

*Copy to Daily News Tribune Herald Tribune*

August 17th, 1943.

Mr. Donald Maxwell, City Editor  
The Chicago Tribune  
435 N. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, Ill.,

Dear Mr. Maxwell:

I am writing this letter in connection with the Church services to be held on Sunday August 22nd, 1943, at 11.00 A.M. at the St Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 2704 N. Garman Ave. in memory of Private George J. Hontos who was wounded in action and died for his country.

Enclosed you will find the picture of Private Hontos also a photostatic copy of the letter sent by the Secretary of War, Mr. Stimson, informing his father of the Purple Heart awarded posthumously to his son.

At the services a honorary body from the Army, the Hellenic Post #645 of the American Legion and, the Gold Star Mothers will participate.

Private George J. Hontos, was very much attached to his family, he is survived by his father, James, mother, Cornelia, sister Demetra and two brothers, John and Arthur. He was member of the St Demetrios Church Choir for several years and socially active in the community.

In January 1942, he answered the call of his country and entered the 48th Air Craft battery of the Coast Artillery in the Army, in the Twentieth campaign was wounded and died, his loss is greatly felt by all of those who knew him, in particular by his family.

His Church will hold the memorial services to pay tribute and honor to Private George J. Hontos, to console his family and friends, to encourage and remind all of us to do our duty till victory comes.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate your worthy paper for all that you are doing for war boy's in the service of our armed forces and that anything you may write in connection with the memorial services of Private Hontos, will be appreciated by all, thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,  
President, Board of Trustees.,

AMH/a

OBJECT ID	2000.4.37
OBJECT NAME	Correspondence
OBJECT COLLECTION	The George J. Hontos Collection (is part of)
DATE CREATED	August 17, 1943
MATERIAL	Paper

## RELATED ITEMS

Flag, 2000.4.1  
Flag, 2000.4.2  
Pillowcase, 2000.4.3  
Cover, Pillow, 2000.4.4  
Flag, 2000.4.5  
Plaque, 2000.4.6  
Medal, Commemorative, 2000.4.7  
Medal, Commemorative, 2000.4.8  
Medal, Commemorative, 2000.4.9  
Photograph, 2000.4.10  
Photograph, 2000.4.11  
Photograph, 2000.4.12  
Telegram, 2000.4.13  
Postcard, 2000.4.14  
Certificate, Birth, 2000.4.15  
Correspondence, 2000.4.16  
Certificate, 2000.4.17  
Correspondence, 2000.4.18  
Letter, 2000.4.19  
Correspondence, 2000.4.20  
Correspondence, 2000.4.21  
Telegram, 2000.4.22  
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Newspaper Clipping, 2000.4.24  
Newspaper, 2000.4.25  
Newspaper, 2000.4.26  
Newspaper, 2000.4.27  
Newspaper, 2000.4.28.A  
Newspaper, 2000.4.28.B  
Newspaper, 2000.4.29  
Newspaper, 2000.4.30  
Book, 2000.4.31  
Certificate, Commemorative, 2000.4.32  
Letter, 2000.4.33  
Letter, 2000.4.34  
Letter, 2000.4.35.A  
Letter, 2000.4.35.B  
Letter, 2000.4.36  
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Correspondence, 2000.4.39  
Certificate, Award, 2000.4.40  
Newspaper, 2000.4.41  
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## OBJECT DESCRIPTION

LETTER WRITTEN TO CHICAGO TRIBUNE BY THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES WHO ASKS THE CITY EDITOR TO WRITE AND PUBLISH AN ARTICLE AND PICTURE OF THE HEROIC DEATH OF PVT GEORGE J. HONTOS WHO WAS KILLED IN TUNISIA DURING WWII.

## ORIGIN

George James Hontos was born in Chicago, Illinois on March 27th, 1920. The son of James and Cornelia Hontos, brother of Dimitra, Arthur, and John, who also served in the United States Navy. Two weeks following the Pearl Harbor disaster, he was called to serve his country. He trained for six months at Camps Hulen and Wallace, Texas. On March 1, 1942, the 434th Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) was activated. With this outfit, he was sent to England. After the completion of training, they took part in the liberation of Africa. George died from a landmine left by the Nazis, trying to aid some wounded women and children in Tunisia, on May 24th, 1943. Private George J. Hontos was posthumously awarded the Soldier's Medal and the Purple Heart.

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#### CITATION

Correspondence, August 17, 1943, The George J. Hontos Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://hellenic.whirlihost.com/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/14/24.

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