

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

**CONFIDENTIAL**80TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
8th Fighter Group  
APO 926

9 November 1944

STATEMENT OF PERSON LAST  
CONTACTING  
1st LIEUTENANT WILLIAM H. FRIDHAM

Lt Fridham and I took off from Mokmer strip at Biak at approximately 1415/L, 8 November 1944. We did not have belly tanks.

We flew a course of 295° according to the compass in my plane. He had stated we would fly a heading of 286°. The transmitter was out in my ship so I had no contact with him by radio.

We passed over the Asia Islands at approximately 1600/L. Fifteen minutes later Lt Fridham started to descend in a spiral to observe a peculiar disruption in the ocean. I had not been able to get my outboard tanks working and my gas supply would not permit me to stay with him.

I did not see Lt Fridham's plane again.

*Lloyd S. Johnson 2nd Lt.*  
LOYD S. JOHNSON,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
Pilot.

**CONFIDENTIAL**