

WAR CRIME SUMMARY

Reference No.  
SIB.HQ/X/44/12.

<u>AREA</u> ... <u>CIVITELLA</u> .....	<u>MR</u> ... <u>R. 1628</u> .....	<u>DATE COMMITTED</u> .....
... <u>CORNIA</u> .....	... <u>Sgt 13 ITALY</u> .....	... <u>29 Jun 44</u> .....
... <u>SAN PANURAZIO</u> .....	... <u>1:200,000</u> .....	.....

VICTIMS

212 men, women and children.  
Approximately 100 houses burned.

PRECIS OF FACTS

In Jun 44, Partisan bands were operating in the above area, and made attacks on lone German lorries and motor cycles.

About this time the German Army was in a general disorganised retreat in the area. Amongst these troops were members of the Para Div under General HEIDRICH. On Sunday 18 Jun 44, four of these paratroopers went into the Dopa Lavoro Club at CIVITELLA, where they played cards and apparently had too much to drink. Three of the soldiers later went into the village Square and fired Verney light pistols into the air. Partisans knowing Germans were in the village went there from the surrounding area and entered the club. A fight took place in which two soldiers were shot dead and a third wounded. The Partisans then left. The fourth German was able to hide during this fight and when all was quiet managed to assist his wounded companion to their billet outside CIVITELLA.

As a result of the incident and fearing reprisals most of the villagers evacuated into the surrounding hills. On the 20th a German lorry with armed troops entered the village. They placed the two German bodies on their vehicle and waited for the Priest who was away at the time. On his return a burial service was conducted in the cemetery, which was attended by a few of the female villagers. The large majority of the male population were still hiding in the hills. Later, that evening, other soldiers arrived with the Secretary of the Commune and rounded up those civilians still in the village. They were questioned as to Partisans and had their identity checked. It appears that a reprisal was to be carried out at that time but owing to the few males in the village it was postponed.

On 29 Jun 44, many of the population, believing no reprisal was to take place, returned to CIVITELLA. On this day, the feast of St Peter and St Paul, practically all civilians were attending church. About 0630 hours, troops commenced to enter the village. Farms in the vicinity were visited and in some cases occupants shot for no reason. The entrances to the village were blocked making escape impossible.

All inhabitants were then rounded up and assembled in the Square. Women and children were set aside and sent out of the village. Houses were fired indiscriminately and those who had attempted to hide were trapped and burnt to death.

At the "Old Peoples Home", six old people, including a woman aged 82 years, were shot. The church was then entered and the service stopped. All were forced outside and the men separated

from the women./.....



SECRET.

Ref. No:- SIB.78/WO/44/14.

Detachment,  
78 Section, SIB.

Your Ref:- SIB.HQ/X/144/12.

30 June 45.

SUBJECT:-

Atrocities committed by  
German troops at CIVITELLA,  
CORNIA and SAN PANCRAZIO  
Districts on 29 Jun 44.

CIVITELLA	100	Civilians killed.
CORNIA	45	" "
SAN PANCRAZIO	67	" "

MR CIVITELLA - 1628 Italy Road Map  
1:200,000, Sheet 13.

DAEM,  
78 Section, SIB.

Sir,

FORWARDED.

On the 1 Nov 44, assisted by Sgt Charles of this Section, I commenced enquiries into this atrocity.

The facts of the case are as follows:-

CIVITELLA, CORNIA and SAN PANCRAZIO are farming villages situated on a range of hills named VAL DI CHIARA. All are built in the usual Italian fashion on top of a hill and isolated.

CIVITELLA covers a large area and includes a number of farming localities. Two of these being GENEDIA and CAGGIOLO. COENIA is the same and includes SOLATA, MOROAGIOLO and BUIRONE.

No road connects these localities with either CIVITELLA or CORNIA. In each case there is a series of mule tracks.

At LATERINA (MR 1538), the Italians had a large prisoner of war camp. At the conclusion of the war with Italy, large numbers of these prisoners escaped. They took refuge in SAN PANCRAZIO, CORNIA and farmhouses throughout the area.

Some of them even got married whilst they were here and have since taken their wives to SOUTH AFRICA. Everyone in this area produced pieces of paper upon which escapees had expressed their gratitude for the treatment they had received.

In April 44, a partisan band moved into the hills around CORNIA. This band was known as RINZO and

in command was/....



/ men separated

from the women. The women and children were sent away to join those previously rounded up.

All males were then lined up, searched and articles of value taken from them. Five were selected and forced to a small clearing out of sight of the main square. Escape from this place appeared impossible as there was a deep drop on one side, a wall on the other and the only exit was a narrow track under constant guard by the Germans. The five victims were then shot by pistol fire in the back of the head by the Germans and their bodies left where they fell. A further five were selected from the square and suffered the same fate. One man as he was marched to the execution site made a dash for freedom and did in fact manage to evade the sentry on the track and although fired upon escape unharmed. Another man, as the soldier pulled the trigger, diverted his head and the bullet passed through both hands, which were holding his head, and the front of his neck. He dropped to the ground and feigned death. These two men are the only ones known to be alive from the male inhabitants of the village.

After all had been executed, the precise number is not known, the bodies were dragged into the Square and thrown into the burning houses.

Four women and two children, aged 3 and 2 years, were killed in CIVITELLA, all except two by being burned alive in their homes.

During this time a further 21 men and a number of women and children were lined up at a bridge on the outskirts of the village. The women and children were sent into the hillside. As they left they heard machine gun fire and the men were mown down. All 21, except two wounded, were massacred.

Altogether 100 people are known to have been killed at CIVITELLA on this day, including the Priest, women and children. Eighty seven houses were completely destroyed leaving only five habitable.

On the same morning, and part of the organised reprisal, German troops entered the CORNIA - SAN PANORAZIO area.

