

BRITISH GALLANTRY AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL DSM

TERMS

The medal is awarded to Chief Petty Officers, Petty Officers and men of the Navy (or Army and Air Force personnel of equal rank serving with the fleet) who show themselves to the fore in action, and set an example of bravery and resource under fire but without performing acts of such pre-eminent bravery as would render them eligible for the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal.

BAR

The silver, laurelled bar is awarded for additional acts of bravery.

DESCRIPTION

A circular, silver medal, 36-mm in diameter.

OBVERSE

King George V: uncrowned effigy, in Admiral of the Fleet Uniform, facing left with the legend:
GEORGIVS V BRITT:OHN:REX ET IND:IMP

King George VI: crowned effigy, facing left, with the legends:
(a) For WW2 GEORGIVS VI D: G:BR:OMN:REX ET INDIAE IMP:
(b) For Korea GEORGIVS VI DEI GRA:BRITT:OMN: REX FID: DEF:+

Queen Elizabeth II: crowned effigy, facing right with the legend:
For Korea ELIZABETH II D:G:BR:OMN:REGINA F:D:

REVERSE

The reverse shows
FOR / DISTINGUISHED / SERVICE
in three lines, encircled by a laurel wreath and surmounted by an Imperial Crown.

MOUNTING

A straight suspender is fastened to the medal with a single-toe claw.



RIBBON

The ribbon is 32-mm wide and consists of three equal stripes of dark blue, white, and dark blue with a thin dark blue stripe down the centre of the white.

NAMING

The edge of the medal was impressed until 1944, and thereafter engraved with the service number, rank, initials, surname and service of the recipient.

DATES

The medal was instituted on 14 October 1914. Previous books have stated that no awards were given to Canadians in WW1. This is wrong - there is one DSM awarded to a Canadian, Motor Mechanic Robert Edwin Sproule, DSM, RN. He was born in Ottawa and returned to Ottawa after the war.

ISSUED

Canadians in the RCN have been awarded 117 medals and 2 bars.

WWI: 1 Medal (Motor Mechanic Robert Edwin Sproule, DSM, RN)
WW2: 114 Medals to the RCN plus 2 first bars (GVI medals)
Korea: 2 to the RCN (probably GVI Medals)

EXAMPLES

WW1

Motor Mechanic Robert Edwin Sproule, DSM, RN (later Lt FAA)

WW2

CPO Douglas ABBOTT, DSM & Bar, RCN (HMCS Haida) 1
 Chief Stoker Harold RICHARDS, DSM & Bar, RCN (HMCS Haida)
 CPO George VANDER HAEGAN, DSM, BEM, RCN (DSM WW2/BEM Korea)

KOREA

CPO2 Albert Leo BONNER, DSM, BEM (BEM in WW2) (HMCS Nootka)
 PO2 Gerald Edwin JAMIESON, DSM, RCN (HMCS Iroquois Korea)



¹ CPO Douglas ABBOTT, DSM & Bar, RCN (HMCS Haida) – CFB Esquimalt Museum
 Able Seaman Daniel George Stone, DSM, RCNVR (HMCS Chippawa Museum)
 Petty Officer (later Lieutenant-Commander) George Alvin Carroll, DSM, RCN – Maritime Command Museum Halifax

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to a Canadian in the ROYAL NAVY in WW1 (DSM)

| LG+ | NAME | RANK | NUMBER | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|-----------|------------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|-------------------|---------------|
| 12/05/17+ | SPROULE, Robert Edwin | Motor Mechanic | MB1489 | RN | Motor Boat Patrol | DSM |

BAR to the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to the ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY in WW2 (DSM*)

| CG | NAME | RANK | NUMBER | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|----------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|------------|---------------|
| 20/01/45 | ABBOTT, Douglas | CPO | 2479 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM* |
| 20/01/45 | RICHARDS, Harold Douglas | Chief Stoker | 21925 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM* |

