

Transcript of Eileen Powles Audio Clip

They closed Knightsbridge Underground Station nobody could go in. But the trains run along the bottom and then as you went down we had our GOR, Gunner Operation Room, where we gave information to the gun sites. Then further down there was a little single position, you know, plugging away, 'your number please'. And they came round asking for volunteers for overseas. Well, I was free, white and twenty-one and I thought [laughs] we'll have a go. I had no idea what was gonna happen plus the fact that I daren't tell my parents cos I was the youngest of four. The last one had – had – how do you tell your parents that the baby's flying the nest [laughs]. So I didn't. I didn't say anything because to be honest I didn't think anything would come off it. As I say I was called up September '42 and this was November '42, very quick but I thought, 'Oh, that's nothing'. So I didn't say a word and the next thing I know, 'Go and have a FFI', you know, twenty – fourteen days embarkation leave and you got to go and report back to the holding unit. So how do you tell your parents, after you've been home a fortnight that you're going overseas. So, ooh, I didn't [laughs]. Well, not until I was going out the door, I said, 'Cheerio mum and dad, this is embarkation leave. Bye!' and I was gone. I don't know how they reacted, I really don't. I don't know how they, you know, the baby of the family.