIFICATE OF THE SERVICE OF

WNV 8 25M-8-43 (1698) N.S. 815-25-8

NAME	McDo	NALD	, Is	obel 7	nay	Officia	L No. W-4133		
Date of Birth	26 ac	igust.	1925		Nearest known Relative or Friend (To be noted in pencil)				
Place of Birth.		16		Taris	(To be n	(To be noted in pencil)			
Religious Deno		//	Che	rch	Relationship	men	f (LA)		
Home Address		1	Ont	aus.	Name 777	Edma	m. The Honald		
Occupation pri		0/1	ool Je	eacher	. Address	88 la	ne St		
Occupation pro		CRIPTION OF E	NTRY		1	orthi	Bay		
Height		Colour of		Scars,	Ontaris				
Ft. Ins. Hair Eyes			es Complexion etc	Marks, etc.					
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Esta	ablishment	Sub	stantive Rate	Non- Substantive Rate	From	То	Cause of Discharge		
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Assessment of Character and Efficiency.—To be made by both the Commanding Officer of the Establishment and the W.R.C.N.S. Unit Officer in accordance with K.R. & A.I., Arts. 605 and 607.

Date	Character	Efficiency (Note substantive rating in brackets)	Signatur of Assess Officer	res sing s	Remarks
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		MEDALS, DECO	RATIONS, ETC.		
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Award		Presentation		Nature of Dec	oration
Examina	TIONS, NOTATIONS. QU	VALIFICATIONS		CEIVED IN ACTION,	Meritorious Service Recommendations
Date	Particulars	Captain's Signature	Date	Details	Captain's Signature
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Department of National Defence

Rabal Serbice

W.R.C.N.S. Recruiting Office, 120 Wellington St. W.. . Toronto, Ontario.

lst September 194 3

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

N.S. YW-1-M.

Dear Madam:

With reference to your application for entry into the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, a letter went forward to you dated 24th August, 1943 advising you that we had written Naval Service Headquarters for your relevant papers.

These papers have been received and you are requested to report at this office, 120 Wellington Street, West, for an interview and medical examination on Friday, 10th September at 8:30 a.m.

If this date should be unsuitable for you, kindly advise us as soon as possible.

Enclosed is a trans warrant from North Bay to Toronto.

Kindly bring with you your birth certificate.

> Yours very truly, Marion Baxter

(Marion Baxter) Sub. Lieut. W.R.C.N.S.

Recruiting Officer.

Miss Isabel McDonald, 88 Jane Street, North Bay, Ontario.

MB/pep Encl. 1

1,250m-4-42 (4258) N.S. 815-5-2258

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE NAVAL SERVICE

Prob. Wren Isabel May McDonald, 88 Jane Street, NORTH BAY, Ontario. H.M.C.S. "YORK"
Automotive Building,
Exhibition Grounds,
Toronto, Ontario.
10th January, 1944.

YW - 7

MEMORANDUM:

You are instructed to report to R.C.N.V.R. Barracks at the above address on Wednesday, 2nd Feb. 147or medical recheck and travelling instructions.

- 2. Subject to satisfactory medical recheck, you will be required to report for training as Probationary Wren .Wireless Telegraphist (S.Q.) on Thursday, Ord February .14to the Commanding Officer, H.M.C.S. "CONESTOGA", Galt, Ontario.
- 3. The daily rate of pay for Probationary Wrens is \$1.05. After basic training, pay will be increased to \$1.10 per day. Upon completion of any extension training which may be necessary, Wrens may be given additional proficiency pay in the selected category in accordance with Canadian Wren Regulations.
- 4. Date of commencement of pay will be! January 1944......
- 5. You will probably be required to stay in the Training Depot for one month. Upon completion of your training, you must be prepared to proceed direct from the Depot to the Establishment to which you will be drafted.
- 6. Uniform will be issued as soon as possible. No underclothing is provided, as a grant of \$15.00 is given in lieu, at the end of basic training. You should bring with you serviceable underclothing and enough civilian clothes to last you for one week. The following list is for your guidance:

l coat (preferably a raincoat)
l suit and dress or 2 dresses
2 nightdresses or pyjamas
2 prs. bloomers, closed at the knee
1 pr. low-heeled walking shoes
Shoe cleaning kit (black and white)
Drinking glass (preferably plastic)
Sewing Kit
Money Belt

(Bathing Costumes may be brought. Other sportswear is issued at the Training Establishment for use in Physical Training.)