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to the ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY in WW2 (DSM)

| LG+ / CG | NAME | RANK | NUMBER | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|--------|------------------|---------------|
| 09/09/44 | ABBOTT, Douglas | CPO | 2479 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM (*) |
| 15/05/45+ | ANDERSON, Sydney James | AS | V-31852 | RCNVR | MTB 743 | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | BABINEAU, Douglas Bernard | CPO | 2857 | RCN | | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | BADGER, Edward | PO | V-7899 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 14/06/45+ | BALCOM, Douglas Elmer | ERA | A-1613 | RCNR | | DSM |
| 21/04/45 | BARKER, Douglas William | CPO | 2827 | RCN | | DSM |
| 11/03/41+ | BEAMAN, George Lamont O. | Stk 1/c | A-2445 | RCNR | HMCS Jervis Bay | DSM |
| 01/01/45+ | BEDARD, Paul | CPO Wr | 40828 | RCN | | DSM |
| 14/06/45+ | BEST, Bernard Alfred | PO Tele | 3533 | RCN | | DSM |
| 28/11/42 | BIGGS, Maurice Edward | A/PO (HSD) | 3278 | RCN | HMCS St. Croix | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | BLOOMFIELD, George Henry | Ymn | V-9856 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | BRANSCOMBE, Bernard Leon | AS | V-18228 | RCNVR | HMCS St. Thomas | DSM |
| 04/05/43+ | BOYER, Gerald Joseph | AS | V-16164 | RCNVR | HMCS Port Arthur | DSM |
| 11/03/41+ | BOWDITCH, George Fowler | AS | 2663 | RCN | HMCS St. Laurent | DSM |
| 01/01/45+ | BOYLE, James | CPO | X-1918 | RCN | | DSM |
| 01/01/45+ | BREWSTER, Bernard Edward | LS | V-17355 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | BROWN, Ernest Thomas | A/LS | V-23731 | RCNVR | HMCS Kootenay | DSM |
| 05/01/46 | BROWN, Robert William | LStk | A-1637 | RCNR | Dieppe LCP | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | BUSHFIELD, William Arthur | AS | V-4657 | RCNVR | D-Day | DSM |
| 28/11/42 | BUTCHART, Arthur Alexander | PO (HSD) | 2808 | RCN | HMCS Skeena | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | CANDY, George Watson | CPO (TGM) | 2360 | RCN | HMCS Ottawa | DSM |
| 09/01/43 | CAREY, Maurice Alfred | CPO | 2323 | RCN | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | CARROLL, George Alvin | PO | 40563 | RCN | | DSM |
| 12/12/42 | COSTELLO, Earl | A/LS (Ty) | V-5597 | RCNVR | HMCS Assiniboine | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | CRAIG, Frances Dudley | AS | V-32905 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 12/06/45+ | CROTTY, James Kay | CPO | 2242 | RCN | | DSM |
| 12/12/42 | DALY, Claude Francis | PO Clerk | V-25372 | RCNVR | HMCS Assiniboine | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | DEANE, Robert Crothers | AS | V-50218 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | DUBLACK, William | OS | V-47341 | RCNVR | D-Day | DSM |

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to the ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY in WW2 (DSM)

