5-19-1943

Frederick Hecht Correspondence #10

Bulamae Sympson Hammond

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May 19, 1943

Mrs. John William Hammond - 306 North Third Street - Bardstown, Kentucky

To the family of Frederick Hecht:

Yesterday we received a letter from my brother, Captain Gordon H. Symphon, and it was the saddest letter I have ever read. He had lost "Hecht" as he called him. He undoubtedly has written to you, but in case you haven't heard from him I am sure you will. He said they had been in a terrific battle for twelve days, and that in all the dangerous missions that Hecht took part the had not received a scratch. He had been April 17th before that must have been April 17th before, that must have been the entire battle they had not been the entire battle they had not been ten feet apart and that Hecht was the bravest of the brave. That he loved him like a brother and he had all the best qualities of a man.

Last September, my sister and I visited my brother at Ft. Bragg and
my brother was always raving about this grand fellow, Hecht. And it seems Hecht was the one whom we depended on to look after Gordon. I'm sure Hecht felt like he knew all of us for in almost every letter we would send some words to him and my brother said he would show him the letters and Hecht would say, "I told them I would take care of you."

I know there is not much one can say to comfort for the loss of a loved one, for only God in his own way can console the griefed, you may know he was one of the Nation's heroes and served his country with honor and will you pray with me that our brother may be spared. He has a baby born in December and of course he has never seen him.

Sincerely -

Balamae Simpson Hammond

Mrs. J.W. Hammond. Bardstown Ky.
May 19 - 1943

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Yesterday we received a letter from my brother, Captain Gordon H. Sympon, and it was the saddest letter I have ever read- he had lost “Hecht”, as he called him. He undoubtedly has written to you, but in case you haven’t heard from him I am sure you will. He said they had been in a terrific battle for Twelve days and then in all the dangerous missions that Hecht took part he had not received a scratch, then two nights before, that must have been April 17\textsuperscript{th}, he was manning a phone and a shell hit in his fox-hole. Gordon said during the entire battle they had not been ten feet apart and that Hecht was the bravest of the brave. That he loved him like a brother and he had all the best qualitites of a man.

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