

# Lieutenant **Jacques Michael Swaab**

Rank: Lieutenant  
Services: United States Air Service  
Units : 22<sup>nd</sup> Aero Sq.  
Victories: 10  
Born: 21 April 1894, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Died: 07 July 1963, Los Angeles, California



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Estratto da "The Jewish Veteran" - , Volume 7, Edizione 1

"Nel mese di giugno 1918 fu trasferito a Furbara per l'addestramento al Tiro.

Il 27 agosto 1918, terminò il suo addestramento.

Il 1 settembre 1918 andò in forza allo Squadron Aero 22, in tempo per le battaglie di Toul, Saint-Mihiel e Argonne."

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Jerry Valencia's book "Knights of the Air", Swaab states that while taking gunnery training in **Furbara, Italy, a Captain Gordeske** came to him with good news. He had gotten Swaab a job as a test pilot at the Ansaldo factory that made SVA5s.

Swaab turned the offer down because he wanted to go to the front. "Don't be silly," **Gordeske** said. "They're killing men up at the front every day."

*Nel libro di Jerry Valencia "Knights of the Air" (Cavalieri dell'Aria) si riporta che durante il periodo di addestramento al tiro a Furbara, Italia, un Capitano, Gordeske (Gordesco), gli comunicò una buona notizia. Swaab aveva ottenuto di lavorare come pilota collaudatore nella fabbrica Ansaldo, costruttrice dell'aeroplano SVA5. Swaab rifiutò l'offerta perché voleva andare al fronte. "Non essere sciocco", disse Gordesco. "Al fronte ogni giorno vengono uccisi uomini."*

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**Citation for the Distinguished Service Cross**

*The Distinguished Service Cross is presented to Jacques M. Swaab, First Lieutenant (Air Service), U.S. Army, for extraordinary heroism in action near Montfaucon, France, September 28, 1918, and in the region of Champignuelle, October 27, 1918. On September 28 Lieutenant Swaab, although himself pursued by two enemy planes, perceiving one of his comrades in distress and in danger of being shot down, dived upon the enemy plane which was directly behind that of his comrade and shot the enemy plane out of control, forcing it to withdraw. His prompt act in going to the assistance of his comrade enabled the latter to escape. On October 27 Lieutenant Swaab and another member of his group engaged in combat with seven enemy planes. In this encounter, although outnumbered, Lieutenant Swaab continued in his attack and succeeded in shooting down an enemy D. F. W. observation plane.*

General Orders No. 53, W.D., 1920

Spunti di Ricerca curata da Francesco Viz

## Victories

	Date	Time	Unit	Aircraft	Opponent	Location	
1	08 Sep 1918	1235-1305	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Two-seater	Cirey-Saarburg	
2	08 Sep 1918	1235-1305	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Fokker D.VII	Cirey-Saarburg	
3	08 Sep 1918	1235-1305	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Fokker D.VII	Cirey-Saarburg	
4	28 Sep 1918	0840	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Fokker D.VII <sup>1</sup>	Ivoiry	
5	23 Oct 1918	1140	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII (S7640)	Fokker D.VII	Thernogues	
6	23 Oct 1918	1210	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII (S7640)	Rumpler C	Thernogues	
7	27 Oct 1918	1540	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Fokker D.VII	Sommerance	
8	27 Oct 1918	1540	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	DFW C <sup>2</sup>	Champiegneulle	
9	29 Oct 1918	1620	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	Fokker D.VII <sup>1</sup>	Aincreville	
10	31 Oct 1918	1555	22 <sup>nd</sup>	SPAD XIII	LVG C	E of Verdun	fraviz



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# NEW YORK FLYER BRINGS DOWN THREE HUN AIRPLANES

Jacques Swaab Teaches Germans  
How American Can Fight  
Against Great Odds.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Wednesday (By the Associated Press).—Three German airplanes are believed to have been shot down yesterday by Lieutenant Jacques Swaab, of New York city. On his return from a flight over the lines he engaged and shot down a Fokker machine. Continuing his return flight, he was attacked by a group of German airplanes, but shot one down in flames and forced another down out of control.

The victories have been reported and official confirmation of them is now being sought.

**New Hero of Air Son of Mayer M. Swaab, Jr., of No. 88 Central Park West.**

Lieutenant Jacques Swaab, of the American Air Service, is a son of Mayer M. Swaab, Jr., a member of the firm of Fleet & Co., whose New York office is at No. 949 Broadway. He is twenty-four years old and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in the class of 1916. While in college he was a member of the track team. Prior to enlistment, in June, 1917, he was employed in the Boston office of Fleet & Co.

Lieutenant Swaab was trained at the Columbus ground school, the Dayton flying school and at a government aviation school in France. In the last letter received from him by his parents, at No. 88 Central Park West, he stated that he had just returned to France from a seven weeks' course at a government training school in Italy.



LIEUTENANT  
JACQUES SWAAB

been approved by the Judge Advocate General at Washington.

Quinn claimed to be a conscientious objector, but was able to produce no proof that he was a member of any recognized sect opposing war. He refused to shoulder a rifle and undergo instruction in guard duty. This is the first case of its kind at Camp Devens.

Campo di Furbara

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