

Q: I was in Cooks Road, in Southwark. He'd gone out to meet some friends in town. I was at home. All of a sudden the sirens went. The old lady downstairs - we only had 2 rooms upstairs, no water - when I looked she'd got the gas mask on. I laughed and all of a sudden he's come running back. He said "Come on, I'm taking you out." This little baby I had then, he was evacuated. He was in a nursery and they evacuated the nursery. I said "I can't. I've got my hair down". He said "I risked my life for you and all you're worried about is your hair". Anyway I went with him. We'd already put in for a flat at Camberwell Green by the bus station, Warner Road. Just before he got called up, we got the flat. Just before that my baby, little boy was taken away with meningitis. We'd got him home from the nursery. He went down to ..(?) They didn't like him, where he was. Course we nearly lost him, we were lucky. He was only getting on for three then. Anyway, it was in August we got the flat, and we was right at the top of the flats, Warner Road, 7 floors up, no lifts or anything, and it was opposite the bus garage. When he went in the army, when the raids did start bad, I used to have to go down mums in Camberwell Road. She lived down a little turning in Mansion Street. We used to go under the arches. When the raids did start they dropped a bomb - the railway was overhead and it was only a little turning - we was a bout three houses away from the railway. Mum and her friend they got in with a couple that run charabancs. They decided that he'd got enough people, he'd take us all out. He used to take us down at Dorking. A man down there used to have a shed for the men to sleep in and we used to sleep in the coach all night. That only lasted a month or two. It got too expensive.

R: You used to go down to Dorking every time there was a raid?

Q: Every night when the raids used to come on properly. But that got too expensive. Of course we had to come home from there. We stuck down at Piccadilly Underground station.

R: To start with you sheltered under the arches? And that was bombed, was it?

Q: There was a bomb dropped near it. They was after the railway and they was after the bus garage where I lived. Being right at the top, when my husband come home on leave we used to have to run down the bottom. He said to me "You should be evacuated". My little boy, he was always very weak and he suffered a lot with bronchitis. I was evacuated. They took us to Norfolk. When they got us down there they examined him and said "You've got to go in hospital". I said "No, I'm not leaving him". So he said "No. You're going with him. They put us in this hospital in Norwich. That was as bad as London really.

R: Do you mean it was being bombed?

Q: Yes. We was in the little beds. They had no hospital beds, the two of us had to sleep in the little bed. We stopped there and then they found us a billet with a friend that I went down with. She had a place and they put us in with her. I was only down there about three months and something happened, I know - My husband had got leave from the army cos he had abcess. I knew he wouldn't look after himself properly so I came home.

R: How many children did you have?

Q: I had three. But I only had the one. Fifteen years and after that I had another boy and then four years after that I had a girl.

R: So during the war you just had the one? That one was evacuated at the start of the war? By himself?

Q: When he was a baby. That's him. I had that suit made for him.

R: so he was taken when he was a baby. So who looked after him when he was evacuated?

Q: The nursery. They took a place out at Edenbridge, Sussex. On a farm. But my husband got what'sname and he had to bring him home. He said "I couldn't have him down there".

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R: Why not?

Q: I don't know. It was just his way with him. Anyway he come home and that's when he got the meningitis.

R: Do you remember him going, the day that he went to Edenbridge?

Q: No. They didn't let us go with them. It was in Walworth Road, this nursery, Sunderland Square. We got over there and I was worried it might have affected his brain but it never - He was quite all right afterwards. We used to go down the tube. I bought him that little suit. That little suit paid for itself - People used to give him money. An airman give him - He's got his wings on. He was in there a year or two. I don't know quite the date that they went to the African landing. He'd come home and he was going to have a week's leave. He come home on a Saturday and he said "We're going abroad. But I think we're only going to Ireland. I'd like you to be evacuated again". I said "Allright, don't worry. I'll be allright". He went out on the October landing. I didn't know where he was. I didn't hear at all until the end of January. He couldn't write or anything. He went all through Africa, come home, got a week's leave. He said "They can't send me abroad again. I must have a month's leave in this country". He went back that week. I knew he was only over for Wanstead Common and I didn't see him. On the Whitsun Holiday, I had 3 sisters, 3 younger than what I was. I said to them "Let's go for a ride over there. I wonder what's happened. I wonder if he's sneaked out or something and got caught". When we gets over there I could see him right out in the middle and there was all fixed railings (bayonets?) round there. I made a joke of it. I've laughed. I said "I bet he's doing his nut out there". He said "You're laughing at....(?)".

