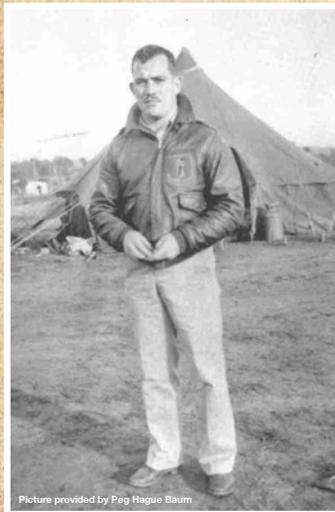




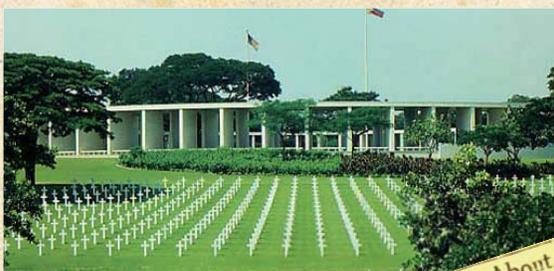
ADEL HIGH SCHOOL  
CLASS OF 1936

# JESSE "BUTCH" HAGUE

DEC. 15, 1918 - LATE AUG. 1942  
23 YEARS OLD



Picture provided by Peg Hague Baum



Lt. Hague joined the US Army Air Corps as an Aviation Cadet on December 28th, 1940 almost a full year prior to the US entry into WWII. After graduating flight school he was assigned as a pursuit pilot in the 41st and 17th Squadrons of the 5th Air Force serving in the South Pacific.

On August 2nd 1942 while engaging the enemy Hague was shot down East of New Guinea and although he successfully parachuted from his plane, his body was never recovered. Official date of death was not listed until after the war ended and is listed as December 17th, 1945.

Brian, here's some text the can be included in the plate at the lower left of the panel:

Known for his independent mind set and his athletic skill, "Butch" Hague was a football star at Adel and later wrestled for Iowa State. Leaving college after his sophomore year he went to work for his uncle in California supervising construction on hydro-electric dams.

As a trained pursuit pilot Hague was one of the first pilots sent to the South Pacific one month after Pearl Harbor and aided in the defense of the Dutch East Indies. His unit suffered upwards of sixty percent casualties during the Java campaign.

Known for his bravado, Hague once communicated to his squadron mates that he needed help because "He had eight enemy airplanes surrounded" - a feat certainly impossible for a single pilot. While piloting a Bell P-400 Lt. Hague (known as "Toughy") to his squadron mates was shot down along with another pilot off the East coast of New Guinea on August 2nd 1942.

Hague joined several other downed US airmen and Australian Infantry soldiers in an attempt to escape and evade overwhelming Japanese forces near the area of the Gona Anglican Mission. As Japanese forces surrounded the escaping servicemen and clergy, Hague volunteered to draw enemy fire and went into the jungle alone in hopes that his sacrifice would save the other members of the group.

Lt. Hague was awarded the Silver Star. He was never seen again.

**Discouraging News About Jesse Hague**

Lieutenant Jesse F. Hague, Adel flyer from whom his relatives have not heard for many months, is now officially reported as "missing" by the U. S. War Department. His mother, Mrs. W. F. Bailey, is awaiting word from the War Department in Panama a few days ago.

Washington, D. C., June 27. Mr. December D. C. Hague, father of the missing flyer, is distressed to express deep regret that his son, First Lieutenant Jesse F. Hague, Air Corps, is missing. He has reported as "missing" in action in the Southwest Pacific area. Additional information will be sent you when received - U. S. I. O.

The news, which is anything but encouraging for the family and hundreds of friends here who not necessarily mean that the circumstances surrounding his disappearance has lost his life when circumstances considered relative to address, official from a Hague graduate, and aide from a Hague graduate, received a second report that he was shot down in the Pacific area after the South Sea Islands. Field, Hague was sent to the front in some of the most intense fighting in Australia and New Guinea, and he has been reported as "missing" in action in the Southwest Pacific area.

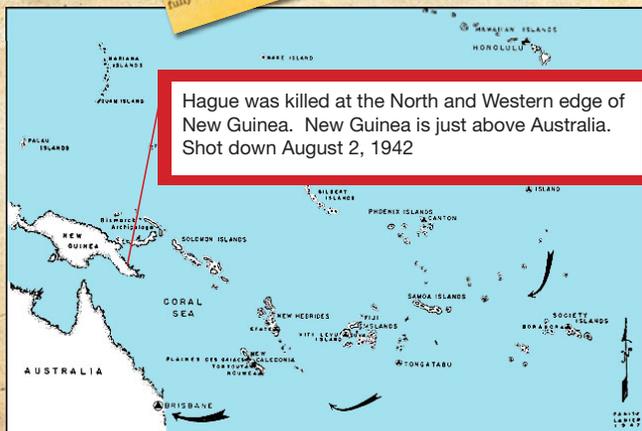
Announcement was made at the county rating board office that morning which should be of interest to some people. It is stated that all morning books are being turned in and that all other men in the service and who are now being used by other men will be denied their No. 2 ration books if this is not done.

**TEN IN SUGAR BOOKS IN SERVICE OF BOYS IN SERVICE**

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**LEIF HAGUE**

territory. Whether he lost his life or is still a prisoner can not be told. Everyone in Adel is earnestly hoping that he may yet be heard from a dive and well.



Hague was killed at the North and Western edge of New Guinea. New Guinea is just above Australia. Shot down August 2, 1942