Three women and a boy were arrested on the road and their bodies were later found severely burned outside a flaming house. Various males were rounded up and either shot or burned to death. At one place six women and a boy were herded into a room. A German Officer entered and opened fire with his machine gun pistol, killing five women and the boy. The sixth woman received 10 bullet wounds but later made a remarkable recovery. A number of houses were fired, but only one received severe damage.

At BURRONE area the Germans arrested ten men, women and children and shot them in cold blood on the road way. Two were thrown into a burning haystack and burned beyond recognition.

At CORNIA, five women between 18 - 64 years, were shot and their bodies were later found completely naked. One young woman had been paralysed from birth.

All houses in the village were fired and only two out of 20 were later habitable.

Altogether 45 persons /....



/motor vehicle called

at the farm and all the soldiers left. Despite exhaustive enquiries, it has not been possible to trace these soldiers from this point.

The following morning (Monday, 19 June 44), ROSSI went to the barn where these soldiers intended sleeping. Here, he found three steel helmets and a haversack. Two of the helmets bear the insignia of the airborne German Eagle. The haversack bears the inscription 'HEUMANN ODBETER' and one of the helmets has written on the leather lining 'R. GELBKE.'

The murder of these two, or probably three soldiers is the only incident which could have attracted German attention to CIVITELLA. During that evening and the following morning nearly all the villagers left, being afraid of German reprisals.

GERBIA is a fraction of CIVITELLA, consisting of about twelve houses and lying some six kilometres West of the village. Here, there lived a family of linguists named CAU. The man Professor CAU Giovanni, aged 51 years and his wife CAU Helga, aged 41 years, a Swede. The woman could speak seven languages fluently, these being English, French, Italian, German, Swedish, Russian and Spanish. Previous to the 15 Jun 44, she worked as interpreter to German units in the MONTE SAN SAVINO area.

On the morning of the 19 Jun 44, CAU Helga came to CIVITELLA. Here, she got the assistance of a nurse and helped to wash the bodies of the soldiers and prepared them for burial. She sent a note by MAGINI Rinaldo (now dead), to a German unit at FALM DORNA. What this note contained is not known but no German came to the village that day.

The only person who says they did is DEL BUONO Guido and there is no doubt he is mistaken in the dates.

During the morning of Tuesday, 20 June 44, a German soldier came to the village in a cream coloured BALILLA FIAT. He was met by CAU who had remained in the village overnight and together they went to the DOPO LAVORO Club. He apparently examined the bodies and removed all documents. He then gave orders to LAMMIONI Luigi for coffins to be made ready for that afternoon and then left. This Italian is an official of the Comune of CIVITELLA where he holds a clerical appointment.

About 1400 hours, a large German lorry arrived and went straight to the DOPO LAVORO Club. There were about twelve armed soldiers with this vehicle. As the priest Don LAZZERI Aloide (now dead) was not in the village when they arrived they put the bodies on the vehicle and waited for him.

During this time LAMMIONI obtained the particulars of the two soldiers to enter in the official Burial Book. Unfortunately, these particulars were lost when his home was destroyed on the 29 Jun 44.

Later, when the priest arrived, the bodies



/arrived, the bodies

were taken to the cemetery. Several women who had remained in the village attended the funeral. After the burial, the Germans returned to the village and some civilians say they demanded the names of the partisans. Owing to there being few men in the village at the time and only one or two of them alive to-day, it is difficult to say exactly what did take place. It appears that they left about 1730 hours.

That evening, some soldiers called at the home of the Secretary of the Commune, MAMMINI Domenico. MAMMINI lived at RADIA AL PINO where the offices of the Commune of CIVITELLA are situated. RADIA is some six kilometres South of CIVITELLA. The soldiers had two vehicles, a large truck upon which there were about thirty armed soldiers, and a private car. Without any explanation, MAMMINI was made to get into the car and accompany the soldiers to CIVITELLA. Here, the soldiers rounded up all the civilians they could find and made them go into the square. There were very few men present as they were still away from their homes.

Whilst they were standing here, DEL NUONO Guido, heard a German shout the name "CONTINI." The Italian who was acting as interpreter, answered.

Later, all identity papers were checked and the people then allowed to return to their homes. The Germans then took MAMMINI back to his home.

It appears from the statement of DEL NUONO Guido that the Germans intended carrying out a reprisal that evening, but finding so few men, at the most there may have been ten, they cancelled it until a later date.

After the 18 Jun 44, the partisans had moved from CORNIA to a hill named MONTEALTUZZO, some six kilometres to the West. The MONTE SAN SAVINO-BUONINO road, which has been previously mentioned, runs right past the foot of this hill.

Between the 20th. and 23rd. Jun 44, the partisans attacked some German motorists on this road and took fourteen prisoners. Out of this fourteen, four volunteered and joined the partisans. The remaining ten were kept prisoners in a house on MONTEALTUZZO.

SUCCHIELLI then wrote a warning regarding reprisals which he sent to some German HQ via CAU Helga. The warning was to the effect that if the Germans took reprisals on the villagers he would instantly shoot the ten men whom he was holding as hostages.

On the 22 Jun 44, some German soldiers called at the house of a Doctor MAGRINI at MONTEALTUZZO to requisition a motor car. Partisans were in the house at the time and they fired at the Germans. Apparently, there were only a few Germans as they left the area at once without retaliating. The following day, however, about two hundred Germans returned to MONTEALTUZZO. Owing to the position of this

hill they could/....



/position of this

hill they could not approach without being seen and consequently suffered casualties. Nevertheless, they did succeed in taking the hill and in doing so they liberated the Germans who were being held as hostages.

During this action, a woman DEL BELLINO Argentina, states that she saw a Republican Fascist, FRATESI Celso, assisting the Germans. FRATESI will be mentioned later in this report.