Anyway, he went out on D-Day. He had one week's leave after coming home. He went all through France, Germany till it was practically over. For 4 years I brought him up on his own for the most part. When he was in England he used to come home and see him now and again. He was about 6, 7 when his dad really come out of the army. Really, he didn't know his dad a lot. ...(?)

R: How did they get on when he arrived back.

Q: He didn't want to know his dad at first. I think that upset my husband a bit. It took him a time.

R: Do you remember particular times when he didn't want to know him?

Q: The first night he didn't come home till late. Course he was all scruffy. He was in bed. We only had one bedroom and I had a little side bed. Me and him used to sleep together most of the time, especially when we were up the flat and we had to come down. I practically lived at my mum's house down at Camberwell Road, practically all the time cos she was worried about us being up there. Being the bus garage, they used to be after the bus garage all the time. There was a tram garage along Camberwell Road. She used to say to me "Don't stay up there. You come down here". I practically lived down with her all the time. That's when we all finished up at Piccadilly station.

R: Can you tell me about that first night when he was...?

Q: He come out and he looked at him. I can't exactly explain it but he was a bit distant with his dad. Course, as time went on...He got demobbed soon after.

R: How did you cope bringing him up for 4 years by yourself?

Q: I had to. I had to go to work and all. He used to suffer with bronchitis a lot. When he was young he cut teeth and then it kept on. They used to say it was bronchitis but I wonder now if it was asthma cos my little girl's had it. It used to be ever so queer. One day my husband come home, before he went abroad. I was only getting his money. I never had any dinner properly. I could have gone down my mum's cos she was a good woman and she wouldn't let

me go without. But when he come home, I didn't expect him to becoming in. He said "What's all this?" I said "I just can't afford to get things". I sent through to the army or whatever you call it and I said that I can't go to work cos of my son. I had a man come down and he looked at him and he was breathing terribly. He said "Is he always like this?" I said "Yes he is". When they come round I think they sent me about 5 or 7 shillings extra. I was insulted with it. I phoned back and I said "I know that I shouldn't leave my son but I've got to go to work because we can't live on what you're giving". Cos I had to give him all the best food. Mum used to look after him when I was at work but when there were raids and that I used to be worried about my life at times.

R: What was the work you did?

Q: I worked in printing place. We was doing the clothing coupons. They checked it. It was at Old Street. I stopped there. I was evacuated to Norfolk. I wasn't working then. But then when the flying bombs started we was up all night. We didn't know what was going on. We was back home then and we was down the shelter. He got bad and I thought "It's no good me doing this". There was another young woman there in the flats where I lived. She had a little girl. She was in hospital. She had TB. She said "What are we going to do now?" I said "I know what we'll do. Even if we get a day's break. My mother in law and my other family had all evacuated down at Hitchin. We'll have a ride down there for a day". When we gets down there, she wanted a place where she could come up to London to see her little girl. They sent her to this Town Hall. While we was in this Town Hall we had someone come round and see us. They said "Would you like a billet?" She said "Oh yeah I would". They said "How about you?" She said "Stop with me". and they found us a place in - elderly man he was, he had a paper stand and that. He was a bit of a miser. We went in there and we took his house over but we used to look after him. That lasted 3 or 4 months. I had my flat going upstairs and we had an elderly woman next door to us and she was ever so nice. She used to have my key for if anything happened. I went home one weekend to do something and when I gets home she said "Oh Nan. I've had a man up here from the welfare". I said "Welfare?" She said "Yeah". He wanted to go in your place. You'd asked for some blankets or something. But I knew because I'd already been up the week before. I knew it wasn't. I wouldn't open the door. Wouldn't give them the key". That worried me. I thought if someone knows I'm away and they're after my place. So I come home from there. I stopped then. I didn't go away no more.

R: And you had your son with you at that time?

Q: Yes. He was going to school down there then.

R: When you said the raids started, where were you first sheltering?

Q: When they first started I was up in Warner Road in the flats, on the 7th floor, right opposite the bus garage.

R: So where did you go to shelter?

Q: I used to go down mums. We went from there into the charabanc, used to take us to Dorking. Then we finished up all the time down at Piccadilly Circus.

R: The railway arches you sheltered in? Would you just stay therein the road for hours and hours in the cold?

