

**SOURCE G:** This is an extract from information gathered by the Mass Observation Archive on soldier's opinions of the ATS. The Mass Observation Archive is a social research organisation and studies the everyday lives of ordinary people in Britain. They do this by asking people their opinions on certain topics. On this occasion they asked soldiers what they thought of women in the ATS. The date at the top of the report is 18 October 1941.

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### Soldiers attitude

46 Speaking very roughly and generally, the soldiers look upon the ATS as despicable but rather useful; in any case they are not a main factor anywhere. In our hut, for instance, where there are some twelve or fourteen unmarried men, some of whom do take women out, there isn't one who even knows an ATS well. I don't mean by this that they are unpopular; the few who are good-lookers are very much sought after, and there would not be one who could not get a man if she wanted. Round the ATS quarters late at night there are often 20 or 30 petting couples. But the number of ATS to soldiers is perhaps 1 in 30 or less, and I have seen no signs of competition for the privilege of an ATS company.

From other points beyond the sexual - in which I include dance partners, etc. - the ATS are completely ignored. This, as far as I can gather, is not through want of trying on the soldiers part but rather want of interest on the ATS. Only one attends evening classes, for instance, Toc H and LWH groups can't interest any of them at all. They live rather a separate, isolated life.