Only TWO suitcases are permitted, one of which should be reserved for the uniform issued at the Training Depot.

Jewel'ery is not to be brought to the Training Establishment other than watches, identification bracelets, tie pins and cuff links, if desired.

- 7. Large supplies of plain clothes, mascots, pictures, etc. are a nuisance as Wrens have to move quickly and often and should not be burdened with possessions.
- 8. You are required to bring your civilian Ration Book.

 9. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO REPORT AT WRONS RECRUITING OFFICE, 120 WELLINGTON ST. WEST (COR. OF YORK ST.) IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IN TORONTO ON TUESDAY A.M. 1st FEBRUARY. YOU WILL THEN REPORT TO CHRISTIE ST. HOSPITAL FOR X-RAY RECHECK AS X-RAYS ARE ONLY VALID FOR 3 MONTHS. IF OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION IS REQID ADVISE US IMMEDIATELY, AT Commanding Officer h. S. Sauter Lieut 120 WELLINGTON ST. W., TORONTO. R.C.N.V.R. Division.

 10. PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED TRAVEL WARRANT AND X-RAY CHIT.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE NAVAL SERVICE

H.M.C.S. "YORK"
Automotive Building
Exhibition Park
Toronto, Ontario

REGISTERED MAIL

31st December

1945

FILE:

ND TO W.4133

Miss Isobel McDonald, 88 Jane Street, North Bay, Ontario.

Dear Sir: MA) AM

With reference to your discharge from the Naval Service, enclosed herewith your

Certificate of Service, .Wireless History Sheet.

Yours truly,

(G. F. McCrimmon

Commander, R 2.N.V.R COMMANDING OFFICER

ENCL .

H.M.C.S. "YORK" Automotive Building - Exhibition Grounds

INSTRUCTIONS TO RATINGS DISCHARGED FROM H.M.C.S. "YORK"

Your Certificate of Service, with discharge endorsed thereon, is your discharge paper from the Naval Service. It is essential therefore, that great care be taken of this document, as it will undoubtedly be required by you in the future when seeking employment. Certificate of Service should never pass out of your possession.

- 2. You are warned that any alterations or erasures to Certificate of Service (Naval Discharge Certificate) constitutes a Criminal Offence punishable by law.
- Application for permanent National Registration Card is to be made to the Chief Registrar for Canada, Department of National Defence, Ottawa. However, a temporary Registration Card may be obtained from any Post Office by proving discharge from Naval Service by presenting Certificate of Service.
- A civilian Ration Book will be issued you on presenting Certificate of Service to your local Ration Administration Office, Wartime Prices and Trade Board.
- Ratings honourably discharged from the Naval Service are permitted to wear their Naval uniform for a period of thirty days from date of discharge only, which period will be evidenced by a certificate issued from Discharge Office, H.M.C.S. "YORK", showing expiration date.
- Discharged ratings are permitted to wear Naval Uniforms while attending Memorial Service Celebrations, Service Funerals, and functions commemorating events in past wars provided they first obtain permission to do so from the Naval Establishment nearest their home.
- 7. In event of residential address given at time of discharge, being changed, Naval Service Headquarters should be advised so that General Service Button, Medals, etc., (if entitled) may be forwarded to you when available.

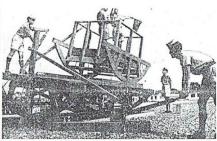
COLLING WOOD REQUEST FORM

Number Ship's Book W 152-W-41	33
Mess 6 Watch Duty	•••••
Name Mc DONALD ISABEL	
Rating P/WREN Badges	
ConductLeave	
REQUEST:- TO SEE THE EXE	CUTIVE
OFFICER THROUGH THE	
DIVISIONAL OFFICER RE:	
DERMISSION TO LEAVE POI	RT
ROM 1300 SATURDAY, 11	
944, TO 2300 SUNDAY, 12	MARCH
944.	

ADDRESS WHILST ON LEAVE:—
MISS SHIRLEY CRAIG,
8171 AMERICAN AVE,
DETROIT MICH.

C.N.S. 2421 500M—7-43 (1039) H.Q. 815-9-2421











Second Section

TORONTO, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1944.

Army Camp Transformed Into Big Navy Signal School





The Globe and Mil TORONTO, FRIDAY, OCTOSER 6, 1944.

