



ABOVE: A serious moment during an episode of the Partridge Family
BELOW: David gives the OK for one of his great numbers



THE DAVID CASSIDY STORY

PART 58

David's second trip to Britain was the time when his friendship with Dave Bridger of Bell Records really got cemented. Of course, they'd met before, when David had been staying at the Dorchester; but it wasn't till the next time around that they got to know each other properly.

They'd certainly have had a hard job staying strangers—'cos the two Daves were together, on and off the yacht, for 24 hours a day! Dave Bridger's official job was to ensure that David was on time for all his radio, TV and press commitments—which was a job and a half in itself. But, as well as this, he also found time to take David around shopping, guiding him to the best off-beat places, and to introduce him to some good-looking chicks.

At first David wasn't too sure about the girls... Dave Bridger explains:

"It's so hard for David to find a girl who can be friendly and welcoming without falling all over him. You know, there've been times he's taken a girl out and she's been so bowled over she's just sat there staring at him through the evening and hardly said a word. Well, that may be flattering, but it's not exactly David's—or my—idea of a fun night out."

DATES

David Bridger must have chosen well because David thoroughly enjoyed all his brief times of relaxation, and after he got back to the States he was putting pretty regular calls through to Britain, to have a chat with some of the girls he's met up with here.

As Dave B. pointed out:

"I'm sure there are thousands of David's fans

in this country who'd be marvellous company on a dinner date—but there's no way of telling. And it would just be so embarrassing if anything went wrong.

"Look at it this way... Any girl who knows me is likely to know lots of stars, so it's not going to be anything out-of-this-world to her. She'll take David as a guy; there's absolutely no chance she'll be dazzled by stardom." And that's exactly how David likes it. So everybody was happy.

The two Daves had lots of fun together, they found they shared the same zany sense of humour, and also David soon came to respect the smooth, no-nonsense efficiency with which Dave Bridger kept everything to schedule. With a non-stop schedule like David's there simply wasn't room for mistakes.

TIRED

There was no pause for thought, no early nights, from the moment David's plane touched down till departure date. Even David, who was, after all, used to this kind of pressure, found it hard to stifle a groan when he heard about his 'first night' party...

He'd just landed at Heathrow, shortly after 9.30 in the evening and was longing for bed and sleep after the flight, when Dave Bridger broke the news: everything had been set up for an informal party on board the Ocean Sabre that night! David let one or two unprintable words escape his lips before getting almost reconciled to the idea. But he was still convinced that he'd hate every minute of it... He felt like death and he had visions of having to keep up a plastic smile throughout the evening and

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