



Royal Naval Barracks,  
Portsmouth.

15th January, 1942.

Dear Madam,

I have to inform you that according to the latest information which is available the ship in which your son, Stephen J. Hide, Acting Stoker Petty Officer, P/KX.82873, was serving was at Hong Kong at the time of the Japanese capture of that place.

It is with regret therefore that I have to tell you that until further information is received he must be regarded as "Missing on War Service". Every endeavour is being made by the British Government to obtain from the Japanese authorities definite information about all service and civilian personnel who may be in enemy hands and as soon as any news is received it will be forwarded to you.

If, however, you have reason to believe that your son is no longer serving in the Far East you should inform this Depot immediately.

Please allow me to express my sympathy with you in this time of anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

  
COMMODORE.

Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Hide,  
5, St. Martins Lane,  
Lewes, SUSSEX.