

Transcript of Audio Clip with Walter Bellsham

For the first of 1940, we were being bombed every day. Every day: day raids, night raids. I used to see – oh god – I used to see London cos looking across there and there you could see the red glow, you know. Red glow and cos often the Germans – they used to drop their bombs before they got to London. A lot of the jerries, they didn't want to get involved with the flak. We had an ack-ack gun which used to be parked on the side of the house, on the corner just up the road here. A mobile unit, you know, with [unclear] so they were everywhere with that gun. So as they used to drop their bombs, before they got to the middle of London. A lot did of course cos the fire guided them in. They used to come up as Thames Estuary, which is over there. So they would drop their bombs on the outskirts of London which is here. We were in a London borough so all round this area Croydon, Beckenham, Bromley, Catford, Down, all south of the river and parts because they tried to get to the dock 's which is the East End, that's what they were after. They would drop their bombs in places like this which although we're a London borough, we're rural. We're rural so we used to get a pasting – we used to get a pasting.