On this day, the Germans arrested a farmer, DEL BELLINO Lorenzo (husband of Argentina). Where Lorenzo was taken to from MONTEALTEUZZO is not known, but he was in the Villa CARLETTI at MONTE SAN SAVINO on the 29 Jun 44.

These actions by the partisans were no doubt responsible for attracting German attention to SAN PANCRAZIO, as MONTEALTEUZZO is mid-way between this village and CORNIA.

On the 27 Jun 44, two German soldiers called at CIVITELLA in a cream coloured BALILLA FIAT. They went round the village and took whatever radios and typewriters they could find. No requisition orders were left for these articles. There could be two reasons for this visit, (1) To remove what may be useful to them before destroying the village. (2) To establish, without raising suspicion, whether or not, the male population had returned.

By this time, the majority had returned and by the 29 Jun 44, nearly everyone was back in their homes. Thursday, 29 Jun 44, was the day on which this atrocity took place. From the way it was carried out, to cover such a large hilly district, it must have been a very well organised affair. On this morning, nearly all the people at CIVITELLA and the surrounding farms, were at church, as it was the day of St. Peter and St. Paul. There is a bridge some three kilometres South of CIVITELLA and this is where the first German soldiers were seen. About 0630 hours, the first was seen to dismount from their vehicles at this point and then split into small groups. This was done so they could cover the farms before reaching the village, in the shortest time. All the farms were visited by German troops, and at all except one, the inhabitants were made to go down to the bridge. Here, they were kept under guard by soldiers who had remained beside the vehicles.

One woman, BIGIARINI Eugenia, whose farm is about one kilometre South of CIVITELLA, states that her husband and two brothers were taken from the house to the bridge by men whom she believed were Italians. Two of them, she says, were FRATESI Celso of CIGLIANO and RAPANAI Alfredo of AREZZO. RAPANAI is now dead.

At the farm FODERE ALLA FONTE of BOZZI, they arrested and shot BOZZI Conforte, 48 years. His sons BERNARDO, 28 years, FERNANDO, 20 years, and PIETRO, 18 years.

They then went on to CIVITELLA. By this time several people of the village had seen soldiers walking

up the hill/....



/seen soldiers walking

up the hill and also heard the sound of rifle fire. But all were of the opinion that it was due to the Germans retreating and went into the church where they thought they would be safe.

The story of what happened in the village is a little confused as all the men except four were killed.

CIVITELLA is built right on top of a hill and this hill is terraced for agricultural purposes. The North of the village is surrounded by a very high wall and at the South there is an embankment of at least fifty feet. There are two entrances to the village but as the Germans blocked these immediately, it was impossible for anyone to leave without the assistance of a ladder.

The Germans started at the bottom of the village and made all the men go to the PIAZZA VITTORIO EMANUELE. All the women and children were made to leave. When the people at the top of the village heard the firing, they also took refuge in the church. Some hid in various places in their homes. The soldiers, when they made people leave, at once set fire to the house and several people were burnt to death owing to being trapped.

They next went to the Old People's Home where the following were shot in the head:-

CRESPIGHIANI	Crespino	male	aged 80 years.
GUERRINI	Luigi	"	" 70 "
POLTERI	Luigi	"	" 76 "
POLTERI	Angela	female	" 82 "
POLVANI	Giuseppe	Male	" 54 "
ROSSI	Andrio	"	" 79 "

The males who had been gathered during the search of the village were kept under an armed guard, then machine guns were mounted in the square, facing the church. The service in church had by this time finished but the people were afraid to leave having heard the rifle fire. About 0800 hours, one or possibly two soldiers went into the church and ordered everyone to leave. As they filed out, the men were separated from the women and placed under the guard in the square. All women and children were then made to leave the village. Numbers of the women returned to their homes in the hope of obtaining articles of clothing, only to find that every house in the village was on fire.

When all the women were clear of the village, the men were searched and all articles of value such as wallets, watches, rings, etc. were taken from them. There were, at this time, about sixty men being held by the Germans. Five men were then selected. These were, the priest Don LAZZERI Alcide, SABATINI Paolo, MENCHETTI Torquato, PASQUI Giuseppe and TAVERNESI Agostino. These men were taken to a small clearing which is just off the square as shown on the photograph. Here they were out of sight of the other prisoners. In this clearing, they were made to stand in single file facing a Westerly direction. At the rear the Germans had a machine gun mounted. In front

there is at/....



/In front

there is at least a twenty foot drop and the road leading to the left and right is only about 3 yards wide. These things went to make escape seem impossible.

The next thing the prisoners heard was a series of single shots. Then another five were selected and amongst these was TIEZZI Daniele. As he was taken to the clearing he saw the bodies of the five men who had been taken first. All their faces were covered in blood and all were apparently dead. TIEZZI was lined up and when he saw a soldier standing with a pistol, he turned and ran along the road. The machine gun was fired after him and he was wounded but succeeded in getting away. TIEZZI was the only man who escaped in this fashion.

A further five were then selected and the same process repeated. The method of killing was as follows:- When the Italians were standing in line, one soldier placed a pistol at the back of the first man's head and fired. Thus in the majority of cases only one shot was required for each man and each witnessed the others death.

Amongst the third group of five selected, was BARTOLUCCI Gino and when his turn came to be shot, he somehow averted his head. He had his hands to his face and the shot passed through both hands, his face and throat. He dropped and lay there for dead, whilst the Germans shot every man they held prisoner.

BARTOLUCCI and TIEZZI are the only two men alive who were present at this killing.

The bodies were next dragged across the square and thrown into houses which were burning furiously. Owing to this, it is difficult to estimate with precision how many were killed in the square, in the streets, or in their homes.