Q: In the arches, yes.

R: Wasn't it freezing cold.

Q: It was and it wasn't a nice place. It was all places where people put their dumps and what'sname. We had to make the best of it. But if we thought we was safer, we wasn't because they was after the railways all the time.

R: Did you get wet when it rained? Did the rain come through the arches?

Q: No. There was a door. You could shut the doors. It was like a square, Mansion Street was. It wasn't very big. It went round in a square and the arches run along the back. We was about 3 doors away from the railway, where mum lived.

R: You said that a bomb dropped near it? Were you in there when the bomb dropped?

Q: When the bomb dropped near, that's when we started going down the (tube).

R: Did you feel that bomb?

Q: We could hear the vibrations but we didn't know where it was. But then I had a terrible experience. This woman, her son was in the regular army. I was going out with him. He was going to Gibraltar for a couple of years. Something went on between us. We were supposed to get engaged and we didn't. He come home and he'd spent his money or something and we didn't get engaged. He said to me "You're not sure of yourself, are you?" I said "I'm sure of myself but I don't think you are". Anyway, I was younger then. I was very friendly, she wa a lovely woman. He was in the Kings Fusilliers. They was the first lot to go out into France. He got killed out there before it started properly.

R: The British Expeditionary Force?

Q: He was on that Maginot line. He got killed. When the bombs started properly, she didn't live far from mum. Just round the corner. On my birthday she used to give me a party and that. We got very friendly. There was her, her husband and her son and daughter. Just across the road in a little block of flats was another daughter with her husband and baby. A bomb come over one night. They went over there cos the baby wasn't well, into the girl's flat the bottom. And the bomb come down and killed the lot of them. I had a big photograph of them, dunno if I've still got it. That broke my heart really because I knew them well. The night - I dunno if it was the night he got killed or whatsname - I know I woke up in the night and I called out Jim - cos I was married then, to my husband. His name was Den, see. He said "What's the matter?" I remember afterwards calling out Jim.

R: Jim was the name of the..?

Q: The fellow. He knew cos he, my husband used to be terrible jealous of him. When he come home from Gibraltar I didn't, I knew. He got married out there anyway. He said he got married to spite me but he didn't. He had 2 kiddies. She was a Gibraltarian. I don't know what happened to her. When I went down to the funeral they said "They took them all away in the dust carts". They had a big memorial in Brenchley Gardens, for all the soldiers, and his name was on it.

R: So you were going out with him at the beginning of the war, were you?

Q: No. I got married in 1936. I had the boy the day after my anniversary in 1937.

R: So this was a boyfriend from before that?

Q: Yes, and he was still in the army then.

R: So how old were you when you got married?

Q: I was 26.

R: You were born in 1910.

Q: 1910 yeah. The boy I had on the day after my anniversary the following year. And I went 15 years and had the other two.

R: How did you hear that he had been killed?

Q: I don't know. Someone told me and I was shocked. I knew the same week cos we had friends round, they all knew one another. Soon after that, tell you the truth what happened...He said that he was going to save up and send the money home for his mum to buy me the engagement ring. She did. It was a lovely ring. When I heard about it I wondered what happened. I knew she let one of the daughters have it. Though I done that she said "Nan. Don't worry about it. You done the right thing. You want to enjoy yourself. Make the best of things". We kept friends. We was still friends then after that. When I went there I thought "I'll go out and see about their funeral". And they told me they'd took them away. The ring must have gone with her daughter. I would have loved to have got the ring, but of course I didn't.

R: Do you remember any of the campaigns like Dig for Victory" or the Weapons Campaigns?

Q: Dig for Victory I remember, but I had too much to do and think about to do anything like that. But another friend of ours, when the flying ombs started, that's when I went down to Hitchin, but I only stopped down there for 3 months as I said. But one of the friends of ours, they got killed by one of them flying bombs.

R: Do you remeber when you first realised what these flying bombs were?

Q: Didn't realise till we went down to whatsname cos we was up all night long and no sirens was going or anything, they were all clear. I don't know how it was, we ome out of the shelter, I wasn't in the flats then, cos it had quietened down a lot then. I said to her, we'll just go down there, "Be day out for us". I tell you we stopped down there 3 months.

R: Down there was where?

Q: Hitchin.

R: Do you remember when the flying bombs first started? When you realised that they were different?

