

## OFFICIAL RESPONSES

## ANNEX E

civilians are awarded by virtue of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act. To be classed as a veteran, a person must have served in the Armed Forces during wartime. Benefits to veterans are awarded under the War Veterans Allowance Act."

- 35.01.01        *The Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act states in part: ". . . an allowance is paid to in respect of a civilian, . . . under the War Veteran Allowance Act . . . in the same manner and to the same extent as if the civilian were a veteran to whom that Act applies.*
- 35.01.01a       *The semantics of legislative purposes seem to obscure the fact that approximately 10,500 wartime merchant seamen volunteered their services in the Second World War. The Merchant Navy rate of casualties in the Battle of the Atlantic was one in four, that was higher than any Western Allied service. The Hon. Lionel Chevrier, then Minister of Transport, described the risks; "The dangers they encounter are comparable with those experienced by the AVERAGE man in uniform." The emphasis is mine. The average Canadian serviceman experienced a risk of approximately one in twentytwo of being killed from the data of DVA's "A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE" page 8. Seamen were fobbed off with empty promises of careers at sea and even the disabled were refused Canadian Legion Educational Services secondary level correspondence courses to improve themselves. At that time merchant seamen were deemed unworthy by definition. In Alice in Wonderland fashion, the definition did not require logic and defied argument. It still applies.*
- 35.01.02        *Given that the rigours of military discipline are the only criteria, as indicated, an examination of the Civil Service Act, Chapter 53, 17 July 1947, reveals that civilians working overseas for: "the Canadian Legion War*