Only six females were killed in CIVITELLA. These include SANDRINI Penelope, aged 73 years, who apparently hid under the bed with her husband and as the house was completely destroyed by fire their bodies were not found until a month later by SECCIANI Bruno. LAMMIONI Maria, aged 34 year and her two children, both girls, Giuliana aged 5 years and Maria Luisa aged 2 years 6 months. They hid in the loft of their home. The bodies of the mother Maria and child Giuliana were found later by LAMMIONI Luigi. The body of Maria Luisa was never found and it is assumed it was totally destroyed by fire. BOSCHI Ines, aged 34 years, was shot whilst on her way to the village. Her body was identified by her brother BOSCHI Guido. The sixth was POLTERI Angela, mentioned previously, who was killed in the Old peoples' Home.

During this action, two men who were evacuees from FLORENCE, were taken prisoner. They were CESARINI Rino and BIANCHI Giovanni. CESARINI Rino spoke German and he explained their position. Later, they were taken by the Germans to SPOLANO and the CONVENT VERTIGHE. These places will be

referred to later./....



/places will be  
referred to later.

Meanwhile, at the bridge, the Germans had twenty-one men and a number of women and children. Here again the women and children were made to leave and the men made to walk over the bridge, then up a mule track leading up the hillside. They had only gone a few yards when a machine gun opened fire amongst them. Nineteen of the men were killed and two wounded. They were MILANI Olinto and GABRIELLI Luigi.

Altogether, in the locality of CIVITELLA, one hundred people were killed by the Germans on this morning.

Previously there were eighty-seven houses in the village but when the people returned it was only possible to live in five of these. All had been set on fire but these five had not been completely destroyed and were partially habitable.

At 0600 hours, this morning, German soldiers had also dismounted from vehicles at a point on the MONTE SAN SAVINO-BUCINE road. Other vehicles had continued up the road in the direction of SAN PANCRAZIO.

The soldiers who dismounted on the road, beside the farm of TEDESCHI, first posted sentries to prevent anyone leaving or entering the CORNIA-SAN PANCRAZIO area. The remainder then split into small groups in order to visit the farmhouses in the shortest time before converging on the village of CORNIA. Somewhere along this road, they arrested three women and a boy.

ARTINI	Rosa	Aged 60 years.
SALVADORI	Assunta	" ?
FABRIANELLI	Maria	" 28 "
Boy not known.		

How these people were killed is not known as when their bodies were found beside the house of TEDESCHI, by relatives, all were severely burnt.

The boy is mentioned in the statements of FABRIANELLI and LORENZINI but no trace of him has been found apart from these statements. His body was not recovered and he is therefore not listed among the persons killed.

The first farm in the area to be visited was that of ROSSI. Here, they arrested two men, ROSSI Silvio, aged 43 years and ROSSI Nelli, aged 36 years. These men were taken from their home towards the farm of TEDESCHI. They were killed and again the manner of their deaths is not known as when the bodies were recovered by ROSSI Duilio, they were also severely burnt. The next group of Germans went to a cluster of seven farmhouses called MORCAGGIOLO. Here some of the women and children were allowed to leave whilst others were made to go into one room. There were six females and one boy in this room when a German, stated to be an officer, entered and fired with a pistol at the first woman. She was CARATELLI Palmira. Despite the fact that she received ten to twelve bullets in the stomach and was left for dead, she afterwards made a remarkable recovery. She was the only person in that room

who escaped death./....



/in that room

who escaped death.

The others all died of gunshot wounds.

They were:-

SESTINI	Rosa	Aged 58 years	Female.
SESTINA	Gesuna	" 54 "	"
PICCHIONI	Livia	" 34 "	"
BURALI	Vanda	" 15 "	"
VALERI	Gina	" 19 "	"
BURALI	Tito	" 14 "	Male.

There were four men who were taken to another room and shot.

The Germans then set fire to all the houses but fortunately, only one suffered any great damage.

From here they carried on to another small farming locality named BURRONE. Some of the people here had heard the firing and left the area. They did, however, capture ten people, these being:-

AMAZZONI	Dante	Aged 48 years	Male.
MANTOVANI	Maria	" 85 "	Female.
HARBI DOSHAI	KN. Ismail	" 28 "	Male.
DEL CUCINA	Antonio	" 53 "	"
" "	Gaetano	" 13 "	"
" "	Ilva	" 11 "	Female.
" "	Elsa	" 6 "	"
FICAI	Adelmo	" 14 "	Male.
PETRELLI	Ranieri	" 34 "	"
MASSINI	Valentina	" 37 "	Female.

All these, including the children, were shot and left lying in the road. The last two mentioned were thrown on a hay rick which was set on fire and they were burned almost beyond recognition. They were later found by AMAZZONI Dino, ROSSI Caterina and PETRELLI Angiolino.

They then carried on to the village of CORNIA but here the people had been warned. They had also seen MORCAGGIOLO and BURRONE burning. A few, however, remained, amongst these being a young woman who had been paralysed from birth and her mother. All the bodies of the women were later found naked and severely burned. One, FONTENALI Rosa, was found naked and burned. She had been either shot or knifed and there was the dead body of a boar pig lying on top of her.

The names of the women who lost their lives here are:-

MUGNAI	Olga	Aged 40 years.
TAVANTI	Emilia	" 64 "
OSOLINI	Erina	" 18 "
FONTENALI	Rosa	" 52 "
ROMANELLI	Emma	" 32 "

Every house in the village was set on fire and only two out of twenty were habitable when the people returned. All the bodies were identified when buried by the

priest Don ROMANELLI Natale/....



- 10 -

/buried by the  
priest Don ROMANELLI Natale.

Beside the cemetery outside the village of CORNIA, there is a line of cyprus trees. A native of CORNIA, FELICIONI Ottavio, when he found it impossible to leave the area took refuge in one of these trees. About 1030 hours, he saw four German soldiers come from CORNIA and stand about fifty metres from where he was hiding. These four were soon joined by another man who was dressed and armed the same, but who wore a mask to conceal his face. This man spoke to the Germans in Italian and to do so had to remove the mask. FELICIONI immediately recognised him as a Fascist he knew from CIGGIANO, named LUNGHANI Dino. Dino will be referred to later in this report.

