

# Using Archive Documents as Primary Sources

Source 1

Outside

**Endorsements**

12-30-3 Ration Cards and Books issued, etc.  
 13-13-4 20-5  
 18-14-6 18-14-6  
 27-27-8  
 27-27-12  
 5-5-5-1  
 2-7-7-1  
 9-7-7-1  
 16-7-7-1  
 23-7-7-1  
 12-16-6  
 22-23-3  
 6-5-5-2-2-1

9/5/44 ME 08496100  
 9-5-45 ME 450230  
 27-2-46 ME 456250 surrendered

**Spares**

Spare 1  
 Spare 2  
 Spare 3

**DECLARATION**

I Declare (i) that the person to whom this Identity Card relates has satisfied me that he (she) is a seaman, and (ii) that the photograph within bearing my official stamp is a true likeness of that person, that the signature within is his (her) true signature, that the fingerprints within are his (hers), that he (she) possesses the physical characteristics entered within and has stated to me the date and place of his (her) birth as entered within.

Signature of Seaman  
 Date: 27/2/46

This form of Identity Card is issued to those seamen only who satisfy the Superintendent of the Mercantile Marine Office that they are British subjects.

**NOTICE**

(1) This Identity Card must be very carefully preserved. You are required to produce it on demand to a Police Officer in uniform, to a member of H.M. Armed Forces in uniform on duty, to the Superintendent of a Mercantile Marine Office or to an Official of the Merchant Navy Reserve Pool.

(2) You must endeavour not to lose this Identity Card, or allow it to be stolen or to pass into the hands of unauthorised persons or strangers. If, nevertheless, it is stolen or completely lost, you must report the fact in person at any Mercantile Marine Office.

(3) You must not write or alter anything in this Identity Card. If any particulars need alteration, apply to the Superintendent of any Mercantile Marine Office.

(4) This card is the property of the Minister of War Transport. It is issued to British seamen of the Merchant Navy in lieu of a National Registration Identity Card and no person may hold both.

Serial No. **BS 23058**

**BRITISH SEAMAN'S IDENTITY CARD**

Issued by the Ministry of War Transport, London.

Surname and initials of Seaman (BLOCK CAPITALS)  
**B. KUSHIA V**

Any person finding this card should drop it into any Posting Box for transmission to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen, CARDIFF.

What can you find out about Kushia Bag from his British Seaman's identity card?

- Where was he born and when?
- What is his nationality?
- Who is he married to?
- What nationality do you think she is, why?
- What type of work does he do as a seaman? (Look at his 'Rank or Rating' You can find out what this meaning by looking at another of the documents).

Inside

**Particulars**

(1) Surname **KUSHIA**  
 (BLOCK CAPITALS)  
 (2) Christian or First Names **BAG**  
 (3) Date of Birth **2 1903**  
 (4) Place of Birth **VILL. PIND, MIRPUR, KASHMIR, INDIA**  
 (5) Colour of (a) eyes **BROWN** (b) hair **BLACK**  
 (6) Complexion **COPPERED**  
 (7) Height **5** ft. **6** ins.  
 (8) Distinguishing Marks **FAINT SCAR NEAR POINT OF NOSE**  
 (9) Nationality—see Panel 7, **BRITISH (PROTECTED)**

**Photograph of Holder**

Signature of Holder **B. Kushia**

**Particulars—continued**

(10) Dis. A. No. **R 37287**  
 (To be entered in all cases.)

(11) Certificates held  
 Grade **DKYMAN** No. **396278**  
 (including E.D.H., Ship's Cook, Lifeboat, etc.)

(12) Rank or Rating if not a certificated Officer (if A.B. Supt. to verify and initial)  
**DKYMAN**

(13) National Service Registration No. **—**

(14) Is holder an Armed Forces Reservist? **N.O.**  
 (Reservists include R.N.S.R. and H.M.S. "Gordon.")

(15) N.H.I. Appd. Soc. **Co-op**  
 Membership No. **1709743**

(16) U.I. Local Office **BEVERLY SHOTTS**  
 Serial No. **8868**

(17) Whether subject to Essential Work (Merchant Navy) Order? **YES**

(18) Union or Society—  
 Name **NUS** No. **396278**

(19) Pension Fund and Regd. No. **—**

(20) Former N.R. Identity Card No. (to be copied from N.R. 110 or Civilian Identity Card)  
**FCAT 3211**

(21) Name, relationship and address of next-of-kin or nearest friend—  
 Name **ISABELLA KUSHIA**  
 Relationship **WIFE**  
 Address **49 PEEL ST SOUTH SHIELDS**

(22) Address of holder (if different from above) **—**

**Fingerprints**

LEFT-HAND FINGERPRINTS (Plain impressions of four fingers)  
 THUMBS—PLAIN IMPRESSIONS LEFT RIGHT  
 RIGHT-HAND FINGERPRINTS (Plain impressions of four fingers)

The holder is a **British Protected Person.**

**Cancelled C.R.S. 8, C.R.S. 56 issued**

- Where does he live?
- Is this identity card still valid? How do you know?
- This ID card contains Bag's photograph, signature and fingerprints. What can you infer or suggest about him from this information?