The PRESTON REPORTER 14 The Evening Reporter, Tuesday, October 10, 1972

Jenny The Wren Is Unveiled At Queen's Square Location

Jenny, the Wron — the "last" Jenny the wron — the last in a long line of naval service [girls — returned to Galt on Sunday and she will stand, in slim-and slender bronze, gazing across Queen's Square for many years. Jenny's the statue, has finally dome home to her full longer [second]

During the last war, between 142.45; over 16.60 young women. If you have young women from across Canada poured into Galt for their basic training at HMCS. Conestogs '(first HMCS. Bytown) (then fanned out again to do their nation in This past weekend, namy 800, of these proud vets of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval's Service: 'unvoiled the status.'

Created by Toronto sculptress Frances Gage, who was herself a Wren (WRCNS), serving herefa-Wren(WRCNS) (serving herethe five-foot/green bronze statuewas) cast in Britain, arrived
here aftew days ago. A host
of top civic, Wren and naval
dignitaries; attended the unveiling at 2 p.m. this past
Sunday, Miss Gage and wellknown Isabel Macnell, OC,
OBE.CM, the longtime commander of "Conestoga" performed the actual unveiling.
Smillelt with coal brezzes

formed the actual unveiling.
Sunlight, with cool breezes, marked the unveiling attended by over 3,000 navel bandsmen, SW Naval vets, Wrens and the public. As the cloth slipped away, a delighted "oh" spread through the crowd. As Mrs. Adelaide Sinclair, OC, OBE, LLD, WRCNS director from Ottawa, stated, "Jenny today reminds us all of the way we looked then."

RIOTOUS WEEKEND

The unveiling marked the end of a riotous, happy weekend for the Wrens, who flocked to Galt for the celebrations. They were at various motels, hotels, with friends, then, attended a gala dinner-dance at the Duncan McIntosh Centre on Saturday

Prior to the service at the south side of the library, where Jenny stands, Missy Anne Schreiber Gait, placed a wreath at the Gait, contant for the exmembers of the WRCNS, while department of veterans affairs district director S. E. Akkinson placed one on behalf of the reveriment.

As the majority of the crowd waited 100 yards away the constant footness and waited 100 yards away the cenetaph contingent stood at attention, then the Last Post, two-ninute silence and Reveile were played. It was a moving moment. Then came the statue dedication, carried out by T. T. T. Faichney, who had been the Wrens padre:

the Wrons padrer

Present on a raised dals were
Misses Macnelli, Gage and Mrs.
Sinclair, also MP Max 'Saltsman, Mr. Atkinson, Royal
Canadian Naval Association,
president T. Bradley, Mayor
Gordon Rouse, Dr. Falchney,
also Chidr. F. R. Berchem
(HMCS York commander) and
A-Chidr. F. J. Loe (HMCS Star
commander). Several other
high-ranking RCN officers were
also watching the event.

WRENS OF TODAY

At either side of Jenny were smart, five-member color guards of today's Wrens, clad in hine, white and black. In front was a score of warting Wrens, in grey and blue, with white-blue tams. There was also a contingent of the SW Naval Veterans Association on purade.

parade.
"I give you words of welcome, as you celebrate today," stated Rev, Faiciney, after delivering the solemn Naval Prayer, "You are our dear gris of 30 years, ago, I am pleased to see as you were, that you are keeping that young and youthful cultook as when at Concatoga."

as when at Conestoga."

'The doubting Thomases did not provair—and 've did erectible statue in 'Galt, where it should be, 'said Mrs. Sinclair, ds' she snoke 'outdoors to the crowd, "This. Is 'n memorable day." She noted the idea for Jenny had grown, from a reunion 'decision at' Victoria, B.C., a year ago. "Many would not have believed the hundreds "who believed it his weekend it all

of assorted females into Galt in 1942, then for the next three in 1942, then for the next three years. She added recollections, one example the kind (Galt families, who fallowed girls, to come and wash their hair as the Conestoga water was too hard." Today as we all come back we find the hospitality and kindness here is just the same.

COMMENDS MAYOR SOLVER

"I cannot commend too highly the co-operation of Mayor Rouse his council, others in the parks board, who made this area davailable to us." she stated, amid appleuse. She also commended Galt area ex-ex-wress Mrs. James Flavelle Anne Schreiber, Ethel Leadbetter Elizabeth Wells, who had worked as a local committee to organize, the reunion and unveiling. veiling.