Altogether, in the area of CORNIA, 45 people were killed but enquiries have failed to locate the relatives of all. (Please see attached appendix for list of dead). Some were evacuees in the area and one TURBI DUSIMI Kn. Ismail was an Albanian. All that was found of the body of DE LUCA Giovanna was a piece of jawbone. This was handed to Sgt Charles by MIGLIORINI Anselmo.

During this action, the Germans took prisoner a woman named MARINELLI Ada, who had been evacuated to CORNIA. MARINELLI lived with her mother DE LUCA Giovanna (previously mentioned) and a servant ORSOLINI Erina (also killed). She was taken outside the village and there made to get into a tank. Other witnesses have described it as an armoured vehicle. From CORNIA she was taken to GEBBIA where she was made to wait in the vehicle while the soldiers searched the houses. They took eight men prisoner and several women and children, all of whom were taken to the house of Signora CAU. One of the women, POLVERINI Gina, was told by Signora CAU that the officer in charge was a Captain. The Captain told POLVERINI that she would have to accompany them. The remainder were made to leave the area with their children.

The eight men, however, were last seen alive being marched away in the direction of SAN PANCRAZIO. Their bodies were later found in a burnt out barn and identified by ARRIGUCCI Egileo, BIAGOTTI Angiolino and CARDINALI Franca.

The Germans before leaving GEBBIA set fire to two farm buildings. They took with them in the armoured car MARINELLI Ada, POLVERINI Gina, Signore and Signora CAU. From GEBBIA the car went to SAN PANCRAZIO.

From the statement of SALVINI Arnaldo, it appears that an armoured car was in SAN PANCRAZIO about 0730 hours. It remained for an hour, then left going in the direction of CORNIA. It is therefore presumed, that the Captain seen in the vehicle must have been in complete command.

It seems likely that the armoured car, referred to by the witness SALVINI Arnaldo, was the same one known to have been at CORNIA and GEBBIA and that it returned about 1500 hours. Here the officer got out and spoke to some of the German soldiers.

These Germans had arrived in this village

about 0600 hours/....



/in this village

about 0600 hours and began immediately to round up all the men. All of them were taken to the PIAZZA PIERANGELI, where machine guns were placed in position. During the search of the houses one woman, BINDI Livia, states she saw a Republican Fascist, dressed as a German whom she recognised. This man was LAMMIONI of BUONE who is at present an internee at TURNI. He will be referred to later in the report.

About 1030 hours, one soldier who had a motor cycle asked the Italians for one man who knew the roads of the district. NANNINI Gelsa was present at this time and she saw him pick ARRIGUCCI Silvio. That was the last time Silvio was seen, but later, a body was recovered in CIVITELLA and articles of clothing were recognised by ARRIGUCCI Emilia as those worn by Silvio.

About 1200 hours, the motor-cyclist was seen to return by NANNINI Gelsa. He went to the person who appeared to be in charge and handed him a slip of paper. Almost at once all the women and children were herded together and made to leave the village.

As far as can be ascertained, the men were taken from the Piazza to the FATTORIA PIERANGELI between 1300 and 1400 hours.

Altogether in the FATTORIA, there were seventy men, these being:- ARRIGUCCI Giovanna Battista, aged 66 years, ARRIGUCCI Giuseppe, aged 39 years, ARRIGUCCI Emilio, aged 35 years, BERNARDI Adolfo, aged 64 years, BROCCI Egidio, aged 52 years, BUZZINI Ottavio, aged 40 years, CALVANI Olinto, aged 53 years, CARDINALI Guglielmo, aged 49 years, CARTONI Alfonso, aged 31 years, CASTAGNI Cesare, aged 55 years, CENCINI Danilo, aged 22 years, CENCINI Fulgero, aged 17 years, CINELLI Ulderigo, aged 57 years, CIOFFI Alfredo, aged 50 years, CIOFFI Altemo, aged 48 years, CORSI Alberto, aged 42 years, DANIELLI Tobia, aged 41 years, DEL DEBOLE Corrado, aged 42 years, DEL DEBOLE Ferdinando, aged 34 years, DEL DEBOLE Umberto, aged 26 years, GAVILLI Sero, aged 44 years, GORNELLI Alfonso, aged 28 years, LAPI Egidio, aged 51 years, MATTEI Emilio, aged 47 years, MANZARDO Antonio, aged 23 years, MIGLIORINI Giuseppe, aged 58 years, MORETTI Renato, aged 33 years, MORI Sestilio, aged 39 years, NANNINI Adelmo, aged 45 years, NANNINI Aurelio, aged 57 years, NANNINI Faliero, aged 32 years, NANNINI Narciso, aged 34 years, NANNINI Bruno, aged 35 years, NEEPI Amunziato, aged 70 years, PANZIERI Antonio, aged 40 years, PANZIERI Davide, aged 80 years, PANZIERI Edoardo, aged 68 years, PANZIERI Enrico, aged 40 years, PANZIERI Ernesto, aged 40 years, PANZIERI Francesco, aged 46 years, PANZIERI Jacopo, aged 82 years, PANZIERI Pietro, aged 32 years, PANZIERI Raffaello, aged 42 years, PAPINI Vincenzo, aged 53 years, PARIGI Gino, aged 35 years, PARIGI Mario, aged 27 years, PARIGI Pietro, aged 66 years, PERUSI Giovanni, aged 70 years, PETRELLI Orlando, aged 34 years, RUSTICI Orlando, aged 30 years, RUSTICI Tommaso, aged 64 years, SACCHINI Mario, aged 29 years, SALVI Francesco, aged 49 years, SENSINI Pietro, aged 40 years, SPINI Donato Giocondo, aged 55 years, TANTONI Felice, aged 50 years, TANTONI Giuseppe, aged 39 years, TIEZZI Vingolo, aged 50 years, TORRELLI Don Giuseppe, VALENTI Carlo, aged 54 years, VIGNETTI Bartolomeo, aged 62 years, SAVINI Arnaldo, FABBRI Emilio, NANNINI Elia, DECHI Silvano, SEBASTIANI Aldo, SERBOLI Alfredo and CASCIOTTI Ugo.

