


Surname: Codling	First Name(s): Iris	Army Number: W/97328	
Maiden name (if applicable): Arch	Name used during service: Arch	Rank: Pte	
Main base: Aberporth Dunstable and Weedon Brussels & Bad Oeyenhausen, German	Training base: Warrington, Lancs Putney, London	Enrolled at: Coventry, Warwickshire	
Platoon/Section:	Company/Battery: Z.A.A. 21 st Army Group Rear	Group/Regiment: 1 Coy A.T.S. Signals	Command: Eastern Command
Year(s) of service: 23/10/1941 to 12/2/1946	Reason for discharge:	Trade: Switchboard Operator	
Uniform Issued: Khaki greatcoat Jacket Skirt Shirts Brown shoes Tie Cap Pink cotton bra Khaki knickers Stockings Cutlery Enamel mug Shoe and clothes brush Gas mask Steel helmet Kit bag Later: Shoulder bag Pullover Battledress jacket Slacks Leather sleeveless jerkin	Photo: 		

<p>Description of daily tasks:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I worked as a switchboard operator on various shifts including night work. In between shifts would go out with friends, enjoying a lot of dancing. Only very occasionally P.T. – never had to do fatigues. We were also excused “barracking of beds” due to working on various shifts. • I always worked on a telephone exchange, first as a telephonist, then after a signals course (at Putney, London) as a switchboard operator. Same work but a little more pay! • I had many different billets, from wooden or brick huts to houses that had been appropriated to accommodate army personnel. I thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent with the ATS.
<p>Pay book:</p>	<p>Not available.</p>
<p>Memorable moments:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After D Day I was posted to a holding unit in Reigate, Surrey. From there to sail across the channel to Osten. It was a very stormy, rough crossing. We were aboard a small coastal pleasure boat called Daffodil and all around us landing craft laden with troops were being tossed about in the heavy seas. Eventually we were allowed to land. • The next day we left for Brussels travelling in army trucks. We all fell silent when we saw around the country-side in Holland, parachutes still hanging from the branches of trees. • Our next move was after VE day when a group of us were selected for a posting in Germany.
<p>Photos:</p>	<div data-bbox="539 1149 1417 1704" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="547 1704 1409 1738">First shift in the Minden Truck Exchange, rebuilt in a factory, 1945</p>