**C.R. 2.** Dis. A. No. R. 37287  
 Cert. of Compy. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Seaman Bag x Kushia  
 Birth: Year \_\_\_\_\_ Place Cond  
 Rank or Rating Fireman and Trimmer  
 Name and Official No. of Ship Mokta 128937  
 Date of Engagement 14.9.28.  
 (Stamp of M.M.O.)  
 [4806] 20690/324 300m (18) 1/28 C.&S.Ltd. 186

Heathfield 13.12.27  
 115150. 12.1.28  
 124317. 26.5.28  
 133516. 19.5.30  
 161546. 13.11.31  
 Dalrym. 11.12.34  
 161546 30.12.36  
 164063 24.2.38  
 161809 16.10.39  
 148529 8.5.40

**What more can you find out about the work that Kushia Bag did as a Seaman?**


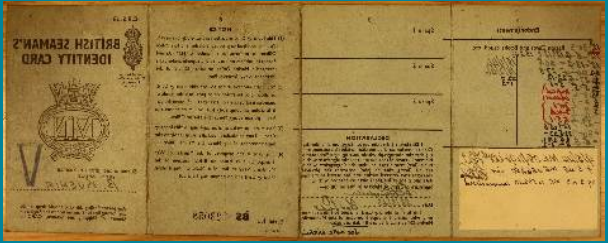
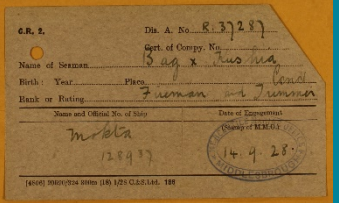
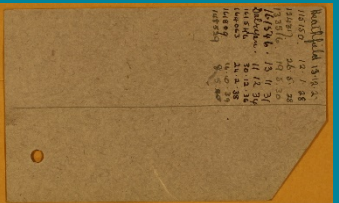
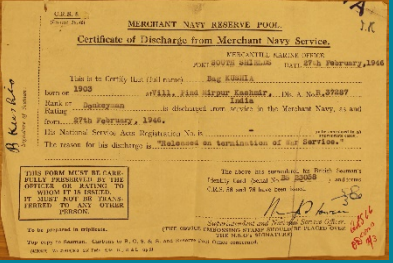
- Look at the back of this card. How many ships has he worked on?
- Can you give the names or numbers of two?
- How many years has he been working as a Seaman?
- What more can you discover about the type of work he does? Look at his 'Rank and Rating'
- Have you seen the number R.37287 on the previous document? What do you think it means?

**What more can you find out about Kushia Bag from this final document?**

- What is the purpose of this document?
- How does the information about him and his work compare to the other documents?
- Think about where he lives, where and when he was born.

**C.R.S. 8**  
 (Revised 10/42)  
**MERCHANT NAVY RESERVE POOL.**  
**Certificate of Discharge from Merchant Navy Service.**  
 MERCANTILE MARINE OFFICE  
 PORT SOUTH SHIELDS DATE 27th February, 1946  
 This is to Certify that (full name) Bag KUSHIA  
 born on 1903 at Vill. Pind Mirpur Kashmir, India Dis. A. No. R.37287  
 Rank or Rating Donkeyman is discharged from service in the Merchant Navy, as and  
 from 27th February, 1946.  
 His National Service Acts Registration No. is \_\_\_\_\_ (to be completed in all appropriate cases).  
 The reason for his discharge is "Released on termination of War Service."  
 Signature of Seaman: B. Kushia  
 The above has surrendered his British Seaman's Identity Card (Serial No. BS 23058) and forms C.R.S. 56 and 76 have been issued.  
 Superintendent and National Service Officer.  
 (THE OFFICE EMBOSING STAMP SHOULD BE PLACED OVER THE N.S.O.'S SIGNATURE)  
 To be prepared in triplicate.  
 Top copy to Seaman. Carbons to R. G. S. & S. and Reserve Pool Office concerned.  
 (483907) Wt 22919/368 250 Pads 8/45 H J R & L Gp 51

# Teachers Notes

Documents	Focused questions	Glossary/transcript points
 	<p>What can you find out about Kushia Bag from his British Seaman's identity card?</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where was he born and when?</li> <li>• What is his nationality?</li> <li>• Who is he married to? What nationality do think she is, why?</li> <li>• What type of work does he do as a seaman? Look at his 'Rank or Rating' You can find out what this meaning by looking at another of the documents</li> <li>• Where does he live?</li> <li>• Is this identity card still valid? How do you know?</li> <li>• This ID card contains Bag's photograph, signature and fingerprints. What can you infer or suggest about him from this information?</li> </ul>	<p>His rank or rating is recorded as DKYMAN – which is short for Donkeyman. This can be compared to information on the other two documents.</p>
 	<p>What more can you find out about the work that Kushia Bag did as a Seaman?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at the back of this card. How many ships has he worked on? Can you give the names or numbers of two?</li> <li>• How many years has he been working as a Seaman?</li> <li>• What more can you discover about the type of work he does. Look at his 'Rank and Rating'</li> <li>• Have you seen the number R.37287 on the previous document? What do you think it means?</li> </ul>	<p>His rank or rating is recorded as Fireman and Trimmer. This mean he stokes the fire's in the steam room of the ships. He ask cuts or trims the coal before shovelling it in to the furnace. What does that tell you about the conditions he works in? How much he might get paid?</p>
	<p>What more can you find out about Kushia Bag from this final document?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the purpose of this document?</li> <li>• How does the information about him and his work compare to the other documents? Think about where he lives, where and when he was born.</li> </ul>	