

Cornia,
Civitella
Arezzo.

9 Jan. 44.

STATEMENT OF:-

PANOZZO Luigi, Male
Cornia, Aged 33 years.
Civitella,
Arezzo.

Who Saith,

I was born at BOLZANO where I had lived all my life up to coming to CORNIA, a year ago. I was employed as a clerk and I am at present working for the British as a labourer. My wife IANNARELLI Maria and our two children came here with me.

About 0700 hrs., on Thursday 29 June 1944, I was told that German soldiers were coming towards the village. I went out into the yard of my home and from here I saw two German soldiers standing by the cemetery. These soldiers had their machine guns pointed towards the village. They were dressed in grey-green uniform.

I stood in the yard for a while and about twenty minutes later saw three or four German soldiers coming up the valley in the direction of CORNIA. These soldiers were dressed in the same type of grey-green uniform wore steel helmets and all carried rifles under their arms.

When I saw these I left the village at once and concealed myself in a field of corn about 100 metres away. My wife had left the village with the children about thirty minutes earlier.

After a while I heard the sound of women screaming in CORNIA and this was followed by bursts of machine gun fire. The firing in CORNIA itself started about 0900 hrs., and lasted for about ten minutes. At this time I could see clouds of smoke rising from the village.

I remained in hiding until about 1300 hrs., then I returned to CORNIA. As I was passing a house I saw a pair of legs sticking out of a pig-sty. I went inside and there saw the naked body of a woman. I recognised the body as that of PONTENANI Rosa. There were several bullet or knife wounds, I do not know which, in her head.

There was the body of a dead boar pig lying on top of that of the woman.

From there I went to my home to try and save some of my furniture as every house in the village was burning furiously. Whilst I was here I could hear the sounds of machine guns which appeared to be very near. I left the village and went to the place where my wife was hiding and joined her.

It was three days later when I returned to CORNIA and by this time all the bodies had been buried. I

know nothing of/...

/ been buried. I

know nothing of the Germans who killed these people.

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

(Sgd) PANOZZO Luigi.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by Vasco FABBRONI, interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. CLEWLOW both of 78 Section S.I.B. on 9 Jan. 44, at CORNIA, CIVITELLA.

I certify that the above translation from Italian is correct and true to the best of my ability.

Fabbroni Vasco
(Sgd) Vasco FABBRONI.