

Xayles and Port
Said. %'e went through
the Suez Canal and
dow» tb, @

Sea. It was all
tremendously exciting.
For the first time, I saw
dy deserts, and
Arab Soldre18 OI1
camels~ and ~1m tvee8
w1th *dates* grow,,.
on them, and
flying fish and
thousands of other
marvellous thi»@8

By the
sunrner of 1939, it
became obvious that
there was, goin@ t~, I
~ with Hitler 8
GerInany. On the next
day *afte1' B1'1ta1n
e»ter~*

I' got *into* my car
and drove north to
Nairobi, in Kenya, *to*
join the R@p. >
x Inonths
they t1 alned 118 1r1
small *811'planes* called
T1ger

th~ day8 were also
glorous There were
twenty of us training t
be pilo

out there in
Nairobi. Seventeen of
those twenty were
killed during the w

I myself was
shot down. My plane
crashed in the Libyan
desert a»d

burst into flames,
but I managed to get,
out and was finally
rescu~d b

our soldiers. In
1942 my injuries began
to give me too much
trouble ~d

I had to stop
flying. They gave me a
month's leave and then
sent

Washington, D. C.
as assistant air attache,
at this point: the United
Sta~

was already in the
war as well.

I was

twenty-six years old
when I arrived in
%'ashington, and I st;ll
had no thoughts of
becoming a writer.
During the morning of
my th1rd

day, I was sitting in my new office at the British Embassy when there

was a knock on my

door. "Come in."

.. A very small man with thick spectacles entered the room. "Forgive me

for botherng you,
he said. My nanle 18
FoI'esteI . C. S.
FoI'ester'."

I neally fell
out of Iny chair. Al'e
you joklNgP I said. No,
1. Said

he Said,
smibng. "That's
me."
~d it was. It

was the great writer himself.

"Look," he said. "A magazine called the *Saturday Evening Post* will

publish any story I write. I have a contract with them. And I have come

t6':you because I
think you might have a
good story to tell I
mean about

AN~ Come and have lunch with me," he said. "And while we're eatmg.

me
all about it. Tell me
your most exciting
adventure. 1*11
.:9'-;:;:"'!':~%..",4l'IIP:f
or the 8etrldall
Evening pest. The
Americ~ shou@ know
!:-!..":;:-!..~:;:t.this

war. and help us."

