

10, San Pancrazio,
Comune of Bucine,
Arezzo.

26 January 45.

STATEMENT OF:-

NANNINI Elia, Male.
San Pancrazio, Aged 66 years.
Bucine,
Arezzo.

Who saith,

I am a married man living in SAN PANCRAZIO where I have lived all my life.

About 0600 hours on the 29th June, 1944, I was in my house when I heard rumours that German soldiers had come to the village and were taking all the men. As I went out of the house to go and hide in the country, I was stopped by two German soldiers and escorted to the PIAZZA. There I saw about thirty men of the village assembled, being guarded by other soldiers. I was ordered to join these men.

At various times whilst I was standing there, other men were brought into the PIAZZA until there was about fifty of us. Towards mid-day the Germans escorted all the women and children from the village. I then saw a small tank and an armoured car come into the PIAZZA. I did not see any markings on these vehicles and after a short time they went away. About 1400 hours we were marched from the PIAZZA to the farm of PIERANGELI. On the way I escaped into a stable without being seen by any of the German soldiers. I had only remained hidden a few minutes, when I was obliged to come out again because the smoke was getting too dense. This smoke was coming from some of the houses which the Germans had set on fire. As soon as I had got into the street, I was arrested again and taken to the farm of PERANGELI and put with all the other men.

Whilst I was there I heard shots coming from one of the rooms in the cellar, but I did not know what was taking place. I was taken along with SAVINI Arnaldo, PABBRI Emilio, BECHI Silvano and CASCIOTTI Ugo to the doorway of the cellar. The next thing that I remember was that I was taken back to the PIAZZA and later joined by SERASEIANI Aldo and SERBOLI Alfredo. We were all put on a truck and taken to MONTE SAN SAVINO. There we stayed for about three days and then taken to a labour camp at FLORENCE.

I was found to be too old for transportation to Germany and allowed to go free. I then made my way to SAN PANCRAZIO where I joined my family in the woods there.

About the 14th July, 1944, I saw CASCIOTTI Ugo in the woods near SAN PANCRAZIO and informed him of my experiences.

I am not a partisan and I cannot understand why the Germans committed this atrocity. I was so afraid on the 29th June, 1944, that I did not pay any particular attention to the German soldiers and cannot describe any of them to you.

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

(Sgd.) NANNINI Elia.