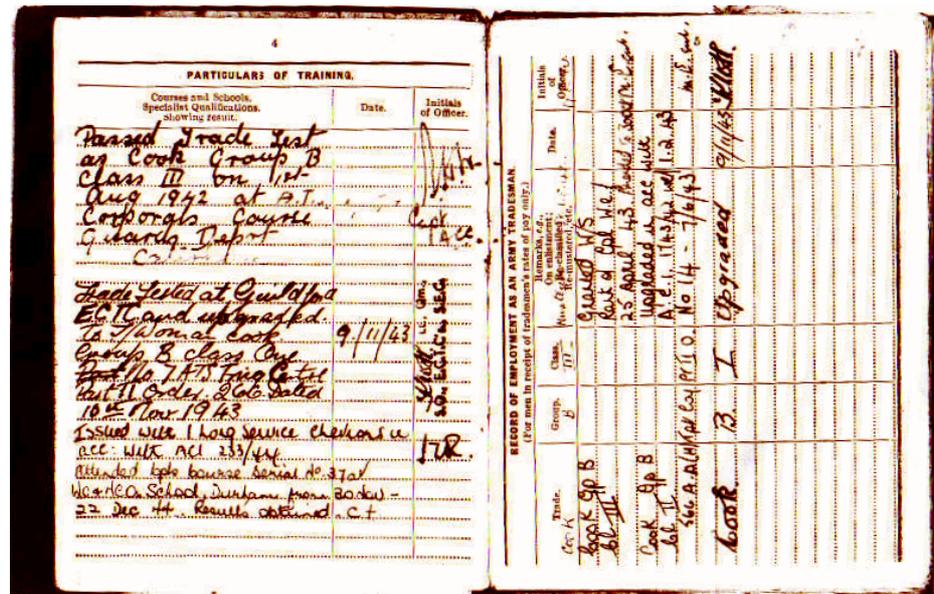


Surname: Evans	First Name(s): P. Grace	Army Number: W/42018	
Maiden name (if applicable): Marjoran	Name used during service: Marjoran	Rank: Corporal	
Main base: Lancaster Mountnessing Leigh-on-Sea Netley Ipswich Tonbridge	Training base: Lancaster Aldershot Caterham Durham	Enrolled at: Ipswich	
Platoon/Section: 12 th Platoon	Company/Battery: 566 Company	Group/Regiment: R.A.S.C.	Command: Eastern Command
Year(s) of service: 19/07/1940 to December 1945	Reason for discharge: Demob	Trade: 1 st Class Cook	
Uniform Issued: S.D. Caps Skirt Jacket Shirts 3 Tie Shoes Greatcoat Belts (corset) Jersey Knickers Panties Stockings Vests Respirator White overall Denim overall Helmet - steel	Photo:  Corporal P.G. Marjoran		
Description of daily tasks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Officer's Mess; breakfast, preparation for lunch. My helper would prepare all vegs etc, I saw to meat course and sweet. Evening busy with entertaining extra friends, three to four course meal. • In the Cookhouse; breakfast – porridge prepared overnight, bacon, beans, sausages, fried bread etc tomatoes, a variety, Dinner – roasts, shepherd pies, stews etc. Tea – bread and jam, cake, homemade in cookhouse. Supper – cocoa. 		

Pay book:



Memorable moments:

