

Mulinello,  
Cornia,  
Arezzo.

2 January 45.

STATEMENT OF:-

POLLETTI Emilio, Male.  
Mulinello, Aged 22 years.  
Cornia,  
Arezzo.

Who saith,

I am a farmer, unmarried, and have lived here here all my life.

About 0530 hours on Thursday, 29th. June 1944, I was at home when looking through a window of my house I saw a party of about 300 German soldiers marching along the road towards CORNIA. Just after they had passed the farm they split up into small groups and extended across the fields but kept their general direction towards CORNIA. I can give no description of these soldiers except to say that they were dressed like German soldiers. I also saw several German Army lorries parked about a kilometre down the road towards MONTE SAN SAVINO. I also saw three soldiers posted as sentries to cover the road leading out of the valley. CORNIA is at the top of this valley. All through the morning I heard bursts of machine gun fire from the sentries and a lot of firing from the direction of CORNIA.

About 1230 hours, I saw a party of about ten to twelve women and children passing my farm from the direction of SOLAIA. On enquiring the reason for their moving they told me that they were running away because they could see CORNIA burning. I then left my farm and went into hiding on a hill about two kilometres from the farm.

From there, at about 1730 hours, I saw about 200 German soldiers leave the vicinity of SOLAIA and saw SOLAIA burning. I also saw my brother's four sons enter the farmhouse. I went immediately to my brother's farm and in consequence of what the boys told us, we went to SOLAIA, where we saw several houses and also a barn burning. We could do nothing that night as the fire was burning fiercely.

On the morning of Friday, 30th. June 1944, we searched the debris of the barn and found the remains of six bodies. I recognised two of them as my sister-in-law POLLETTI Modesta and her baby Gloriano. They had what appeared to be knife wounds in their chests. We later procured coffins and buried the remains of my sister-in-law and nephew in the cemetery at MONTE SAN. SAVINO on the 30th. June 1944.

This statement has been read over to me.  
It is true and correct. I herewith append my signature.

(Sgd ) POLLETTI EMILIO.