



Richard Malcolm Mosdell

Merchant Navy

World War II

Born: 02 Dec 1908

Died: 28 Feb 1998

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Place of Death: Kitimat, Bulkley-Nechako Regional District, British Columbia, Canada

Parents: Richard and Mary (nee Rabbitts) Mosdell

The 1921 Newfoundland general census for Port aux Basques lists the family as follows: Richard 42, Wife, Mary 40 and children, Robert 17, Cecil 14, twin boys Harold and Richard 13, Mary 10, Margaret 7, Dorothy 6, Patricia 3, and baby Minerva age 6 months.

The 1935 census finds Richard, now, 26 living on Craig Millar Avenue, St. John's

(West). He is working as a machinist with the railway and is married to Hattie "Etta" Bugden of Random Island, Trinity Bay. Etta is 23. Etta's mother, Mary age 46 is living with them.

The Mosdell's would have six (6) children, three boys and three girls.

In November 1942, Richard is listed as the 4th engineer of the vessel CS Cyrus Field enroute from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Boston. He is 33 years old and described as being 5' 10", 140 lbs.



CS Cyrus Field

October 1951 Richard is found on the CS vessel Lord Kelvin as 3rd engineer; He is now 43 and been working on the Lord Kelvin almost continually since 1936.

The Lord Kelvin and the Cyrus Field were both Cable laying vessels and it is this work during the war that notes Richard as part of the Merchant Navy.



CS Lord Kelvin

A Canada Voters List for British Columbia finds Richard living at 84 Oriole Street, Skeena, British Columbia. He is retired.

In 1995, he is living in Kitimat, B.C. It is here he died in February 1998. Wife Etta had passed away in 1981.

Richard and Etta are buried in Smithers Cemetery, Bulkley-Nechako Regional District, British Columbia.

Richard (sr) and Mary Mosdell had several children involved in service during World War II. Here is a newspaper clipping from the Observer's Weekly dated 16 February 1943 that notes their service.

*Please note an error in the article:
"Herbert" ought to read Harry.*

The Mosdell Family

Here in the City now on short leave is Chief Petty Officer Herbert Mosdell, son of Mr and Mrs. Richard Mosdell, of LeMarchant Road, who has been overseas since 1940. His promotion was rapid, from ordinary seaman to rating; second hand Petty Officer, and now C.P.O. He served in the British and Eastern Mediterranean waters. Other members of the same family now serving are: Cecil W. G. Mosdell, Canadian Army Service Corps; a second brother, Richard, junior, 3rd. Engineer in the Merchant Navy; a third brother Lance, on vital war work with the American Government, and a sister, Dorothy, who enlisted in the C.W.A.C., December 15th. 1942, and is now in uniform in Canada.

Here is another record worth while.