

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

COPY

CARRIER AIRCRAFT SERVICE UNIT FORTY-FOUR
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
22 October 1944.

COPY

My dear Mrs. Wilson:

It was with deepest regret that I found it necessary to inform the Navy Department that your husband was missing in action. He was on temporary duty with a squadron, and the meagre details as we know them indicate that the aircraft of which he was a crew-member was attacked by enemy fighters and lost. We have no proof, since there were no witnesses, that there were no survivors.

On the morning of 11 October 1944, your husband departed this base on a routine search. The aircraft failed to return, and from a brief radio transmission we know that it was attacked by enemy fighters. The next morning two crews were sent to search for the missing aircraft. These two aircraft were attacked by enemy fighters in approximately the same location we suspect your husband was, and the squadron had some satisfaction in destroying six out of the eight attacking fighters without loss. However, no trace of the missing crew was found.

Your husband was doing an outstanding job, both in the maintenance of aircraft, and more recently with his crewmates in many commendable missions against our enemy. His absence is felt by the CASU and the squadron most grievously. We all join in extending to you our heartfelt sympathy in this period of great uncertainty.

Very sincerely yours,

J. S. FURNELL, Lieut.Comdr.,
Commanding Officer, CASU-44.

Mrs. Shirley Mae Wilson
725 S Sherman Avenue
Denver, Colorado

This letter forwarded via the Navy Department.

ENCLOSURE (27)