"And I must thank the Little Theatre group, who did perform so marvellously at the dinner, with their nostalgie 'Jenny, Come Back Where You Belong', 'she added. 'On behalf of all the Wrens, I ask Mayor Rouse to accept a vote of thanks from us and this statue — which commemorates one of the richest experiences of our lives." "And I must thank the Little richest lives."

lives."

Then, amid applause, Miss Macnell and Miss Gage went on to unveil the statue, a brilliant, and theart-warming piece of work.

Said Miss Macnell, in her status and the said and the sai

Said Miss. Macheil, in her familiar; clipped tones, "I recell a day nearly 30 years ago, when the first draft left Galt to go, to their 'thasks. "It is so ap-propriate that this place was propriate that this place was selected as the last resting place — for the last Wren." David Barrie went on to chine the majestic Central Church bell and the unveiling was carried

out.
"I am" very happy you retrined to Galt, happy I was able to work with your committee," said Mayor Rouse, "Your contribution in character, quality and, service as Wren, and bestowed on our nation was great. great.

CITY PRIVILEGED

B.C. a year ago.

"Many would not have believed the hundreds who turned out this weekend, it all made us feel younger," she added, noting the 500 at the Saturday bangut, the over 600 who had come to Galt for the event.

"Jenny has: a home, here in training area.

CITY PRIVILEGED

"We're aped the benefits of your dedication, now we do turned out this weekend, it all again as you keep that service alive with Jenny," said the mayor. "The statue symbolizes one of the great roles played in war by women. We in Galt were privileged to serve as your

night Earlier Sunday, busloads of the service and success this dured basic, training to the service and sold our Wrens en school - (once whown as chool - (once whown as chool - (once whown as chool - (once whom as chool

with some amusement, director Atkinson o noted the "self-inflicted" wounds from the night before. This drew a wave night before. This drew, a wave of claughter. In more serious wein, he then brought the best regards of the DVA minister, the government. mentioned many of those including Wren Lil Rowe, who had worked in Toronto and here for the statue,

Toronto and here for the statue, ""The department gave her the first training as a sculptor—the money was well spent," said Mr. Atkinson, thanking Miss Gage for her work, "And, it is fitting this takes place on Thanksgives, as many citizens should reflect on what they should be thankful for." He spoke of freedom, rights, rejection of hunger and oppression. "These did not just happen as God chose, your forefathers and mothers (as the Wrens) gave of themselves in sacrifice, without reservation, to gain them.
"You all as Wrens made a

"You all as Wrens made a "You all as Wrens made a sacrifice when you joined The Silent Service." said Mr. Atkinson, drawing a widespread chuckle from the crowd. He also urged that the Wrens develop an official history. "If you do not, the knowledge of your reontribution will de with your generation."

TRACES HISTORY

TRACES HISTORY

Mr. Atkinson then traced the story of the Wrens, starting in October, 1942, when the first ones were mobilized for treining. He spoke of Miss Macneill, the "first woman" in the Canadian navy to command a "ship," even if it, was on land. And he gave a long list-of jobs that Wrens had performed in wortine, sometimes in battle zones, for their country.

He reminded them of the

Zones, for their country.

He reminded them of the words of Princess Alice, when she visited Wrors in Galt many years ago: "I urga you woo serve to continue to serve; after the war, as elikens, There is this react for initiative among women as leaders, they will be needed in our country."

needed in our country."

"You were the cream of young Canadian women, you were crowned with glory during the war." said Dr. Faichney after Miss Macneill delivered the Scripture lesson, as see often did during the war at Conestoga. "In many ways, the impact of Jenny Wren on our country was the impact of Miss Macneill herself," he stated.



Three buildings off Hespele Road served as the training base for Canada's Wrens during the Second, World War. This base was the country's onliand-commissioned naval vessel.

By RIC AMENT Staff Writer



The past revisited

Women of the navy will never forget Galt training 'ship'

Though it is landlocked hundreds of miles from the nearest ocean and has never fired a shot in anger, a former Canadan warship still stands proudly in the centre of Cambridge.

The red trick buildings located behind the Waterloo regional police detachment office on Hespeler Road comprise the only land-commissioned naval vessel in Canada — the HMCS Conestoga.

ICS Conestoga. Inown as the "stone frigate", the Conestoga is currently mome to vour with A Mission, but is remembere by thousands of women as the shi upon which they had their basic trair ing for the Wrens (Women's Roya Canadian Naval Service) during th Second World War.

