

483rd Bombardment Group (H) 816th Bombardment Squadron (H)
(Unit)

A/P, W/O, APO 520

25 July 1944
(date)

STATEMENT SURROUNDING DISAPPEARANCE OF MIA PERSONNEL

- a. NAME: Major P. Hildreth
- b. GRADE: 2d Lt.
- c. ASN: O-811202
- d. TYPE OF MISSION: Combat Bombing: Air-drome and Installations, Memmingen, Germany
- e. DUTY ASSIGNMENT: Pilot
- f. TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: B-17G
- g. LOCATION AT TIME OF MIA: Vicinity of target, Memmingen, Germany 18 July 1944
- h. PROBABLE CAUSE: Enemy Air-craft: Approx. 100-150 enemy fighters attacked the Gp. as it was approaching the target. They concentrated their entire strength on the 816th Sq. which was flying in the last box in the formation.
- i. PROBABLE FATE: Fighter fire power overwhelmed all seven planes in the Sq.

Three B-17's were shot to pieces while in level flight and in formation position, a fourth went out of control and broke apart when it went into a spin, two of the three caught fire. Several parachutes were seen and other members were thrown from their planes and it's unknown whether their parachutes functioned. The men that were able to get out stand a chance of making their way to neutral Switzerland if not captured by the enemy.

Fred J. Ascanti
FRED J. ASCANTI
Major, Air Corps
Commanding

Classification removed
per authority Tag.
By *WES* Date *9 Sept*
Wm B. Sisk
Capt. AGD

WAR DEPT., A.G.O.
CASUALTY STATUS VERIFIED:

Group
Ramsdell - 5 Sept. 44
Verified by