The ground floor/....



/and CASCIOTTI Ugo.

The ground floor of the FATTORIA, where the men were taken, consisted of two rooms. These rooms are about fifteen feet apart and joined together by a narrow passage.

The men were put in the smallest of these rooms with an armed sentry on guard at the door. They were kept here for a time and during this period, the priest pleaded for their lives, but he was unheeded. Then one man was selected, marched along the passage to the other room and the remainder of the prisoners heard a report which sounded like a pistol shot. This process was repeated until all the men mentioned above, whose ages are shown, were shot. The other seven volunteered to give information regarding the partisans and the Germans put them to one side. At this time, CASCIOTTI Ugo, managed to effect his escape.

The remaining six were kept until the execution was finished and then made to get into a truck and accompany the Germans.

It would appear that the armoured car and this truck left SAN PANCRAZIO. At MONTEALTUZZO, the prisoners who had been put aboard the armoured car were transferred to the truck. From the statements of FOLVERINI Gina and FABIRI Emilio, it will be seen that all were taken to the place where this officer was billeted, which was the Villa CARLETTI at MONTE SAN SAVINO.

The Germans had first occupied this villa at MONTE SAN SAVINO the previous day (Wednesday, 28th. June 44, about 1800 hours). That evening, they only occupied a part of the building and made the residents retire early. The following morning (Thursday, 29th. June 44), everyone was aroused about 0500 hours and immediately placed under arrest. At that time there were eleven people present including CARLETTI Antonio and his wife Carolina. As the top floor of this villa is composed of small rooms these prisoners were put in ones and twos in separate rooms, with guards in the rooms and others patrolling the passages outside.

Everyone detained in this villa was questioned regarding partisans and escaped Allied prisoners.

From the statements obtained from CARLETTI Licia, CARLETTI Antonio and GOMI Lina, it can be seen that this must have been a police unit.

They had CARLETTI Luigi prisoner. This man was a partisan and apparently devoted the whole of his time to assisting and feeding escaped Allied prisoners. Someone must have informed the Germans of this man's activities. He was last seen by STANGINI Maria about 0600 hours on the 2nd. July, 44, when he appeared to be in a poor condition, having obviously suffered a severe beating. He was at that time being supported by two German soldiers. On the 10 Jul 44, his body was found in a wood by FAGI Vinicio. On the 11 Jul 44, his body was examined by Doctor CELATA Antonio, who states he died from bullet wounds.

DET. BENJAMINO Lorenzo was mentioned earlier

in this report/....



/was mentioned earlier

in this report as the man the Germans took prisoner at MONTEFALTO. On the 29 Jun 44, he was seen at the Villa CARLETTI, but was not recognised by POLVERINI Gina. He appeared then to have been very severely beaten. On Friday, 30 Jun 44, SAVADORI Dante was stopped by some German soldiers in MONTE SAN SAVINO and made to obtain a ladder. This he did, and then saw the soldiers hang a civilian on a lampstand at the entrance to the town. From his statement it can be seen that the man died from strangulation. A board was nailed on the wall bearing the following:- "This way the partisans of CORNIA are dying." On Saturday, 30th. June 44, POLVERINI was taken to MONTE SAN SAVINO, where she saw the body which was still hanging and recognised it as that of the man she had seen earlier in the villa. Later, the local authorities removed the body and buried it in the Municipal Cemetery. On the 30-Aug-44, DEL BELLINO Argentina, wife of Lorenzo, having information of a man being hung in MONTE SAN SAVINO, from SALVADORI Fernando, had the body exhumed. She recognised it as that of her husband.

Signor and Signora CAU were seen in the villa by CARLETTI Licia, POLVERINI Gina and CARLETTI Antonio. Despite most exhaustive enquiries, which have been carried out from MONTE SAN SAVINO to FLORENCE, no trace of this couple can be found. The other prisoners were taken to FLORENCE for transportation to NORTHERN ITALY and INNSBRUCK (AUSTRIA), but it is not known whether the CAUs ever left the villa.

On Sunday, 2nd. July 44, GORI Lina, one of the prisoners, was requested to repair an officer's jacket which she was told belonged to the Captain. Inside the jacket, was a label with the following particulars inscribed upon it:- 'H.P.T. KEINZ BARZ, HERMAN GORING.' During their imprisonment, GORI Giorgio, his wife Lina and CARLETTI Carolina, understood KEINZ BARZ to be the name of the Captain.

CARLETTI Antonio mentions a Lieutenant PHILLIPS, whom he states questioned him on the 29 Jun 44. Although it is not known whether PHILLIPS took an active part in the killings, he must have been connected in some way because of his presence at the villa on the day mentioned.

CARLETTI Carolina mentions a Lieutenant OTTOMAYER Hans but no connection can be made with this man and the atrocity.

On Sunday, 2nd. July 44, all the prisoners held at the Villa CARLETTI were taken, via BUCINE, to FLORENCE. Here, they were imprisoned in the school LEOPOLDINE in the Piazza SANTA MARIA NOVELLA. All, however, managed to effect their escape from here by various means.

During their confinement, CARLETTI Licia, got on very friendly terms with some of the soldiers. Four of the soldiers and one Italian wrote their names and private addresses on one piece of paper marked Exhibit 'A'. Another, wrote his on a separate piece, marked Exhibit 'A.1,' and one who had already given his home address, wrote his name, rank and

military postal address/....



