

On Her Majesty's Service

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WHENEVER a top scientist at Waltham Abbey's Explosives Research and Development Establishment wants to get anywhere in a hurry he calls for one of the centre's three chauffeurs.

But he will not get a rather sinister-looking gent with peaked cap, dark glasses, and side-burns to match... instead he will definitely get a woman driver, and quite probably attractive 23-year-old Vivienne Course.

For Vivienne, of 4 The Green, is the youngest ever of a team of three women chauffeurs at the Ministry of Technology establishment.

A former pupil at King Harold County Secondary School, she has been at the wheel of one sort of vehicle or

another since she was 17 and joined the W.R.A.C.

But now a change from rugged jeeps to a smooth-riding Hillman Minx has given her the sort of job that most other girls would envy.

"I like meeting different people, and I'm always doing that," said Vivienne. "You might think a lot of them would be snooty and sit in the back seat without saying a word, but everybody's very friendly and they always have a chat."

Although the job sometimes means early morning dashes to London Airport or a railway station, it often necessitates a drive to Salisbury Plain, Chesterfield, or Bedford.

"I could be called upon to drive almost anywhere, and it can be quite exciting," said Vivienne.

And she made a surprising admission when she added, "I must admit that the worst drivers on the road are the

women—they're either good or very bad, and many are very bad."

The Waltham Abbey girl is continuing a custom of female chauffeurs at E.R.D.E. that began during the second world war when men were engaged on the battle fronts.