

# World War II Copywork Collection

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# We Shall Fight on the Beaches

## Winston Churchill

Excerpt of a speech delivered to the House of Commons on  
June 4, 1940, after the successful evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk

*I have, myself, full confidence that if  
all do their duty, if nothing is neglected,  
and if the best arrangements are made,  
as they are being made, we shall prove  
ourselves once again able to defend our  
Island home, to ride out the storm of  
war, and to outlive the menace of  
tyranny, if necessary for years, if  
necessary alone. At any rate, that is  
what we are going to try to do. That  
is the resolve of His Majesty's  
Government—every man of them.  
That is the will of Parliament and the*

nation. The British Empire and French Republic, linked together in their cause and in their need, will defend to the death their native soil, aiding each other like good comrades to the utmost of their strength. Even though large tracts of Europe and many old and famous States have fallen or may fall into the grip of the Gestapo and all the odious apparatus of Nazi rule, we shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our

Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender, and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this Island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle, until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.



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June 4, 1940, after the successful evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk

I have, myself, full confidence that if all do their duty, if nothing is neglected, and if the best arrangements are made, as they are being made, we shall prove ourselves once again able to defend our Island home, to ride out the storm of war, and to outlive the menace of tyranny, if necessary for years, if necessary alone. At any rate, that is what we are going to try to do. That is the resolve of His Majesty's Government—every man of them. That is the will of Parliament and the

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