

Casanuova,
Civitella,
Arezzo.

25 January 45.

STATEMENT OF:-

GUALDANI Lidia,
Civitella,
Arezzo.

Female.
Aged 22 years.

Who saith,

I am the daughter of GUALDANI Natale, aged 47 years, a farmer and the niece of GUALDANI Aurelio, aged 36 years, both of whom were killed on the 29th. June 1944. They both had lived in this house all their lives.

About 0630 hours on Thursday, 29th. June 1944, a party of fifteen German soldiers came to our house and ordered us outside. These Germans were dressed in camouflaged smocks and some wore steel helmets while others wore Field Service caps. They were all armed with automatic rifles and carried stick grenades in their belts.

Outside the house the Germans searched my father and my uncle and afterwards we, my father, uncle and two cousins aged eight and four years respectively, were made to walk to the bridge which is about 500 metres from our house.

When we reached the bridge I saw about a hundred women, children and men gathered there. Some of these I knew as residents of the district. On our arrival at the bridge my father and uncle were again searched.

I saw also that there were about sixty more Germans at the bridge guarding the civilians. After we had been there about an hour, a German military truck arrived and a machine-gun was taken from it and set up, on the ground facing us. This truck was large and covered in with canvas but I could see no markings on it. When the machine-gun had been set up, a German soldier asked us in perfect Italian who had killed their comrades. None of us made any reply.

A few minutes later, a motor cyclist arrived from the direction of CIVITELLA and he spoke to the Germans who were guarding us. Immediately afterwards the German soldiers started shouting for the women and children to go at least one kilometre away. I took my two cousins away to the house of my aunt near OLIVETO.

I returned to my home later that day. I never saw my father or my uncle alive again.

I have read over this statement. It is true and correct. I herewith append my signature.

(Sgd) GUALDANI LIDIA.

Statement written down/....