This weekend memories of the Conestoga will be relived when some 1,000 Wrens gather here tomorrow for their ninth reunion. Twenty-five bus loads of Wrens are scheduled to ar-

> cheon will be served made by former Com Macnelli, the only w mand a Canadian wars The reunion began 1

30 a.m. A parade to the statue "Weens attending from Britain: ionately known as "Jenny" U.S. School stands at the Cambridge Pub. "Byery Canadian Wrens mabrary commemorating the was trained aboard the Cones, will follow

semesters." said local resident of they were trained in it. Flavelle, 6s, a former Wene War Gall, and then ton fer who, along with Anne Sch Raval bases in Canada or who, along with Anne Sch Raval bases in Canada or with the Company of the Company

ch tendants, mail sorters and drivers.

bel Schirt, Flavelle served as a regul
fator or disciplinarian, who worked
of a liaison between officers and Wren
the She was transferred to several nav
ith abases, throughout Canada during the

Miss, Schreiber was among the 100 Wrens who were Iransferred overseas during the war. She worked in Clasgow, Scotland and London, Emform 150-weight Berlied transport from 150-weight Berlied transport trucks to garbage trucks to garbage trucks to garbage trucks ears. On eno occasion, about Princess Margaret and the future Queen Elizabeth to Glasgow.

Queen Elizabeth to Glasgow.

""We drove an average of 500 m
a day," she said, "mostly within a

As an ambulance driver in London, Miss Schreiber encountered the death and destruction left in the aftermath of German bombings. she recalls

Before serving the war effort, the
Wrens endured strict training on the

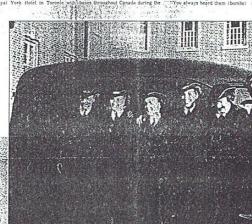
HMCS Conestogs in Galt.

Mrs. Flavelle, then 23, and Miss Schreiber, then 21, can still recall the lectures they received on naval his-

lory, the navy's rules and regulations and the constant drills and parades.

"It was very arduous and strict discipline, learning the traditions of the navy." said Mrs. Flavelle. "It was xecollent discipline. It taught us for

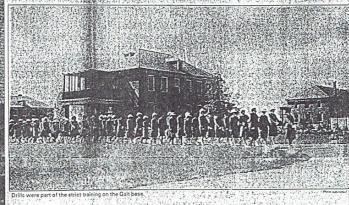
Why did they join?
"Your friends were going and you felt you should do something for your



ame.

r, second from left, hamming it up with frien







Nominal List

E.J. ADAMSON

E.J. ADAMSON	345 YALE AVE WINNIPEG MAN
× J.H. ALEXANDER	929 WELLINGTON ST LONDON ONT
L.E. ARMSTRONG	210 NORTH NORAH ST FORT WILLIAM ONT
M.J. ARNOLD	81 WESTERN AVE OTTAWA ONT
^M.L. ASHTON	SOMME SASKATCHEWAN 420 Orlington St
A.C. BAKER	MONTREAL QUE.
M. BERRYMAN	SALISBURY WEST COUNTY N.B.
PL BROCK	157 WILLINGTON CRESCENT WINNIPEG MAN
JaC. BRADSHAW	YARMOUTH N.S.
A.B. BULL	589 STRADBROOKE AVE MAN
J.J. CALVERT	DORCHESTER ONT
S.L. CARLING	114 ACACIA RD ROCKLIFF E OTTAWA ONT
M.J. CARR	230 MERTON ST TORONTO ONT
+ E.J. CHANTLER	34 BENSON AVE TORONTO ONT
S, CHAPMAN	30 HOWARD ST TORONTO ONT
J.M. DHEATLEY	83 NEWTON AVE HAMILTON ONT
* M.G. CRUIKSHANK	WINGHAM ONT
D.B. COOKMAN	235 WEST BROCK ST FORT WILLIAM ONT
M.S. DION	2 FOURTH AVE CTTAWA ONT.
, B. DREWBROCK	119 CRESCENT RD TORONTO ONT.
M.A. CUNTINGHAM	WILLINGTON ST BOWMANVILLE ONT
> M.A. DRISCOLL	ARTHUR ONT
E.M. EATON	41 9th ST SHAWINIGAN FALLS QUE
F.C. FABAS	643 CHAMPAGNEUR AVE OUTREMONT MON QUE
A.B. FOSTER	66 GLENGOWAN AVE TORONTO ONT.
"I.G. FOWLDS	HASTINGS ONT
F.M. GAGE	471 ATHOL ST EAST OSHAWA ONT
E.H. GARSIDE	2967 WEST 42ND AVE VANCOUVER B.C.
A.F. GEDDES	BOX XXX572 PICTON ONT
* B.M. GRANT (MRS K.C. CORBETT)	115 GORE ST KINGSTON ONT
P.E. GROOM	1205 FORT ST APT 36 MONTREAL QUE
H. HAMILTON	303 ALBERT BU KINGSTON ONT
R.H. HAMILTON	DOR WIGHER BY KINGSIGN WAS
M.E. HICHAM	ASSINIBOTA SASKATCHEWAN
H.V. HUES	SIDANS SASKATCHEWAN

