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World War II Casualties

World War II

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11-29-1942

**Clinton C. Asher**

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Sub 1-18-46

# War Department Lists Cpl. Jay C. Asher Dead; Missing Over 3 Years

The war department has informed Mr. and Mrs. Don Asher, 3214 Avenue C, that their son, Cpl. Jay C. Asher, listed as missing in action since Nov. 29, 1942, has been declared dead.

Corporal Asher was a member of the crew of a B-17 flying fortress which failed to return from a mission to Vitiaz Strait off the coast of New Guinea, Nov. 29, 1942. The objective of the mission was to shadow an enemy convoy. At 5:30 p.m., the war department records show, the plane radioed it had contacted the convoy and a striking force was immediately sent out to attack.

The shadowing plane did not return. Eighteen enemy fighter planes were reported to have taken off from Lae, New Guinea, on that morning and returning pilots encountered a fierce storm moving northward from New Guinea in that general area that afternoon. It is presumed that the plane was lost to either the enemy or the storm.