Q: That was when we were down at Hitchin, we found out then. I did come back before they'd finished. That's when I come back when that friend of ours got killed at Southwark. They was more at Kennington. They was a young couple, no kiddies. It just come down and they were blown to pieces.

R: Do you remember the V2's as well. The rockets near the end of the war?

Q: That is what they called to flying bombs. They used to stop. You'd walk along and you'd look up and think "Now, where they going?".

R: That's the V1's, that used to come across and then stop and drop. Then there were the other ones that just came over and you didn't know anything till they'd landed.

Q: I can't quite remember. There's such a lot to think about. My brother, he was on the Russian Convoy. He used to go backwards and forward to Russia. Every time there was a ship sunk they used to get 24 hours leave. He used to come home to mum cos he had lost his wife. She got tonsillitis and the germ from her throat went through her body and killed her. They were only married about 6 or 7 months and he buried her in her wedding dress.

R: What do you remember of rations and food in the war?

Q: We used to get our rations and the old boy had an apple tree and we used to cook apples and make him apple pie. When we looked, he had a little cupboard up over where the food cupboard was and he used to put all his little its up there, all his little bits of sugar and that. We had some laughs really with it. You had to make a laugh.

R: Were you able to get food in any unofficial ways?

Q: Not really. Only - my mum had 12 of us, my dad died when he was 49 and left 12 of us, I was 13 and there was 5 younger than me and there was 6 older.

R: How did you survive?

Q: It wasn't how we survived. How my mum survived. I don't know how she done it really. I was at home. He was invalided out of the first army. He had rheumatic fever. Then at Ruskin park they made a soldiers hospital up there. He used to come down the street and I remember him cos he was very tall and he was in a blue uniform. He was taken bad, he was only in hospital 2 or 3 days and cos he died of pneumonia and not off his heart, the pension stopped like that. I was at home looking after, getting the others ready to go to school while she was up the hospital. When it happened she had a lot to do and when her pension stopped she had to go up the - they used to call it the UAB or something like that - and they told her that the elder ones was enough to keep all us little-ums. Yet my twin brothers had only just started work. They was next to me. They had only just started to work so you can guess what they was earning. About 8 shillings a week. She did have a struggle. Anyway, the British Legion, they took her case up and they got her pension back for her.

R: The rations during the war? Did you get anything on the black market?

Q: Not really. Where I worked there was a little cafe and I never knew nothing about it but there was a fella in there and he used to say to me, he was looking after me cos he knew that my husband was abroad, he used to get me cakes now and again and put them in my bag. When I got home, I never used to know. Sometimes there'd be a little bit of butter and that. But I didn't know where they come from or how he got it.

R: Do you remember enjoying yourself much during the war? Were you able to go out to dances or cinema?

Q: We used to love dancing. We'd been brought up dancing. We used to go into ..(?) with a friend and that. That's where I met my husband, dancing. There are his medals. He had about five. I was at work then, cos the children were'nt very old then and I was doin early morning cleaning. I come home one Friday morning, went up into my flat - I was living at Peckham then - put my key in the door - Good job I'd been down Mile End shopping, they'd got the door open. All of a sudden two fellas come out. One had his hands like that and he pulled his face like that. The other was behind me and had my husband's razor case. This was after the war. He's got it like that. I stepped out - I don't know really what happened - but when I went in to see what they had done to my place - I had th police up and that. There was onlt two doors there. One there and the friend next door who had my youngest boy Michael. He was about 9 or 10 then. He give him a bag of all foreign coins, there was even an Iron Cross in it. So they had all that. When we looked, all that was left of my husband's lot was - there's one there - there's one 1939...I don't know how they mislaid them. The kiddies were saving up for holiday and they even smashed their boxes open.

R: Going back to dancing? Where did you used to go dancing?

Q: Not much during the war because you was frightened to go out in the night. Down the tube we used to enjoy ourselves, used to have a sing-song. Everybody was friendly and you used to make the best of it down there.

R: What sort of turns would people do?

Q: All different turns, sing and that. They loved my little boy, specially when he was in his uniform.

R: Why did you go to Piccadilly Circus?

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Q: I don't know. I don't know if we tried to get in nearer or if that was perhaps the only one we could get. Course you got your own place and you kept your own things. You had ...(?) all the time.

R: So you left your things there even when you weren't there?

Q: Yes. Someone looked after them I suppose> They all knew what it was.

R: And nobody would touch them? You'd leave them there all day?

