

BETWEEN US!



Here I am on the launch that carried me from the yacht in the Thames River where I was staying to the pier.

Wow! I just got back from the wildest trip to England! Some really crazy things happened on this trip.

I haven't been to London since my last vacation and I was really looking forward to going back, but I didn't expect things to be as frantic as they were.

Last time I was there I just sort of snuck in, did a few TV shows and flew home. This trip was something else! I was there for almost a whole week but it seemed like I hardly had any time at all.

It started when I arrived at the airport—man was there ever a crowd there! It was really a thrill.

All the time I was in London I stayed on this great yacht in the middle of the Thames River.

You see, the last time I was there I stayed in a hotel but all the fans found out where I was and tried to phone in and wiped out the whole hotel's phone system, which made a few people very mad and so this time they weren't too sure they wanted me back. So I rented this yacht—and it was really kind of fun living on a yacht, anyway.

And there were always hundreds of people lining the banks of the river waving and yelling and all. It was sort of like a big party or something. I really don't like having to be isolated from my fans but at least this way they could all see where I was. And there were these tour boats that go up and down the river all day and I always tried to wave at the people on the boats. So I guess my British fans and I saw quite a bit of each other.

The only problem was that everytime I had to go ashore for an interview or a show or something we had to change the landing spot or there would be a big crowd there and I'd never get away from signing autographs. It was all like some sort of spy movie always trying to find the secret pier.

I heard later that a couple of girls actually jumped into the Thames and tried to swim out to the boat. I worried about them. That river didn't look very clean to me and they could have drowned or caught a cold or something. I hope they're OK.

I was only there for about a week but I did get a chance to meet some interesting people and have a little fun. I filmed a British TV show,

Top of the Pops, at this magnificent estate with all sorts of rolling lawns and antique cars and all that. And I even managed to throw a small party for some friends and some of the British press on board the yacht.

But all too soon it was time to go back home. This time the airport security people decided I should use the Queen's Building. It's usually used only for people like the royal family and visiting heads of states. The only other non-head of state type people who have used it before me were the Beatles. So I was kind of honored when I was told I'd leave through there.

There was a big crowd there too but everything was under control and everyone seemed to have a good time. I even got a chance to wave at a few fans.

And just as I was leaving the Chief Inspector of the London Police came up to me and said "Well done, young man. We haven't had a mob like this since the Beatles." Then he asked me for my autograph so I figured the police must not be too upset by the crowds!

Sitting on the plane on the way home I felt kind of sad to be leaving England, but I was looking forward to getting home too.

Oops, out of room again. Well next month I'll tell you all about a new hobby I've taken up!

Love! David

BY DAVID CASSIDY