- I enlisted at Ipswich, reported for duty on July 19th 1940 getting myself to Euston Station by 12.30 to look out for an A.T.S. Officer in uniform. Many were there, ushered into a train that was to take us to York, then on to Lancaster. Marched to the hospital which had been taken over by the army. Into the mess (dining room) table laid out with bread butter and jam, no manners everybody grab, I found I had to do the same or go hungry.
- No rest after that long journey. Heads inspected and medical. Shown up to the dormitories, I choose the top bunk. Next day we were inoculated and vaccinated. Lucky mine never took, some girls had terrible arms. It was three weeks at Lancaster training. Beautiful weather, we were kitted out with uniform, everything had to be marked and polished. The army shoes, they gave us blisters, route marching in the heat, no sympathy. The Sergeant Major shouted at us on the parade square, marching left right left, swing those arms, click heels. Reveille was at 6.30, time to queue up for washing etc. beds to be left, every blanket folded top of bed. Breakfast another mad scramble, lights out, after roll call, ten o'clock no talking.
- Many girls left, before the three weeks were up, I made up my mind to stick it. After three weeks training I was given the opportunity to stay on for the six weeks cooks' course, which I thoroughly enjoyed. We came out of the building, lived in bell tents, built our own ovens with bricks, tins and mud. I got on very well with the officer in charge and passed out as a 1st class cook.
- Posting came through for me to report to a company in Anglesey North Wales. I made a fuss and stood out that I'd joined the A.T.S. to be with my Suffolk friends in the 12th Suffolk Platoon. They took pity on me, "well in the mean time, you will come and cook in the officers mess", must have been about 50, there were over 300 girls, a batch of 100 coming in every week, with 100 going out, so many officers. I enjoyed that, made friends, a beautiful part of the country.
- Toured the lake district one weekend, one never knew there was a war on, then the posting came through to join my friends in Suffolk, after a 7 day leave.
- I travelled to Shenfield Station was met there and went to Thoby Prior Mountnessing Essex. No peace there, bombs dropped all around us, as they left London, but we were just 12 A.T.S. living in the lodge, men in the Priory. There I cooked for officers, plenty of food, when they entertained, I have known them to have had 7 courses, black market for extra food. Only six officers, the Colonel and other officers were at Margaretting. We got used to the planes going or

returning from the city of London. Steel helmets were beside us, as we tried to sleep.

- We had our time off, actually I attended confirmation classes at Margareting and was confirmed by the Bishop of Chelmsford. The moral had to be kept up, plenty of concerts and dances. We slept well in spite of rough army blankets no sheets or pillows in 1940, they came later.
- It came hard to leave Thoby Priory, my next posting was to Leigh-on-Sea. From there I was sent on another cooks course to Aldershot under master chefs, from Lyons Corner House cafes. Before leaving Thoby Priory I had one stripe, but then I was sent to a Corporals course at Caterham in Surrey, the Guards Depot and came out with two and extra pay. To start it was 7/6d a week extra after the six week course at Lancaster gradually working up to £2 a week with Corporals pay and 1st class cook.
- Netley, next move to an AckAck gun site. It was horrible down there, shrapnel from our own guns, fell around the cookhouse, 1st A.T.S. was killed on that site. Steel helmet. My legs shook when the alarms went, cooks had to get up, provide hot drinks for the gunners, but one got used to it. After 8 weeks I asked for a posting back to the R.A.S.C. and came to Westerfield House, Ipswich where the officers decided I was to cook for them, but not for long, I was to take charge of the cookhouse and I had six girls working two shifts. While there the mess cook at our other platoon at Tovy Mache place at Bentley was taken ill, the major sent me there. A lovely place, the only A.T.S. but I was fetched every night and taken to work every morning.
- Then, I was sent on an N.C.O. course to Durham. It was very cold. The course finished in time to get us back to our companies before Christmas day. My results came through in the New Year, passed, so a celebration. The war finished whilst at Westerfield House, Ipswich, another celebration at the local pub.
- One of my postings before I was demobbed was at Tonbridge, later Tunbridge Wells. There I met Jane the lance corporal cook. We have been friends to this present day.

Photos:

ARMY FORM E. 511 R.

AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE
NOTICE TO REPORT FOR DUTY

Date July 1st 1940 Recruiting Office,
Ipswich

I have to inform you that you are now required to report for duty in the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

I am therefore to request that you will report to the ~~Officer Commanding~~ Euston Station by 12.30 on Friday July 19th A railway warrant for your journey is enclosed herewith.

You should report as early in the day as possible.

A list of articles which you should bring with you is given overleaf.

*Report to the Restoration
Seats Bureau by 12.30
at Euston
look out for an A.T.S. Officer
in uniform*

A.T.S. Recruiting Officer.

M1 4201/515 Rev. 1/40 G.P.O. Form E 511 R.

P.T.O.