Q: Yeah. They was all done up. It was bedding, that's all it was, that we used to sleep in.

R: Did you never think that people might take it?

Q: Not then. You didn't worry then. Like down the street where my mum lived - All us being like we were she had a key on the door on a string and we used to come in and out. You felt safe to go out. Now you've got to bolt and lock yourself in everywhere.

R: At the end of the war, do you remember the VE Day celebrations?

Q: Yes. We had a party down mum's turning. We was up practically all night, especially VE Night. There was a pub on one corner called the Castle. And there was a doctor on the other corner. The Castle - they was all in there - we was all in there. My boy was down there - I suppose someone was looking after him. We finished up having a bonfire and all that night. That was lovely. Then they had the party down the turning.

R: What were your feelings on VE Night?

Q: Relief. Cos I knew then that my husband would be home. But when I didn't hear from him when he went out to Africa, I nearly had a breakdown. I never used to drink. But my eldest sister, she said to me "I'll make you ..(?)" and she got me a Guinness. Ever since then I kept on the Guinness. That's all I drink. I've never abused myself with it. Even now at Sunday dinner times I'll have one with some lemonade in cos I've got a very rare blood disorder, I got it from my dad, it's hereditary. I got light ..(?) cos I lose a lot of blood and I have to have transfusions. And I got arthritis and now they found out I got something wrong with my bowels. I'm still keeping going. I'll be 85 this year so I've been lucky really in my life. I've had a good life. They wanted to operate on me but my doctor said "No". They wouldn't operate. They said at my age it was too dangerous. So I've just got to put up with it.

R: What about clothing during the war?

Q: That was a thing that we couldn't do. I always kept myself nice and tidy.

R: Were you aiming to be fashionable at all?

Q: Yes. I've got a photo of me. I had that done to send to him when he was abroad. I never used to like having my photo done much. I sent it abroad. There is his army book but you can't tell much from out of there. He finished up as a stevedore on the boats. He never had much of a job before he went - he was only a builders labourer. He was in and out of work. That's why I used to have to go to work.

R: What were you doing at the beginnihng of the war, or were you just looking after your boy?

Q: I was looking after him.

He finished up work and we was trying to get this flat cos we was in these 2 rooms and we never had no war or anything upstairs. We used to have to go down for our water and that. That's when I put the boy in the nursery. It was only at the top of the turning where we lived. And I used to go to work. But when he was ill I didn't go to work. On the Monday he come home and he said "I've got some good news for you. I've finished up again". I had a job then

and I stopped - I told him that the baby was ill. As he was ill on the weekend, we was moving the following weekend. I said "The only thing is, I'll have to go back to work". He said "You go back to work and I'll go up the hospital. My mum practically looked after him and all when I was working.

When we moved, I didn't hardly have anything ready. The men that moved us was very good. When we moved to Warner Road.

R: When your little boy went away by himself. Do you remember the day that he went?

Q: I think they took him on the weekend. No, I'm getting a bit muddled.

R: Weren't you terribly upset?

Q: Course I was. I didn't like leaving him at all. It broke my heart when he had to go in Gordons with meningitis.

R: But before when he went in the nursery? Did you go and visit him or what?

Q: Yes. That's when we went down to visit him, My husband and I went down there...

R: and on the first visit you brought him back?

Q: Yeh - First visit we brought him back. So really, the first 4 or 5 years we had a hard life.

R: People talk about things being different after the war. That people weren't doing things together in the same way. Did you feel that?

Q: No I didn't feel that. I was at work best part of the time cos I had a full time job until I fell through the foyer (?). I was at work and I suppose I didn't have a lot of time to think about things like that. He was still only a labourer when he come out from the army. Then he got a friend of his, they went fitting water pipes, that wasn't too bad. That's when I had the boy. When we got a bit down I got a morning job, a cleaning job of a morning.

R: Did you feel at all resentful about the effect that the war was having on your life?

Q: Oh yes. We all did really. It was really 6 years out of our lives, 5 years out of our lives. When you was in London - he used to be in different places before all this started - The African landing and the D-Day - I didn't really see a lot of him then. Its funny how things go. I had the boy on the November 24th and exactly 4 years after I had a girl on the 26th November. I had a terrible time though with the boy.

R: Were you able to write to your husband? I know there was a period when you didn't hear from him.

