

278  
10, San Pancrazio,  
Bucone,  
Arezzo.

STATEMENT OF:-

DEL DETOLE Consiglia,  
San Pancrazio,  
Bucone.

Female aged 43 years.

Who saith,

I am the widow of DEL DETOLE Corrado, aged 43 years who carried on a business of a corn merchant in SAN PANCRAZIO. Living with me up to 29 June, 1944, were my husband's two brothers, DEL DETOLE Ferdinando, aged 34 years, and DEL DETOLE Umberto, aged 26 years. They came to live with me as evacuees from Arezzo because of the bombing there.

About 0600 hours on 29 June, 1944 I was in bed with my husband when I was awakened by an unusually loud noise in the street. I got up and went to the window where I saw two German soldiers in a motor car. One of these soldiers fired a rifle at CALVANI Olinto who was running away down the street. After seeing this I aroused my husband and told him to get dressed quickly, for I was afraid of the Germans. I then went and awakened my brothers-in-law also. As I looked through the window again I saw about forty German soldiers coming from the direction of BUCINE and I watched them pass and go into the direction of CIVITELLA.

About half an hour later six soldiers, heavily armed came into the house. Two of these soldiers spoke very good Italian and ordered my husband and his two brothers to accompany them to the PIAZZA DEL TOTOLO. The other four then left without speaking and went into some other houses. A short time later the soldiers returned, searched the house taking food and valuables away. I cannot describe these soldiers, but I remember they were wearing camouflaged mackintoshes which came just below their knees. Later that morning about 1100 hours I made some coffee and took it to my husband in the PIAZZA. There were about fifty other men of the village congregated there, including the two brothers of my husband. Whilst I was there I saw several German soldiers guarding the men, and I also remember seeing a motor truck with a large red cross sign on it. There were some men in this truck who appeared to me to be Officers. After having the coffee, my husband told me to go back home and stay there. I cannot remember seeing any other signs on the motor truck I saw in the PIAZZA.

After I had returned home I was standing near the door when I saw returning from the direction of CIVITELLA the party of soldiers whom I had seen going earlier that morning. The time would be then about 1300 hours. These soldiers stopped in a group near my house and placed a machine gun at each end of the PIAZZETTA POZZACCIO. They then drank wine and water during a conversation amongst themselves, but I could not understand their language. Shortly afterwards these soldiers broke up into small groups and started to round up the women and children. I went into the house to collect some belongings, but was ordered at the point of rifles carried by three of these soldiers, to go at once to the PIAZZETTA POZZACCIO. This was the PIAZZETTA where they had placed two machine guns. I obeyed and joined several other women and children there. About 1400 hours we were escorted to the

outskirts of the/....

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outskirts of the village, and ordered to keep walking for not less than two kilometres. By this time some of the houses in the village were on fire. We all went into the woods, when about 1800 hours I decided to return to the village. Almost all the houses had been destroyed by fire, some of which were still burning, including my own. I made a search in the undamaged houses for the men. It was whilst I was in a house that I heard a motor car approaching and thinking the Germans had returned, I fled back into the woods. During my stay there I heard rumours that the men of the village had been killed in the farmhouse of PIETAROLI. I remained in the woods for about twenty days until the arrival of Allied troops, then I returned to S. U. PATERNO.

About 25 July, 1944, I was present when the debris was started to be removed from the cellar of the farm of PIETAROLI. On the third day I was horrified to witness the remains of my husband together with those of his two brothers, recovered from beneath the debris. They were all badly burned but I was able to recognise parts of their clothing as identical to that worn by them when last I saw them alive, On 29 June, 1944. I was also able to recognise some of their personal effects. The body of my husband was recovered in a standing position, due I think, to the numerous other remains behind him.

I was present when the remains of my husband and his brothers were buried in a communal grave in the village cemetery of S. U. PATERNO.

My husband was not a Partisan and I cannot understand why the Germans killed him. To the best of my knowledge there was no trial or hearing.

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

(Sgd.) DEL DUE LE consiglia.

The above statement written down in Italian, and signature witnessed by Sgt. Salzmunn, M. interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. Vickers, both of 78 Section S.I.P. at SAN PATERNO on 29 January, 1945.

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

H. SALZMUNN.