



No. 49 Squadron,
Royal Air Force,
Fulbeck,
nr. Grantham,
Lincs.

22nd February, 1945.

Dear *Mrs Makofski,*

I am very sorry to have to confirm my telegram informing you that your husband, Flight Sergeant Max Henry Makofski, is missing as a result of air operations last night, and I want to convey to you the sympathy not only of myself, but of all members of the Squadron, during this very trying period of waiting for further news.

Your husband was flying as the Wireless Operator with his usual crew when they set out last night to attack an important target at Gravenhorst, and since they took off we have heard nothing from them. He is consequently reported missing at the moment, but I hope that later we shall have news that he is safe, though this will probably mean he is a prisoner of war. You will, of course, be notified by the Air Ministry direct immediately information of any kind comes through.

Since joining the Squadron eight months ago your husband has carried out many successful operational missions against targets in all parts of enemy territory, and he has always shown himself to be a most keen and efficient member of a valuable crew. His Captain was a very capable Pilot, and he would I know do everything in his power to ensure the safety of his crew. I am most sorry to have lost them in this way.

His personal belongings have been collected and safeguarded, and they will be sent to you in due course, through the R.A.F. Central Depository, Colnbrook, Slough, Bucks.

I would like to explain that the request included in my telegram was with the object of avoiding the chance of your husband's escape being prejudiced by undue publicity, in case he is still at large. This does not mean that information about him is available, but is simply a precaution adopted in the case of all personnel who are reported missing.

If/

No. 49 Squadron
Royal Air Force
Blackpool
Mr. Graham
London

If there is any way in which I can be of help to you, by advice or information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours

Sincerely

Wing Commander, Commanding,
No. 49 Squadron.

I am very sorry to have to inform you that your husband, Mr. Henry Makofski, is missing as a result of an operation last night and I want to convey to you the sympathy not only of myself but of all members of the Squadron during this very trying period of waiting for further news.

With his usual courage and determination, he was engaged in an important target at Gravenhurst, and since that took off we have heard nothing from them. He is consequently reported missing at the moment, but I hope that later we shall have news that he is safe, though this will probably not be for a number of days. For all of course, he will be notified as soon as possible.

Since joining the Squadron at the end of 1941, your husband has carried out many successful operational missions against targets in all parts of enemy territory, and he has always shown himself to be a most keen and efficient member of a valuable crew. His Captain was a very capable pilot, and he would I know do everything in his power to ensure the safety of his crew. I am most sorry to have lost them in this way.

His personal belongings have been collected and safeguarded, and they will be sent to you in the course of the R.A.F. Central Depository, Colchester, Essex.

I would like to explain that the request included in my telegram with the object of avoiding the chance of your husband's escape being prejudiced by undue publicity in the case he is still at large. This does not mean that I am not about him as available, but as simply a precaution in the case of all personnel who are reported missing.

Mrs. H. Makofski,
33, Durham Road,
Blackpool.