11149 91st AVE EDMONTON ALTA E.F. HUSTLER (MAS) 6609 GARNIER ST. MONTREAL QUE E. IRVINE WINNIPG G.M.JARDINE STE. 33 RITZ APARTMENTS WINNIPEG MAN D.M.JEFFERSON 324 LAURIER AVE QUEBEC P.Q. ~ N.E. KINGSTON 2335 LILLIAN ST. WINDSOR ONT. J. KINNIN 2110 EAST 27th AVE VANCOUVER B.C. M.E.LENNOX PORTNEUF P.Q. E \$.J.LEWIS 76 CREMAZIE ST. XXXXXXXXXXXXQUEBEC P.Q. P.LESSER. 159 COOK ST VICTORIA B.C. S.J.LEY 3762 WEST 24th AVE VANCOUVER B.C. F.M.MILLER(GAGE) S.J.LEGGETT LACHUTE MILLS LACHUTE QUEBEC. 3315 RIDGEWOOD RD. MONTREAL 25 upt 6 _ J.N.MACARIO ROTHESAY NEW BRUNSWICK J.M. MACKAY 154 HIGHLAND AVE MONTCLAIR N.JE. U.S.A. A.S. MARTIN 308 DRIVEWAY OTTAWA ONTARIO. J.A. MAUBACK 88 JANE STREET NORTH BAY ONTARIO. I. MC DONALD 22 BINSCARTH RD. TORONTO ONTARIO. J.B.MC FARREN 734 UPPER BELMONT WESTMOUNT QUE. S. MC KEOWN XXXXX. R.F.D. NEWINGTON ONTARIO. V.A. MILLER 415 2nd AVE BESSERER ST. OTTAWA ONT. B. A. MORRISON 6287 2nd AVE ROSEMOUNT MONTREAL QUE. D. MORRISON 2963 HAIG AVE LONGUE POINTE MONT REAL - M. NIXON 194 BREEZEHILL AME. OTTAWA ONT. R, OLIVE 5 KILLARNEY RD. TORONTO ONTARIO. A. PLUNKETT 86 MARLOWE CRESCENT OTTAWA ONT. J.M.RAMSDEN 120 EASTON BE MONTREAL WEST QUE. * M.E.REILLEY 47 GOLFDALE RD. TORONTO ONT. Hu 8436 D.E. ROBERTSON 143 AGNES ST. OSHAWA ONT. MA. ARUSSELL 126 LEWIS AVE WESTMOUNT QUE. J.M. RUSSELL LAWSON SASKATCHEWAN A. RUTHERFORD 14401 90thm ABE EDMONTON ALTA E.J.RUTTER CUDWORTH JASKATCHEWAN XM.J.SEMENCHUCK 5295 MCKENNA AVE MONTREAL QUE. 26 GLEN ELM AVE TORONTO ONTARIOL X M.J. SIFTON M.S.SMITH MEDICINE HAT ALTA. R. STEVENS 2162 SHERBROOKE ST. WEST MONTREAL. M.I. STEWART

