

Surname: Martin	First Name(s): Margaret	Army Number: W/256689	
Maiden name (if applicable): Park	Name used during service: Park / Martin	Rank: Private	
Main base: Sherringham Lowestoft Garleston	Training base: Pontifract Bedlington Isle of Whithorn	Enrolled at: Volunteered, Carlisle	
Platoon/Section:	Company/Battery: H.A.A. (M) Battery	Group/Regiment: Royal Artillery	Command: AckAck Command
Year(s) of service: Feb 1942 to August 1945	Reason for discharge: End of Hostilities	Trade: Radar	
Uniform Issued: Battledress eg jacket, trousers, hat, shoes/boots Overalls Dress uniform – shirts, tie, shoes, jacket, skirt, stockings, cap	Photo: 		
Description of daily tasks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After service training – square bashing etc – and aptitude tests – hence radar – it was equipment training, advancing with new technology. • Duties were 24 hours on and 24 hours off. • On duty periods were with relief team. • Had to keep the equipment in order and to be able to service the generator. 		
Pay book:	Not available		

Memorable moments:

- My strongest memory is the hardship and bleakness of the camp at Whithorn and similarly of being under canvas, Oct – Dec 1944 on the cliffs outside Lowestoft, followed by the luxuries at Garleston. Also the camaraderie of our group.
- The nature of our camp sites meant that there was little luxury: Nissen huts were the best, and the canvas the worst. Even the incident of a 'doodle bug' or rocket coming in at a height lower than our guns were then. The order "take cover" was given, but never passed to our own equipment, so we – yes me – helped the info going to the guns which meant they were downward facing, and scored a hit. Doubly lucky because there were mines on the beach. Some shrapnel was daringly collected as a memento.
- Each activity meant moving guns etc back from the cliff edge.
- I don't remember being hungry, but after I was married I was allowed to do cookhouse duty, and this was often requested – especially if we had a visitor.
- Our equipment was away from the 'digs' which caused consternation for some who were not used to darkness and movement, so at break/tea time, I was often asked, even awakened, to take drinks to relief crew (I was country born and bred).
- There was discipline but no real set pattern to a day; aircraft activity arranged that.
- The A.T.S. was a get-out for me – from farming – which I did not enjoy and remoteness, so it was enjoyable.
- The very best moment was of arriving at a former holiday camp in Garleston, where water – yes hot water ran out of taps – instead of tanks.
- Sherringham was a training session for Mark II.
- The 'Geordie' folks were wonderful to us and offered hospitality and occasional cash – 6d. – for a drink etc whenever we were out and off duty.

Photos:



My team but I am not in this photo



Our intake group at Pontefract. I am bottom right