/name, rank and

military postal address in a book of EXIST, marked Exhibit 'A.2.' The Italian who acted as interpreter to the Germans at the Villa CARLETTI, said his name was FRATELLI Mario and his home address was Via CAVOUR, ROMA. Enquiries in Via CAVOUR, have failed to locate this man.

During the time the German soldiers occupied the Villa CARLETTI, CHIELI Pio was aware that civilians were being held prisoner there. In view of this, he visited the villa immediately the Germans vacated it, with the intention of releasing any civilians who may be confined there. In the dining room he found a German soldier's shirt, in the pocket of which was a soldier's pay book (Soldbuch). Inside the paybook were three photograph prints and a negative. The paybook is marked Exhibit 'A.3' and the photographs 'A.4', 'A.5' and 'A.6'.

Other soldiers who took part in the atrocity were billeted in the following villas and localities:-  
LE FABRICHE, VILLA MANCINI, SPOIANO, CONVENT VERTICHE,  
TRIOLETO (VILLA SANTUCCI), STIVA AL TOSCO, OLIVETO, MUGLIANO.

On the 6th or 7th Jun 44, ninety-six German soldiers arrived at LE FABRICHE and occupied the villa. BACCIONI Augustino knew the number through them being later rationed with him for various products from his farm. Amongst these were twenty six who wore a metal badge in the shape of a skull, on their caps and the lapels of their coats. They also wore a brass plaque which was suspended around the neck by a chain but he cannot remember what the inscription was on the plaque.

Two or three days later five officers arrived and an Italian, who was their interpreter. BACCIONI apparently got on friendly terms with this interpreter as he told him that one of the officers was a General and the other four Colonels. The interpreter, he got to know as Signor "TRIESTINO." "TRIESTINO" told him, on the evening of the 28th., that on the 29 Jun 44, the soldiers were going to destroy CIVITELLA, CORNIA and SAN PANCRAZIO.

On the 29th., he saw the soldiers leave all armed. Later that day he saw them return. That evening all the soldiers and one officer left, as the front was drawing near. This area was liberated three days later. The senior officers, however, remained until one day previous to the Allied occupation. Therefore, no other German troops than those concerned in the atrocity occupied FABRICHE.

Upon the owner's return on the 4 Jul 44, MANCINI GRIFFOLI Patricia found that names had been chalked upon several doors of her house. She had the doors cleaned but the imprint still remained very clear on one door. This door was photographed by PATURZO Francesco on Tuesday, 20th. March 45. The names on the door are Major GRUN, the other MOLDENHAUER.

Although there is no record of GRUN,

MOLDENHAUER is shown/....



/record of GRUN,

MOLDENHAUER is shown as 2nd Lieutenant, ADJ, HQ, H.G. PZ. DIV. If either of these two can be contacted they will be able to furnish the particulars of the General and Colonels. They are most likely the persons who organised the whole affair.

About the 20 Jun 44, some sixty German soldiers and a number of officers arrived at the Villa MANCINI in MONTE SAN SAVINO. All these soldiers, according to PAZIENZA Mario were the HERMANN GOERING arm-band. On the morning of the 29 Jun 44, PAZIENZA noticed that the usual number of soldiers were not at the Villa. He enquired the reason for this and was told that they had gone to fight the partisans. Although enquiries have been made, no useful information regarding this unit can be obtained. However, the Villa CARLETTI is the building next to the Villa MANCINI. Either of those soldiers described by CARLETTI Lucia should be able to supply the necessary information.

On the 24 Jun 44, about fifty German soldiers arrived at the farm SPOIANO DI SOPRA. All these soldiers wore a band upon their coat sleeves with the words "HERMANN GOERING" inscribed thereon. From the statement of BONICCHI Emilio Cesare and BIONDINI Adelfo, it can be seen that they went to CIVITELLA on the 29 Jun 44. It was to this farm that CESARENI Rino and BIANCHI Giovanni were first taken when brought from CIVITELLA. Here they were questioned and later taken to the convent. It has been impossible to establish definitely the identity of these troops.

About the 10 Jun 44, some sixty-five German soldiers took over a part of the convent SANTA MARIA VERTIGHE at MONTE SAN SAVINO. There were apparently two Lieutenants in charge and one of these told Father GIANNOTTI Corrado that they were of some HERMANN GOERING formation.

On the evening of the 28 Jun 44, someone held a conference with these soldiers. The following morning (Thursday, 29th. June 44), lorries were heard to leave between 0500 and 0600 hours. About 0730 hours, one of the soldiers who had remained behind, drew GIANNOTTI's attention to CIVITELLA. He then explained that the men who had left that morning had gone into the hills looking for partisans.

CESARENI and BIANCHI were brought here from SPOIANO for the purpose of having their identity documents checked.

A day or so after the atrocity, these same soldiers were holding an exercise in some nearby fields. Through some mishap, one of them was killed by one of their own shells. He was buried in the school grounds in front of VERTIGHE. I took possession of the cross on the grave and substituted a copy. The original was sent to an expert for examination, owing to the writing being faded through being exposed to the weather. The photograph and translation are attached and it is suggested that this man belonged to 6 COY, PARA. REG. 3, who were part of 1 PARA DIV. It is suggested that the name was actually UHLMANN and not UHMANN.

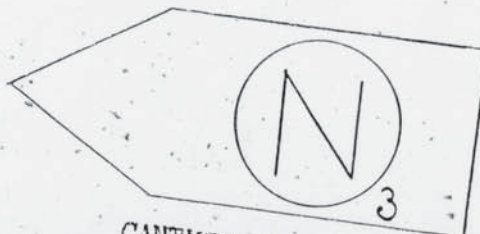
About the 13 Jun 44, a German soldier

went to the/....



/a German soldier

went to the Villa CANTUCCI at TERNI. Here he saw the owner CANTUCCI Gorgio, and told him that soldiers would be coming to occupy the area in a day or so. Before leaving he put a sign outside, pointing into the farmyard. This sign had a letter 'N' painted inside a circle and a figure '3' near it. See sketch.



