The Spy Dilemma

You are a young Jewish teenager named Marthe living in a town just outside of Paris, France in 1944. Your town has been liberated from Nazi occupation and you hope that the war will soon be over. Despite the fact that there is a war going on, your parents insisted that you have a well-rounded education. Unfortunately, you could not go to school because it was too dangerous, so you have been homeschooled until now.   They taught you everything from math to history to foreign languages. The last couple of years have been difficult for you because you have had to live in hiding. You have been lucky enough to have escaped occupation without harm, but two of your brothers were captured and killed.

You have the option of returning to a normal life, but you decided to join the war effort instead. When you report for duty the first day, a woman who seems to be in charge asks you a bunch of questions. They all seem simple enough and then she asks you if you know any languages besides French. When you tell her German and English, she looks you up and down and stares at you for about a minute—creepy! Then she walks into an office and you can see through a glass window that every person in charge is whispering and staring at you.

Finally they call you in. Apparently your blue eyes, blonde hair and German fluency have caught their attention. They want you to help by being a spy. This is a dangerous mission for anyone but especially dangerous for someone who is Jewish. You know the risks, but you know how helpful you could be…what do you do?

Marthe Cohn

http://lali.toutsimplement.be/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/marthe-cohn.jpg

Marthe Cohn was a Jewish girl who lived just a few miles from the German border in France. After her town was liberated, she joined French forces as a spy and secretly entered Germany twice to gain information for the allied forces.

Behind Enemy Lines: The True Story of a French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany by Marthe Cohn and Wendy Holden

http://articles.latimes.com/2000/jul/14/local/me-52943