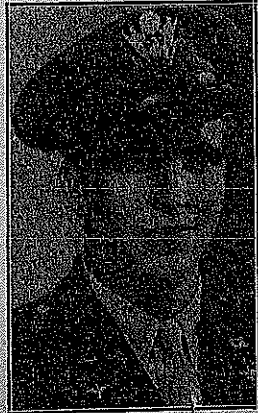


12/22/44

# Amboy

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., WEDN

## Missing Overseas



Major Albert P. Muska

## Major Muska

## Reported Lost

Major Albert P. Muska of this city, the airman who plastered the Germans with the last American bombs dropped in the African campaign, has been reported missing on a routine flight since Nov. 8, according to a War Department dispatch received by his mother, Mrs. Michael Muska, 449 Compton avenue.

The first indication that Muska had been elevated to major was contained in the department telegram which referred to him by that rank.

Major Muska, a bombardier navigator, had completed his assigned number of operations and was out of combat on a flight between his base in Sicily and Tunisia, when his plane disappeared. It was reported he refused several furloughs at the completion of operations because he "wanted to be in the fight."

He was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Oak Leaf cluster and Air Medal for heavy duty in the African campaign. The last bombs he dropped in Africa squarely struck the crack German Ninetieth light division, trapped between the British First and Eighth armies, at the end of a raid by American, British and South African bombers.

The air medal and oak leaf cluster awards came to Muska when a lieutenant, after he led a formation of medium bombers over enemy landing fields, destroyed three German Messerschmitt 109's as they were about to streak out the next morning.

Major Muska was awarded his wings and commission at Kelly Field, Tex., in April, 1942. Before going to Kelly Field, he spent several months at McCord Field, Tacoma, Wash., and was a student at the Southern Flying School, South Carolina. He attended Rutgers University where he was active in boxing and football.

He has two brothers in the service. They are Private Ernest Muska in the U. S. Army and Frank Muska, pharmacist rate second class in the U. S. Navy.

## To Limit Ads

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## LONDON

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THE SECRETARY OF WAR

WASHINGTON

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300



Mrs. Sophia Muska

449 Compton Avenue

Perth Amboy, New Jersey

December 20, 1944.

My dear Mrs. Muska:

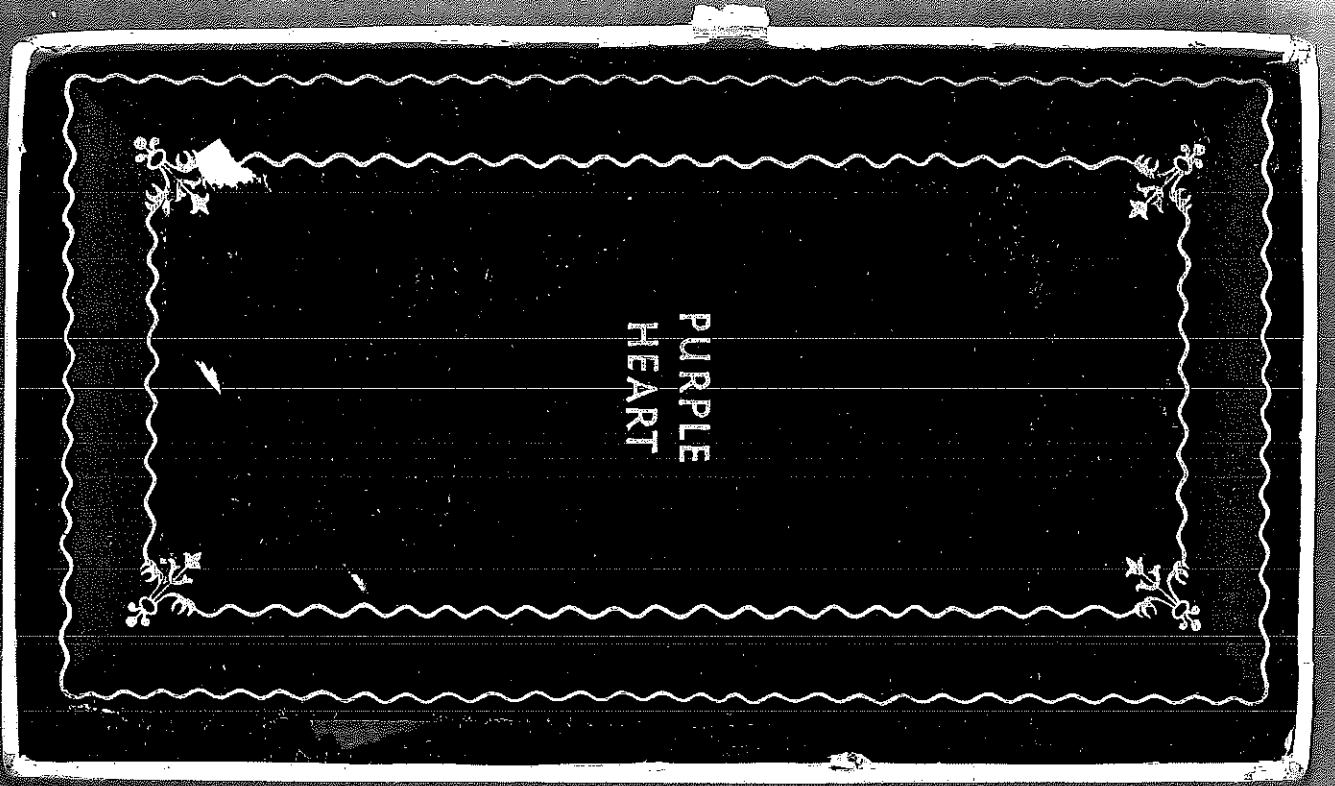
At the request of the President, I write to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, Major Albert P. Muska, Air Corps, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

Little that we can do or say will console you for the death of your loved one. We profoundly appreciate the greatness of your loss, for in a very real sense the loss suffered by any of us in this battle for our country, is a loss shared by all of us. When the medal, which you will shortly receive, reaches you, I want you to know that with it goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time and the victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Henry L. Stimson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Henry L. Stimson".

Mrs. Sophia Muska,  
449 Compton Avenue,  
Perth Amboy, New Jersey.



PURPLE  
HEART

