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SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1943
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A.T.S. CORPORAL HELPED DOCTOR TO TEND RAID VICTIMS

When L/Corporal Mary Burdon arrived back late at her unit on the morning after a heavy raid on a North East coast town recently, she took with her a note pencilled on a torn scrap of paper and addressed to her Commanding Officer. It was a testimony from a civilian doctor that L/Cpl. Burdon had worked by his side unceasingly throughout the raid and had accompanied him as he passed from one casualty to another, washing wounds and giving first aid under bombing and machine gun fire.

L/Cpl. Burdon volunteered for the A.T.S. in June, 1941, when she heard that her father, a Merchant seaman, had been lost at sea when his ship was torpedoed.

On the evening of the raid, she was off duty, and went to her home not far away, to spend a few hours with her mother. She was told that her mother was at the local cinema, but when she got there she found that it had been bombed. She reported to the police station that she was unable to get back to her camp, and then went out to help with rescue work. She fetched water and helped the doctor to tend the wounded.

Before she joined the A.T.S., L/Cpl. Burdon was a professional singer and dancer. She first appeared on the stage when she was 12, and performed in pantomime and other stage shows at North Country theatres for four years before she joined up.

L/Cpl. Burdon, whose home is in South Shields, is now serving in the Quartermasters stores of a mixed A.A. Battery in Northern Command. Her duties include looking after the laundry and taking it in to the town, cleaning rifles and issuing ammunition.

MILITARY AFFAIRS

NOTE: Photo from P.N.A.