

After Two Wars, State Ace Dies in Snowstorm

By ELWIN HATFIELD

One of Oklahoma's ranking aces fought through two air wars only to die on a stateside training flight when his parachute failed to open in a snowstorm.

Services are pending for Capt. Hampton E. Boggs, 31, whose snow-covered body was found Tuesday on a Wisconsin hillside. He and three other jet fighter pilots bailed out Saturday night after their Sabres ran out of fuel. Tentative plans are for burial in Idabel.

Boggs' body was found by a farmer's wife three miles from Genesee depot in southern Wisconsin. His parachute had failed to open. Two of his fellow pilots parachuted to safety; a fourth, Lieut. Donald Van Ellis of Milwaukee, is still missing.

Jap-Killer Strikes Fast

Boggs—who graduated from Idabel highschool and attended Oklahoma A&M college two years—joined the army air corps in World War II. He was ordered to the China-Burma-India theater as a fighter pilot with the Twin Dragon squadron.

In his first month, young Boggs, then about 22, shot down five Japanese fighters and destroyed two others to become an ace.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Boggs, then living in the 700 block NW 17 with young Boggs' wife, Melba Lou, watched news reports as Hampton added victory after victory and medal after medal.

He Got 4 in One Day

On one occasion, he shot down three Japanese planes and destroyed a fourth in one day.

"There were 10 of us against 35 Zeros. I got three of them in the air and one on the ground, just as he was landing," he recalled later. "About half of them must have been returning from a mission."

"The first one blew up in front of me. I had closed in on him at about 100 yards. I saw the second one I tackled as he was about to hit the ground, but didn't see him crash. The others went down in flames."

During this period of combat, Boggs was flying a P-38 (now outmoded by jets) which he named for his wife. The P-38, he said, was "my favorite fighter plane; I wouldn't trade it for all the Thunderbolts and Mustangs in existence."

Many Medals Awarded

During two hitches—two years—in that theater, Boggs racked up a score of 13 enemy planes shot down and several destroyed and the title of 10th airforce's first ace.

For his exploits, he was awarded the British Burma Star, the British Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross with two clusters, Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with one cluster, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal with four clusters and several service medals.

He returned home a major and



Capt. Hampton E. Boggs
Death in a snowstorm

the Republic of Korea in 1950; he volunteered for more service, his aunt, Mrs. H. E. Pendergast, 837 E. Madison, said here Wednesday.

He served a full tour of duty in Korea, but Mrs. Pendergast did not know details of his exploits while there. The elder Boggs died after World War II and the captain's mother now lives in Salt Lake City as does a sister, Mrs. C. E. Callahan.

The captain's wife, Melba Lou, and their son, William, were living at Truax airforce base in Wisconsin, where he had been stationed since returning from Korea and Japan. Their son, Bill, will be 7 years old Friday.

Top Insurance Men To Talk in State

Solomon Huber, New York, and Frank M. See, St. Louis, will be featured as speakers February 14

at the annual sales congress of the Oklahoma Life Underwriters at Oklahoma A&M Still-



Stanley High
lives in city

and to be convinced by that gathered to hear he wasn't being forced campaign by politicians." he he was convinced he hat job just like he will e one of being presi-

'America First'

se he is "old-fashioned" basic thinking "you'll see gn policy developed that s first upon whether or is a good thing for this t. Eisenhower would call ightened self-interest—not ess but looking out for ountry first and not the fellow.

at's the same thing that overn his thinking in this y—is it good for the coun- He won't think about the olican party, or himself, or one of the boys. It can t a lot of trouble for him— "ll be a welcome change."

a was the featured speaker esday on "hardware day" t convention, with the pro- for implement dealers to ursday. Annual banquet of organization will be Wednes- night. The three-day con- on and trade show is ex- to attract about 8,000 mer- ts from eight states.

62 Sill Employees

13-Cent Hour Raise

he army-air force wage board Washington Wednesday announ- t a 13-cent-an-hour raise for cer- 2 employees at Fort Sill. Due the raise are 1,562 employ- the army post near Lawton. The ge board said increases are de- ned to bring workers' wages in e with the prevailing hourly ge rates in their areas.

COUGHS due to COLDS

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WINTER TAP