E.A. SUTCLIBFE

A. TREMAYNE

NIM. WALKER

D.V. WALSH

C. WALL ACE

M. WARD

TI. WAYAR

M.J. WEBB

M.M. WEBB

M. WEDGE

J. WELD

F.M.D. WILLIAMS

~N.C. WHITEHEAD

* B. WOODCOCK

J.L. WRIGHT

233 4th AVE OTTEWA ONT

2 REGAL RD TORONTO ONT - 100005

6450 MC CLEERY ST VANCOUVER B C

188 FULTON AVE TORONTO ONT

234 FOREST HILL RD TORONTO ONT

150 SANFORD AVE ST. LAMPERTH QUE

213 FRANK ST . OFTAMA ONT

BOX 173 BIRTLE MAN

721-2 ROCKLIFFE BLVD TORONTO ONT

CHAPLEAU ONT

131 GLEN ROSE AVE TORONTO ONT

4719 BELMONT AVE VANCOUVER B C

27 ROSEDALE RD TORONTO ONT

129 BALMORAL AVE TORONTO ONT.

75 VICTORIA AVE BELLEVILLE 'ONT

S. 2036 N.S. 815-9-2036 Ship's Office . S.B. No. (BLOCK LETTERS) ABEL Christian Namos STATION CARD Rating Non-Sub. WREN TELEGRAPHISTES Royal Canadian Naval Barracks Captain's Office O.N. STUDY ALL NOTICES. Mess Locker This Card is to be Returned to Division Regulating Office Prior to Draft. Religion YNITED All men are to make themselves G.T. or U.A. thoroughly acquainted with Barrack Standing Orders. Last Ship ST. HYACINTHE Pay Strict Attention to Customs Regulations. Signature | 6 Address Loss of This Card Entails Stoppage of Leave for at least 24 Hours. Telephone No.

(5 85) -12 6H	
7611	
d-May,	1938.)

To be kept attached to the Service Certificate until final discharge from the Service

WIRELESS HISTORY SHEET

McDONALD Isabel

I. EXAMINATION RECORD

vo. W-4133

To be filled up according to the result obtained after examination



Nature of Examination		Tecl	nnical	Theory	School		lure and nization	Co	ding	V/S	Flashing	Sema-	Buz		Passed	Ship or Estal lishment	Initials of Examining
Qualifying or Requalifying		Paper	Practical			Paper	Practical	Paper	Practical	Paper		phore	Trans- mitting	Re- ceiving	Failed	where examined	Officer
FOR T.O. (W/T) (PROVISIONAL)	% Required % Obtained % Obtained	-	80	-	-	_	. SO .		_ S0		85	.86	85	95	-		No. Comp.
FOR T.O. (W/T) (FINAL)	% Required % Obtained % Obtained	_	80	-	HE X	14 TA 44 S	80		80		85	86	85	95	-	Accounts	-
FOR W/T 3 State whether after a qualifying course	Required Required	75	80			80	80	80	S0 -	75	85	86	85	95			
FOR W/T 2	% Required	75	80 .	70	70	80	80	80	. 80	75	85	86	85	95	-		
	% Required % Obtained % Obtained	75	S5	70	70	80	85	80_	. 80	80		S6	90	95	_		

* Insert either (a) the examination marks obtained during the qualifying course, or (b) the marks obtained after a separate School course, these being initialled by the Schoolmaster.

	(4)		II. DATE OF	GRANTING OF	NON-SUBSTA	ANTIVE RATI	3			
 . Date	Initials of Captain	Rate	Date	Initials of Captain	Rate	Date	Initials of Captain	Rate	Date	Initials of Captain

W/T 3 W/T 2 W/T 1 Date Initials of Cap

S. 1246H T.S. 93

III. BOYS EXAMINATIONS

(1) ON PASSING OUT OF TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT

Date		Paper	Oral	School	Procedure Practical		Receiving	Passed or Failed	Training Establishment	Initials of Examining Officer
	% Required	75	65	40	75	80	S5			-

(II) FOR ACCELERATED ADVANCEMENT TO ORDINARY TELEGRAPHIST

Date		Toubainal	Procedure Practical	Coding	Bu	2552	Passed	12 · 12 · 111 · 1	Initials of Examining Officer
	2.4	Practical		Practical	Trans- mitting	Receiving	Failed	Ship or Establishment where examined	
	% Required	Good Ability	65	70	\$5	95			
	% Obtained								
	% Obtained								

IV. EXAMINATION FOR ORDINARY TELEGRAPHIST (S.S.)

		Techni-		Proc	edure	Coding	V/S	Flash-	Sema-	Bu	zzer	Passed	Initials of Examining Officer
Date		ral Practical	School	*Paper	Pract	Coding Practical	Paper	ing	phore	Trans-	Recg.	Failed	
	% Required	65	50	G5	65	65	75	.85	8G	85	90		_
	% Obtained												
	% Obtained												

V. TRAINING CLASS CERTIFICATE

No Ordinary Telegraphist is eligible for advancement to the rating of Telegraphist until this Certificate has been obtained.

