PART-TIME WAR WORKER

JUST A GOOD AFTERNOON'S WORK

Source 3- Government report on number of houses bombed in England (1945)

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES (EXCLUDING LONDON CIVIL DEFENCE REGION) WITH 100 OR MORE TOTALLY DESTROYED "COST OF WORKS" DWELLINGS.

Local Authority.	Number of Properties.
Sunderland.	137
Hull.	844
Sheffield.	213
Billericay.	116
Great Yarmouth.	224
Hornchurch.	368
Norwich.	200
Romford.	410
Southend-on-Sea.	144
Thurrock.	123
Portsmouth.	947
Bournemouth.	361
Southampton.	339
Bath.	285
Bristol.	1,160
Exeter.	152
Plymouth.	1,229
Cardiff.	398
Swansea.	366
Birmingham.	1,192
Coventry.	1,002
Nuneaton.	120
Birkenhead.	359
Bebington.	134
Bootle.	156
Crosby.	111
Liverpool.	519
Manchester.	100
Stretford.	177
Wallasey.	380
Canterbury.	126
Dover.	396
Folkestone.	139
Hastings.	127
Sevenoaks.	119
Reigate.	103
Eastbourne.	191

| 37 Local Authorities. | 13,467 |

Dear Diary,

Today we woke up unexpectedly to find Mr and Mrs Johnson standing sadly in our room. We had a shock for in their hand they held a telegram. They read it out to us and we suddenly realised the news. Quickly, we broke into tears for the tragic news was that our mother had died for our house, which mother was in, had been bombed. Also so suddenly at that point, we had become orphans because our Father had died in war unexpectedly.

'Food during the war was not easy to come by, and most things were rationed, and I can remember my mother trying to get the best value for her "points". We ate dried eggs, spam, and on occasion, even used dried milk.

One day we received a food parcel, which came from America, and it included packets of noodles which I had never seen before amongst other things. Who it came from, and from where, we never found out, but it was very much appreciated.'