

Fieve a Presolano,  
Fergine,  
Arezzo.

23rd. March, 1945.

STATEMENT OF:-

Giuseppe GHERZI, Male.  
Fieve a Presolano, Aged 33 years.  
Fergine,  
Arezzo.

Who saith,

I am a landowner and have lived at my present address all my life.

During the German occupation German troops were billeted at my house at various intervals.

On the 27th. June, 1944, some forty German soldiers arrived and settled in the garden of my house. They were in colonial dress and on their left sleeve they wore an armband with the inscription "GERMAN GOERING" on it. These soldiers were under the command of an officer whom they referred to as "Major". The latter wore grey-blue uniform and he also had the "GERMAN GOERING" armband. His shoulder straps were bordered with silver piping and they also bore some insignia, but concerning the latter I cannot give a detailed description. I describe the Major as follows:

About 45 years, about 5ft. 9ins., well built, fresh complexion, brown hair. He smoked cigars and spoke fairly good Italian.

These soldiers had five or six heavy trucks, two or three of which, were Italian make, to name FIAT or Lancia. Each truck had a blue "N" on white circular background painted on a rear windward. The officer had a LANCIA-AUGUSTA car of greyish colour. This car also bore the blue "N" on white circular background at the rear. On one occasion I asked the Major the meaning of the "N" sign and he answered "Armour". I then said "Armoured Division". He answered "Yes".

These soldiers and trucks went to and fro constantly every day. I cannot say whether they left here for some specific purpose on the 29th. June, 1944.

The above mentioned soldiers stayed here four or five days and departed on the 1st. or 2nd. July, 1944.

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

(Sgt.) GHERZI Giuseppe.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by Mr. Giuliani, Interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. OLIVIERO and 1/Cpl. ROBERTS, all of 78 Section, S.I.B., on Friday 23rd. March, 1945, at FERGINE.

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

(Sgt.) G.A. GIULIANI, Rdr.