| LG+ / CG | NAME | RANK | NUMBER | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|--------------------|---------------|
| 15/09/45 | ELSEY, George Allen | AS | V-36217 | RCNVR | HMCS St. Thomas | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | ELWELL, John Beresford | OA | V-30802 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | EMBERLEY, Percy | ERA 2/c | A-2290 | RCNR | HMCS Ottawa | DSM |
| 24/11/45 | EVANS, James Edwin | CPO | 2390 | RCN | | DSM |
| 01/01/45+ | FIRKINS, Whitney | CPO Ck | V-30236 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/06/44+ | FORRESTER, Thomas Houston | A/Lstk | V-50539 | RCNVR | LCI-273 | DSM |
| 09/01/43 | GEARING, Daniel William | PO | 2675 | RCN | HMCS Saguenay | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | GILL, Leslie Francis | COA | V-50176 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | GOODHEW, William John | A/PO MM | V-39152 | RCNVR | LCC | DSM |
| 01/01/45+ | GRAVELLE, Joseph | PO Steward | V-12603 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 16/06/45 | GRAY, David | PO (HSD) | V-23092 | RCNVR | HMCS Chaudiere | DSM |
| 21/04/45 | HAAGENSON, Lloyd Palmer A. | A/LS | V-11712 | RCNVR | HMCS Saint John | DSM |
| 14/06/45+ | HAIGH, Samuel | Chief Stoker | 21231 | RCN | | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | HARRISON, Herbert Leonard | PO | 3193 | RCN | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | HAYWOOD, James Mervin | COA | 40727 | RCN | | DSM |
| 13/11/43 | HAYWOOD, Stanley H. | Ldg Signal | V-7949 | RCNVR | HMCS Regina | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | HEMPHILL, Ralph Ambrose | PO | 3341 | RCN | | DSM |
| 26/02/44 | HICKIE, Robert Wilson | A/PO | A-517 | RCNR | Sicily | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | HOFFNER, Norman Vernon | A/LS | V-50442 | RCNVR | HMCS Saint John | DSM |
| 13/11/43 | HURST, Allen | CERA | A-728 | RCNR | HMCS Regina | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | JACKSON, William Frederick | AS | V-78448 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | JUCHLI, Andre Auguste | MM | V-58735 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | KAMINSKI, John Joseph | AS | V-38104 | RCNVR | HMCS Camrose | DSM |
| 04/05/43+ | KENT, Donald Archibald | A/CPO | 3729 | RCN | Ville de Quebec | DSM |
| 05/01/46 | LEATHAM, Alexander | A/CPO (DEMS) | V-10339 | RCNVR | SS Coronation Park | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | LIPTON, John Francis | CPO | 2851 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | Longbottom, Arthur | ERA 3/c | V-10650 | RCNVR | HMCS St. Catharine | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | MACINTYRE, Roderick James | LS | 3137 | RCN | | DSM |
| 21/04/45 | MacKENZIE, James Wilson M. | LS | V-24415 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 04/05/43+ | MacLEAN, Donald | OS | V-16558 | RCNVR | HMCS Port Arthur | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | MASTERS, Frederick Arthur | A/AS | V-49589 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 21/11/42 | MEDFORD, Kenneth Alleyne | A/LS | V-5989 | RCNVR | HMCS Sackville | DSM |
| 28/11/42 | MILLS, Leslie | ERA 4/c | 21805 | RCN | HMCS Skeena | DSM |
| 04/05/43+ | MITCHELL, John | CERA | A-2529 | RCNR | Ville de Quebec | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | MONTGOMERY, William Merrill | CPO | V-2561 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | MOON, George Cyril | PO | 3143 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM |
| 30/03/46 | MORRISEY, Edmund Albert | A/CPO | V-12343 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 29/04/44 | NUNN, Allen | AS | 4118 | RCN | Coastal Force | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | PEDERSEN, Magnus | OA 2/c | V-11549 | RCNVR | HMCS Haida | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | PERKINS, Elwyn | PO | 3449 | RCN | HMCS St. Laurent | DSM |
| 30/03/46 | POIRIER, Paul | A/PO | V-959 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 12/12/42 | PORTREE, Donald | ERA 4/c | 21972 | RCN | HMCS Assiniboine | DSM |
| 26/12/42 | POWELL, Arthur Joseph | Stoker PO | 22004 | RCN | HMCS Oakville | DSM |
| 04/05/43+ | REID, John Wesley | AS | V-6213 | RCNVR | Ville de Quebec | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | REID, William Wilson | A/LS | V-32837 | RCNVR | D-Day | DSM |
| 28/11/42 | RENAUD, Robert | ERA 3/c | A-3098 | RCNR | HMCS Wetsaskiwin | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | RICHARDS, Harold Douglas | Stoker PO | 21925 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM (*) |
| 09/09/44 | RICKARD, John Herren | AS | V-16076 | RCNVR | HMCS Waskesiu | DSM |
| 11/03/41+ | RIDGE, Samuel Archibald | PO | 2226 | RCN | | DSM |
| 21/04/45 | ROYDS, William Edward | LS | V-27580 | RCNVR | HMCS Saint John | DSM |

