



**Bertram "Bert" Roberts**

**Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)**

**Service No. 2784X**

**World War I**

**Born:** 17 Jun 1900

**Died:** 24 May 1978

**Place of Birth:** Bay Roberts, Conception Bay North, Newfoundland

**Parents:** William John and Annie (nee Gosse) Roberts

According to census records, Bertram was one of five children born to William and Annie Roberts. He was the only boy, the others all girls, Winnifred, Ethel, Elizabeth, and Della.

Bert enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve Newfoundland and subsequently became part of the Royal Navy of Great Britain. His service record is as follows:

1. 23 Apr 1917 – 16 Dec 1917: **HMS Briton.**
2. 17 Dec 1917 – 25 Mar 1919: **HMS Attentive 111**



**HMS Attentive**

*August 1917 to December 1918, Dover Patrol, Zeebrugge Raid, North Russia.*

3. 26 Mar 1919 – 25 Apr 1919: **HMS Vivid 11**
4. 26 Apr 1919 – 18 Jun 1919: **HMS Briton**

The 1921 Newfoundland general census shows Bert, now 21, living at home in Bay Roberts with his parents, William 65, and Annie 61. His younger sister, Winnie (16) is also there. His father's occupation is given as fisherman and Bert's as seaman.

1922 finds Bert in the United States and in August of that year, he married Malina Sparks (born in Sibley's Cove, Newfoundland) in Chelsea, Massachusetts. Together the couple would have five (5) children, Hilda Mae, Lewis, Alfred, Naomi, and John.

In April 1926, Bert officially became a naturalized American citizen at Vanceboro, Maine.

The 1930 U.S. Federal census shows Bert, age 30, Malina age 30 living on Reed Street,

Everett, Massachusetts. They have three (3) children Hilda age 7, Lewis age 5 and Naomi age 2. Bert's mother, Annie is part of the household as well at age 69. Bert is working as "building rigger," part of a construction company.

Ten years later, in 1940, the Roberts are still in Everett but have moved to Francis Street. The family now includes John and Alfred.

Bert passed away in May 1978 at Everett, Mass. Malina died in October 1991.