

OFFICIAL RESPONSES

ANNEX E

- 35.01.04 *The Civilian War Allowances Act Part, XI, para. 75. does not credit merchant seamen with even being civilians until they have six months sea, or combined sea and POW time. There are about a dozen categories of Civilian, and most categories had freer access to more benefits than merchant seamen. (See Annex C page 18)*
- 35.01.05 *The comparisons are odious, but they were not originated by the writer. Ex-prisoners have great respect for the organizations mentioned. Milag Nord prisoners had many direct benefits from the Red Cross, the International YMCA, the Canadian Legion Educational Services, and the on-site ministry of the Salvation Army and a dozen non-status Canadian civilians.*
- 35.01.06 *Transport did offer; "Facilities for courses of instruction will be provided to men otherwise suitable to enable advancement in the profession of Seamen." The question is not really what they were called, but whether they got fair treatment. The government of the day may have made the promises in good faith, but hindsight shows that they were wrong.*
- 35.02 "However, financial benefits awarded by the Department to merchant seamen are identical to those awarded to veterans, although the eligibility requirements differ. Let me review those briefly with you."
- 35.02.01 *A review of Annex C (p. 18) does not support the premise that identical benefits were available to seamen. However, it is specifically on the the eligibility requirements that the discrimination occurs. It is noteworthy that the discrimination extends into the civilian sector.*