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Monte San Savino.

4 December 44.

STATEMENT OF:-

GRI Giorgio,
Monte San Savino,.

Male 47 years.

No oath,

I am an antique dealer and have lived in North Italy all my life. I went to live with my family at Villa CARLETTI, MONTE SAN SAVINO in November 43.

About 1800 hours on Wednesday 29 June 44, a party of about forty Germans with lorries and motor cycle combinations arrived at the villa. These Germans were all armed with pistols and sub machine guns. They wore grey blue uniforms and all of them were extraordinarily clean and their boots and equipment were well polished. They all wore a band on their sleeves with "HERMAN GOERING" thereon. A sergeant asked for Signor CARLETTI and I fetched him. The sergeant asked CARLETTI for a cellar to confine a "Bandit" in, and after some discussion it was decided that the garage was the most suitable place. An Italian civilian of the peasant class was then brought from one of the lorries and placed in the garage, the sergeant retained the key.

The Germans asked for a meal for themselves which was provided. They remained in the house and about 2300 hours told us to go to bed. We were warned at that time, not to leave the house as it was surrounded by sentries. From what I heard of their conversation I understood these Germans to be members of the Police.

On my way upstairs I saw by the light of my torch a German captain standing on the stairs. He was about 35 years of age, 175 cms. tall, light brown hair, brushed well back, thin nose, clean shaven, of smart military appearance; he was wearing a grey blue uniform with the words "HERMAN GOERING" on the bottom of his left sleeve, black lettering on a light grey band.

The soldiers who were escorting us upstairs told us that he was their captain and we were to treat him with respect.

At 0400 hours on Thursday 29 June 44, I was wakened by loud bangings on the bedroom doors. Two German soldiers entered my bedroom and escorted me to another room where eventually all the civilian occupants of the villa congregated. We were searched and kept in this room for about two hours.

Between 0400 hours and 0500 hours on this day I heard at least ten lorries leave the vicinity of the villa.

About 1200 hours we were taken to another room in which we were all confined for nearly four days. Three sergeants mounted guard on us. They were friendly and told us that we were being detained for interrogation and warned us against saying too much.

During our stay in this room a German interpreter, came to me with an officer's jacket and riding breeches which

he wanted tailoring/....

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he wanted tailoring. I took them from him and gave them to my wife who was confined in the same room as myself. The jacket was coloured grey-blue and had three stars on the shoulders straps. My wife was required to sew a white eagle with straight wings made of white silk braid on the breast and to do some repairs to the breeches. Inside the breeches we found a tab with CPT. KLINE BARON 04373 thereon.

About 1100 hours on Sunday 1 July 44, I was interrogated by a Maresciallo. He was about 170 cms. tall, dark hair and eyes, clean shaven, about 30 years old and wore blue-grey uniform. He questioned me extensively about my travels to GENOA where I have a business and also about Partisan activities and movements of escaped prisoners of war. He seemed to have some knowledge of my friends and my assistance to both partisans and prisoners of war. I pleaded ignorance but he told me we would talk later in FLORENCE.

At about 1800 hours the same day in company with Signora CARLETTI and her daughter Licia, we commenced our journey by truck to FLORENCE.

On our way I got into conversation with a Maresciallo who could speak French. He stated that he was being posted home because of his age. He said that he was glad to be leaving that squadron, the work they did was repugnant to a soldier. He also described an action which took place against the Partisans on 22 June 44, at MONTALTUZZO. He knew the partisans' leader's name was Doctor MAGRINI Benedetto.

On arrival at FLORENCE I was imprisoned but managed to effect my escape after four days.

I returned to my home after the British had liberated FLORENCE.

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

(Sgd.) GORI Giorgio.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by MAGINI Livia, interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. CHARLES, both of 70 Section S.I.B. on Monday 4th December, 1944 at MONTE SAN SAVINO.

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

Magini Livia

MAGINI Livia.