

Yule Gift: News That Son Is Safe In Swedish Camp

[Special to The Evening Sun]

Salisbury, Dec. 24—News that her son, Lieut. Robert A. Hill, 22, is safe in an internment camp near Falun, Sweden, came as a Christmas present today to Mrs. Robert A. Hill, of 213 Newton street.

Word was received through a dispatch from the Stockholm bureau of the Associated Press by John H. Colburn, who listed Lieutenant Hill along with sixty-five American airmen interned in the camp where, according to Colburn, "they live in a fraternity house atmosphere in three former rest homes of the sleepy town of Falun, one of the country's scenic spots."

Restrictions Are Few

The flyers are among ninety-six Allied airmen who parachuted or made forced landings on Swedish soil after raids against Germany or Norway. In the camp they lead the life of vacationers, with few military restrictions and no routine, it was said.

Colburn wrote that the men find boredom as tough a foe as all the flak and Nazi fighters they ever encountered. They pass the time skiing and skating, playing bridge and carrying on endless conversations about flying.

Air Medal And Cluster

Lieutenant Hill attended the Johns Hopkins University two years before enlisting as an aviation cadet. He was awarded the Air Medal while on patrol duty along the Atlantic Coast and later received the Oak Leaf Cluster.

Mrs. Hill has not seen her son

since the day he said good-by by flying over their house in his bomber and circling three times before heading for England.

Yule Gift Last Year

"But I got a Christmas present from him last year," she said. "He sent me an antique silver egg-server and said that the American boys had to choose most of their

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presents from English antique shops because regular merchandise was rationed.

"This Christmas looked pretty sad until the news arrived. My husband died years ago as a result of being gassed in the last war. On November 24 I received word that my son was interned in a neutral country—but I had no idea where he was. I kept saying that this would be a merry Christmas for me if I could just have some word."

Evidently the men interned at the camp in Sweden wanted the story to arrive at the holiday season, for it was sent from Stockholm with the notation that all the internees "hoped the story would serve as a Christmas letter from them in view of the deplorable mail service from here."