(photo at right)



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to the ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY in WW2 (DSM)

| LG+ / CG | NAME | RANK | NUMBER | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------|---------|--------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 20/01/45 | SALSICCIOLI, Peter Paul | CERA | 21602 | RCN | HMCS Ottawa | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | SAUNDERS, Frederick William | CPO | A-2614 | RCNR | | DSM |
| 09/01/43 | SCHNERE, Ralph Kenneth | LCK (S) | V-25056 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 30/03/46 | SHUFELT, Stewart Keith | Signal | V-23511 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | SIMPSON, Thomas Joseph | AS | V-46636 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 05/01/46 | SIMS, Patrick Joseph | A/CPO | V-15115 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 05/01/46 | SINCLAIR, Holden Alfred | A/CPO (DEMS) | V-30370 | RCNVR | SS Yildum | DSM |
| 12/12/42 | SMITH, Percy | A/LS | 2821 | RCN | HMCS Assiniboine | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | SMITH, Robert William | AS | V-37306 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 03/03/42+ | SPENCE, William | CERA | V-17088 | RCNVR | HMCS Chambly | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | STANDARD, Leslie Alfred | A/LS | V-9850 | RCNVR | HMCS Saint John | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | STARR, John Rex | Signal | V-24919 | RCNVR | HMCS St. Catharine | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | STEEN, Charles Scott | LS | V-24734 | RCNVR | HMCS Prince Rupert | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | STEPHENSON, Thomas | AS | V-17675 | RCNVR | HMCS Waskesiu | DSM |
| 21/04/45 | STONE, Daniel George | AS | V-9998 | RCNVR | HMCS Annan | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | STONE, Leonard Sidney | CPO Tele | 2178 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | STONER, Beverley Murray | AS | V-43169 | RCNVR | HMCS Waskesiu | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | STUBBINS, Albert George | LS | V-40004 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | TAYLOR, David Swanson | PO | 3393 | RCN | | DSM |
| 30/03/46 | TAYLOR, Roy Thomas | ERA 3/c | V-33993 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | TENNANT, D. | AS | V-31723 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 30/03/46 | THOMAS, John Clement Dean | LCoder | V-11857 | RCNVR | HMCS Bayfield | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | THOMSON, Robert | PO | V-12534 | RCNVR | HMCS St. Thomas | DSM |
| 03/03/42+ | TOBIN, Hugh Eugene | Signal | V-8336 | RCNVR | HMCS Chambly | DSM |
| 14/06/45+ | VANDERHAEGAN, George | CPO | 3154 | RCN | HMCS Assiniboine BEM Korea | DSM BEM |
| 20/01/45 | WALKER, Murray Hutchinson | LS | 4019 | RCN | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | WATSON, William James Brown | AS | V-23372 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 09/01/43 | WHITE, Robert | CERA | X-61765 | RCN | | DSM |
| 09/09/44 | WHITE, Robert Edward | LS | 4127 | RCN | HMCS Haida | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | WHITEMORE, Thomas William | ERA 2/c | V-17199 | RCNVR | HMCS Saint John | DSM |
| 15/09/45 | WIGGINS, Donald William | PO | 2770 | RCN | | DSM |
| 09/01/43 | WILLIAMS, David Anthony | Chief Stoker | 21256 | RCN | | DSM |
| 26/12/42 | WILSON, David | Stoker PO | X-41051 | RCN | HMCS Oakville | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | WISPINSKI, Peter Paul | AS | V-43955 | RCNVR | | DSM |
| 20/01/45 | WRIGHT, James Bernard | A/AS | V-26288 | RVNVR | | DSM |

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to the ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY in KOREA (DSM)

| CG | NAME | RANK | SERVICE | BRANCH | SHIP | DECORATIONS / |
|----------|-------------------------------|------|---------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| 20/12/52 | BONNER, Albert Leo | CPO2 | RCN | | HMCS Haida | DSM BEM |
| 13/06/53 | JAMIESON, Gerald Edwin | PO2 | RCN | | HMCS Iroquois | DSM |

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