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Niven Writes

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After that we had to try and reform the first Battalion. This looked like another six months on Salisbury Plain so I answered a call for volunteers for Special service. I naturally can't tell you anything about it except that it has to do with speedboats and raids, I did this for four months and for the last three months I have been working in the war office itself in a branch of M.I. which has been frightfully interesting. I suffer agonies all the time as I have to handle so much hot information and have to go about pretending I know nothing! I have not missed a day or night of the "Blitz" on London, and also was at a big port last September during the first of the full scale air attacks and was dive bombed by 150 planes which shook me up a little. London is marvellous, but it would break your heart to see some of the lovely landmarks from history that have been damaged but everything can be built up again when we have time.

The war of course is won. It was won at Dunkirk actually, but it may take a year or two for that to sink in to Hitler's brain. If ever a man missed a chance, he did at Dunkirk.

We had lost all our equipment and his men could have come across in rubber boats and on water skis and we would have been sunk, but oh NO! the silly thing like all would-be conquerors wanted to parade in state down the Champs Elysee in his new under pants and now its too late!

We ought to have Italy on the ice in another two or three months then we can take the Feuehr's trousers down for him.

The people in this country are really angry now. You wouldn't know them. Very little talk going on but every sleeve is rolled right up. I went to Coventry to

help with the mess and never heard ONE SINGLE WORD of complaint!

The only thing they said was—"their time will come"—and will it? Whew! there is going to be no old school tie stuff about not hitting a man when he's down.

America seems a long way away these days.

I am longing to come back and I am longing to show you my wife too. She is SO lovely and so sweet. Twenty-two, gold hair, blue eyes.

She works eight hours a day in an aircraft factory.

Dytchley is marvelous, half of it is used as a ministry of something, or other. And from the other half Nancy (Mrs. Ronald Tree) runs a large fleet of mobile canteens donated by generous Americans.

I am longing to see you all again more than I can say. Please write and please remember me.

All my love always, David.

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