Q: I didn't hear from him. I nearly had a breakdown. I couldn't sleep. I didn't know what had happened to him cos we knew there had been a landing somewhere but we didn't know where cos everything was kept (secret) > Like D-Day - nobody knew when it was going to happen or what. He went all through Africa, cos of being on the boats and that. When he come home he said "I don't care if I'm standing at Camberwell Green with a penny in my pocket. I never want to see no more of the sea..(?) .the country".

R: Being one of 12 children, did you stick together during the war?

Q: Oh yes, we was.

R: How much did you see of your brothers and sisters? Did they live close?

Q: We all lived together really. MY mum couldn't get rid of us. The eldest ones were nearly all 30 before they got married. She said "Bloody someone get going". Course when my dad died

my eldest brother thought he was going to take over. Course the twins - they was so much alike they was identical. Even the people down the street bought them boxing gloves. We had some good times. We used to have little parties sometimes of a night when mum and dad or a friend used to go out. I used to have friends back Her friend lived opposite and I was friends with her daughter. Her daughter and me used to go dancing. We went round the night school. I said "Mum, can I go to night school?" and she said "Yes. You might as well". That's when we learned dancing. She said "I didn't know -I sent you round to learn, not to learn to dance".

(Mrs Quinlan talks about her current illness)

R: During the war, were you scared?

Q: Oh yes. Scared out of our lives. Specially of those flying bombs.

R: Were you ever out in the streets when there were raids?

Q: I suppose theremust have been some time that I was out. When these flying bombs come over, 2 or 3 times I was out .You'd hear them stop and wonder wher it is going.

R: Could you see them?

Q: No you couldn't see them really. They was so quick. But you knew when you heard the humming stop that something was going to happen somewhere. This one that killed a friend of ours - I was at Camberwell and they was just at Walworth so it must have been just near. That was the biggest shock, though. All that family, when they all got killed, wiped out.

R: Would you take shelter when you were working if there wasa raid?

Q: Yes. You'd have to. They had shelters prepared in there. You'd have to go down till it was over. We had to cos we were in machinery then.

R: Do you remember the Americans or the Canadians being here?

Q: Yes. When we was down at Hitchin they was full of them there. It used to upset me and my friend cos - her kiddie was at school cos he was getting on for 5 then, he was turned 5 cos that was when the flying bombs come over so that was practically the end then - Our soldiers that was down there - Nobody seemed to want to know about them. We used to sit and talk to them of an afternoon, as we were waiting for the kiddies to come out of school. But the Americans were living it up down there. We never had nothing to do with them.

R: Did it upset you to see that?

Q: It upset me to think that...

END OF AUDIO TAPE, SIDE A

SIDE B

Q: It was upsetting cos people seemed to shun our boys like they didn't want to know them. Now and again we used to say "We'll go out for a walk". Some times the old boy usedto be indoors. We went in to have a drink one night. I said "Come on. We ain't stopping in here". They was all Americans throwing their weight about. With our boys when we used to sit and wait, we used to sit and talk to them a lot.

R: Did the attitude of the British women?

Q: yes cos some of them were floosies. They was glamorous. I wasn't all that interested. All I was interested in was the boy.

R: What about prisoners of war. I know there were Italian prisoners of war quite close to here. Did you have any contact with them?

Q: No. I never seen none of them. My husband didn't like the Americans much either. He wasn't against them. He was in charge of some German prisoners he said. They was going along and they started ..showing out to these prisoners and taking liberties, being clever I suppose. Can't help it, I suppose, it's just their way.

R: Did you ever have to do any war work like fire-watching or ARP work?

Q: No cos I was at work practically all the time so I couldn't do much.

R: Did you seemuch of the work that they did?

Q: Not really.

R: What about the blackout?

Q: yeah .Made my own blackout. Got the big sheets and rolled them up and down.

R: Rolled them like a blind?

Q: Yeah. Made it like blinds. Cos being up the top. Then we only used to have little candles, never had the lights on properly, sometimes little candles. But I didn't stop up there all that long anyway. As I say, when they got bad I had to go down mums cos she used to say to me "Don't stop up there".

R: What about being out in the street in the blackout?

Q: I wasn't out much of a night time. It wasn't very nice at all. My husband come home once and he said "I'd sooner be out where I am than down here". Cos he had to run down. That's when he said "You can't stop here. You'll have to be evacuated". As I said, I did try it a couple of times.

END OF INTERVIEW
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