

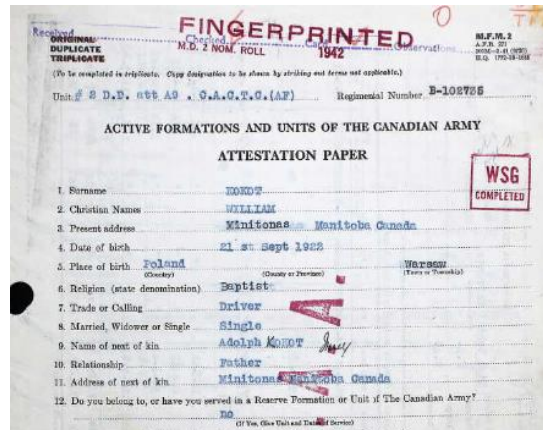
## Kokot, William. Private

01-F-7



William Kokot had come to Canada at the age of 4, with his parents, Adolf and Lydia Kokot.

Born in Warsaw on September 21, 1924.  
When he enlisted on August 21, 1941, he had pretended to be two years older.  
It was stated: September 21, 1922.



ORIGINAL  
DUPLICATE  
TRIPPLICATE

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M.D. 1 NOV. 1942

Unit: 2 S.D.B. 4th AD. C.A.A.C.T.C. (AF) Regimental Number: 2-105766

ACTIVE FORMATIONS AND UNITS OF THE CANADIAN ARMY  
ATTESTATION PAPER

1. Surname: KOKOT  
2. Christian Names: WILLIAM  
3. Present address: WINSTON, Manitoba Canada  
4. Date of birth: 21 st Sept 1922  
5. Place of birth: Poland (Country or Province) Warsaw (Town or Township)  
6. Religion (state denomination): Baptist  
7. Trade or Calling: Driver  
8. Married, Widower or Single: Single  
9. Name of next of kin: Adolph KOKOT  
10. Relationship: Father  
11. Address of next of kin: Winston, Manitoba Canada  
12. Do you belong to, or have you served in a Reserve Formation or Unit of The Canadian Army? NO

WSG COMPLETED

He had two brothers and four sisters.  
Because his father was naturalized,  
William was registered as a Canadian.

He was described as a sporty young  
man who enjoyed hunting, but also  
reading.

William left school at the age of 15 and attended high school for one year.  
He also claimed to have worked on his parents' farm for two years.  
The latter was probably to "fill in" the two-year age difference.

Posted to Camp Borden at A-9 CACATC. (Canadian Armoured Corps  
Advanced Training Centre)

He quickly qualified as a Class III driver for wheeled vehicles.

When his real age was discovered, he was assigned to the Home War  
Establishment (HWE).

The HWE was responsible for the air defence of Canada during the war. It  
was split into two different commands, Eastern Air Command (EAC) and  
Western Air Command (WAC).

Based on the applicable Canadian Army Routine Orders (CARO), he was  
given 2 weeks' leave. At the age of seventeen and a half years, he was  
able to rejoin the CACATC.

He remained at Camp Borden. In the summer of 1943, he received  
various training courses, but he was also placed on the staff of CACAT for  
training and discipline. William seemed to be rather careless in some  
respects, including his clothing.

He was denied the right to a "Good Conduct" ribbon due to his incorrect  
age statement at the time.

At the end of 1943 he transferred to Brampton to the CABTC. (Canadian  
Army Basic Training Center)

Now fully qualified as a driver, he remained there until June 1944.  
Early June he was transferred to Windsor, Nova Scotia prior to the transfer to the United Kingdom.  
He arrived there on June 11, 1944.

Assigned to a reinforcement of the Canadian Armoured Corps  
he also qualified a Class III tank driver.

In September and October of that year he was granted two more weeks of leave.

Apparently a little short, at the end of November his pay was withheld because he had been "AWL", Absent without Leave.

At the end of December 1944, he was shipped to Italy, where he arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

In January 1945 he was assigned to the Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment. (H&PER)

When the Canadian troops withdrew from Italy in March 1945, the H&PER went to Northwestern Europe via France (arrival 12.03.1945).

With this regiment William Kokot witnessed all actions until April 17, 1944.

The last action he experienced, which led to his death, was at Nieuw Millingen near Apeldoorn.

This is described in a separate document on his personal record.

In addition to Kokot, H&PER suffered six more deaths and four injuries.

He was given a temporary grave in Teuge, a permanent one in Holten.  
Grave ref.: 1-F-7.

He was awarded:

1939-45 Star; Italy Star; France-Germany Star; Defense Medal; War Medal 1939-1945 and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp.

The Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment was the last unit he served with.