Ordinary Telegraphists (S.S.) are not required to undergo the Training Class in V/S or Electricity and Mag. unless they have failed to obtain the requisite percentages in the V/S Paper and School in Section IV.

Date of Completion	Subject	% Required	% Obtained	Passed or Failed	Ship or Establishmens where examined	Initials of Examining Officer
	Scamanship	75				
	Field Training	70				
	V/S	75				
	Electricity & Mag.	50				
						i

V. EXAMINATION FOR TELEGRAPHIST

DATE	T Y	FING PLAIN	THEORY	SPEC. FOREIGN PROC & ORGAN.	TECH	BRITISH PROCEDURE	BUZ. RECE INTER	Z ER IVING FOZEIGN	PASSED OR FAILED	Sig. of EXAM. DEF.
Key.	85		60		70					a ha
20 Oct 44.	96	97	87	97	84	88	99	96.	P.	HMAIN

^{295*/672}

[·] Includes questions on organization.

VII. EXAMINATION FOR WARRANT TELEGRAPHIST

Date I	Rating			inical		School	aniz	edure Org- ation	1	ling	V/S	Floris	Sema-		zzer	Elec- tricity	Passed	Initials of
	reading		Paper		race,		Paper		ct. Paper Pr	1	Paper Paper	phore phore	Trans- mit- ting	Receir-		Failed	Initials of Examining Officer	
	•	% Required % Obtained	75	85	70	70	S0	85	80	80	80	85	SG	90	95	75	_	

VIII. RECORD OF EXPERIENCE

To be filled in on discharge from a Ship or Establishment

DATE	Description of Transmitting Apparatus (Note:—Name and Type Numbers	Description of Receiving Apparatus of Service Apparatus pot required.)	NATURE OF DUTIES PERFORMED	INTERALS OF CAPTAIN
June, 1929 to August, 1930	Leading Telegraphist in a Battleship. [High and low power low frequency Valve. [High and low power high frequency Valve. Low power Radio Telephony.	Multi Valve amplifiers and superheterodyna- receivers. High speed (automatic) recep- tion. D/F.	General working and operating. Care of meters, batteries, etc. In charge of Watch—consisting of four receiving lines and three transmitters. Handling and disposing of all traffic.	
eft 45		Seperhet receivers	general operation	Dry
- 5				
		* *** *** · ****	** * * * * * *	
		2 20		

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NON-SUBSTANTIVE RATES

To be filled in as soon as the rating is eligible; considered deserving of a recommendation and Form S. 1303A has been rendered

Date	Ship	Present Substantive and Non-Substantive Rate	For what Non-substantive rate recommended If highly recommended add "II"	Initials of	
				Signal Officer	Captal
9.16.9					
3					
4					
		,			

X. SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Only to be filled up when a rating is discharged from a Ship or Establishment er on completion of any special course, and it is desired to report on him for special knowledge or ability, not otherwise recorded, e.g., D/F Operator; Mechanical and Instructional ability, Fire Control or laboratory experience; care and maintenance of W/T installations, Alternators, Dynamos. Secondary Batteries; ability to take charge of W/T department; knowledge of a foreign language; typewriting. Efficiency as T.A.G., including Air Gunner or Bomb Aimer, where applicable, is to be included in this Section on each occasion of returning to General Service from the F.A.A.

Date	Qualifications	Ship or Establishment	Initials of Captain
W15	Typemitig teletypeip - 0/F	Endon Head W/T	Dus

For Direct	ions for completing this part of the Form, see Article 610,	K.R. & A.I.
A100000	XI. VOCATIONAL TRAINING CERTIFICATE	
(To be filled up on	completion of a Vocational Training Course, other than a	Correspondence Course)
Vocation		
We certify that (name)		
(residence)		
has satisfied us that he poss	sesses a*	knowledge of the vocation
mentioned, and we consider	that †	
	Examiners	
	Business and Business Address	
Date of Examination	(Signed)	President
19		
*Here insert qualification tSnee	ial notation as applicable.	Committee‡
		η,
		o company and a company and a company
	the state of the s	
2/4	II. TO BE FILLED IN ONLY ON FINAL DISCH	
-His character during se	rvice was* Wery Sou	d
	carrying out his duties was - Lake	
	rgt:-was-assessed-as*	, f
*Sec Art. 610, K.R. & A.I., clause	2107	Shaty Captain
Cot Art. 010, A.R. & A.I., Clause		
For Record of Experience see S 205*/072	ection VIII, on p. 3.	Lec 1945 Date