

Harding, Jr. Charles S.  
Charles  
Douglas

## Pen Argyl Flying Fortress Pilot Interned in Switzerland

Charles S. Harding, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Stanley Harding, Sr., of 114 Applegate Avenue, Pen Argyl, pilot on a B-17 Flying Fortress and holding the rating of a first lieutenant in the U. S. Army Air Force, to which he recently was promoted, has been interned in Switzerland, according to information received by his parents in a telegram from their son, yesterday.

It is believed that when Lt. Harding and the other members of his crew went out on a flight in their Fortress, named the "Chuck-O-Luck," they were forced down and landed in Switzerland and thus interned in a neutral country. The plane was named after the pilot, Lt. Harding, who during his training days received the nick-name of "Chuck."

In less than two months since his first mission, Lt. Harding and his crew have been "getting around." On D-Day, their plane was in the huge umbrella which was over the French coast protecting the invasion forces. Since that time he was in one of the first groups to complete the "shuttle" bombing trips, having been in Russia and Italy. In addition, Lt. Harding has been over Berlin, as well as other parts of Germany.

The first mission of Lt. Harding and his crew over Europe was made last Memorial Day. Since that time Lt. Harding has been known to have made sixteen missions.

He enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Corps while a student at Lafayette College, Easton. He entered service on Armistice Day, 1942. He was graduated from pilot school last Summer and has received his ad-



LT. CHARLES S. HARDING

vanced training. On April 30th, he left his base in Nebraska and early in May had landed in England.

He is a graduate of the Pen Argyl High School where he was a varsity football player and a member of the high school band.

He is one of four sons of Mr. and Mrs. C. Stanley Harding to be in the U. S. Armed Forces. He has a brother Charles, stationed in the U. S. Army in England; the two having met in England. A brother Douglas, is in the U. S. Army Air Corps and the youngest of the four sons is in the U. S. Navy, at present receiving his basic training.

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