CANTUCCI is sure that the colours were white and blue, but he cannot remember whether the 'N' was blue and the circle white or vice-versa. His wife CANTUCCI Maida also describes this sign.

Two days later, some sixty soldiers arrived and one officer. Again they all wore the HERMANN GOERING armband. These soldiers possessed several vehicles, all of which bore the sign which is described above.

CANTUCCI and his wife left the villa before the 29 Jun 44, being afraid that the soldiers may attract the attention of Allied aircraft. One of the farmers, MASSINI Giovanni, however, was here on this day. Although he did not see the soldiers leave, his attention was attracted by one, who had remained at CIVITELLA which could be seen burning in the distance. At 1500 hours, he saw the soldiers return with loot.

These soldiers left the area the same evening and all enquiries to trace them from here have failed. CANTUCCI and his wife returned to their home the same evening. The next day or so, when cleaning out the rooms which had been occupied by the soldier, he found an envelope which is now marked Exhibit 'B.' This envelope bears these particulars:- SOLDAT. WILHELM MATTHES, L 51756 IG. P.A. MUNICH II. This Fieldpost Number has not yet been traced.

On the 22 Jun 44, some fifteen German soldiers and a Lieutenant, occupied part of the farm buildings belonging to BONINI Giovanni Battista at FIEVE AL TOPPO. BONINI describes the Lieutenant but cannot give the identification of the unit. It is evident that these soldiers took part in the atrocity but it is impossible to establish their identity. Only the one statement from BONINI has been taken in this case, but everyone has been interviewed. No one, however, can give any assistance.

About mid June 44, some ten German soldiers and an Italian Sergeant Major took billets in a villa at OLIVETO. This Sergeant Major's name was either CANTINI or CONTINI. He is the man who was with the Germans in CIVITELLA on the evening of the 20 Jun 44, when they carried out an identity check. From the statement of GIANNINI Lorenzo, it appears that CANTINI left on several occasions, saying that he was going to CIVITELLA. OLIVETO is about two miles South of CIVITELLA and these were the nearest soldiers to the village. CANTINI, however, never went to the village, therefore his object must have been to watch it for some reason. It is suspected that he reported to the

German command when/....



/reported to the

German command when the majority of males had got over their scare and returned to their homes.

On the 29 Jun 44, about 0630 hours, GIANNINI saw some of these soldiers leave, accompanied by CANTINI. All were armed and some had camouflaged smocks. Unfortunately, he did not see them return. These soldiers displayed a sign in the locality of ALBERGO pointing towards the village of OLIVETO. This sign as described by ARRIGUCCI Enrico is similar to the one described previously in this report, only the number is different. It is a letter 'N' inside a circle followed by the figure '5.'

On the 19 Jun 44, some fifty German soldiers and an officer billeted in a villa at MULLIANO. All wore the HERMANN GOERRING arm-band. Apart from the badge which is described by PARUETI Fabio, nothing can be found regarding the identity of this unit.

It would appear that these soldiers knew of the type of work they had been brought into the area to do. In each case no one made friends with the civilians and they were most careful about removing any signs before leaving. The usual method of leaving a requisition sheet when taking an article from a civilian was ignored. These things all tend to prove that this work was not new to them and all precautions were taken to keep their identity secret.

In each of the eight previously mentioned localities, enquiries have been made in the hope of locating their previous billet or location. In each case the enquiries met with no success.

Efforts were then made to trace the troops after they left this area. It was only successful on one occasion. This was at the farm of LAMMIONI Giuseppe, POGGIO ALLE CASE at PIEVE A NRESCIANO. Here, some fifty German soldiers were billeted for one day. LAMMIONI and his sister PIA state the officer boasted of being at CIVITELLA and SAN PANCRAZIO.

From the statements of Ubaldo and NANNINI Elia, it can be seen that the soldiers under this officer, also talked of CIVITELLA.

When these soldiers departed from this area, they left behind the body of a cream coloured FIAT 1,100. It will be remembered that cream coloured FIATS visited CIVITELLA on the 20th and 27th Jun 44. A photograph was taken of the body of this car and it will be noted that the sign is a blue 'N' in a white circle, followed by the figure '6'. That is the third time the same sign has appeared and on each occasion, followed by a different number. First '3', then '5', and lastly '6.'

The statement made by GHEZZI Giuseppe of NRESCIANO refers to troops, whose trucks which were of Italian and German make, bore the same sign. No connection, however, can be made between these men and the atrocity. These troops were billeted at the house of GHEZZI but did not leave on the 29 Jun 44. GHEZZI, on one occasion asked the Major in charge

the meaning of/....



Major in charge

the meaning of this sign and was told it was an "ARMoured DIVISION."

GIROLDINI Gino is a Maresciallo Maggiore in the Italian Army. In October 43, he joined the partisan band under SOCCIELLI. Owing to the shortage of arms, he used to mix amongst the Germans sifting for information. During the course of his investigations he was told that the dispersed German 14th. Division was in the area for the purpose of reforming. He then discovered that certain elements of this Division were billeted at the following places:- Villa BONINI at PTEVE AL TORO, MUGLIANO, TEGOLETO, ALBERORO and Villa MANCINI at MONTE SAN SAVINO.

It will be noted that these, are places already referred to and at which we were unable to identify the troops. Only an envelope was found at one place, the Villa CANTUCCI at TEGOLETO. GIROLDINI is sure that these troops were in the places mentioned at the time of the atrocity and that they did not leave until a day before the Allied occupation.

He made notes of the signs displayed on their vehicles and three are as follows:-

- (1) A white hexagonal background with blue diagonal bar across from lower left corner to right top corner.
- 33,990 (2) A green palm tree on a white circular background.
- (3) A black elephant on a white circular background.

There is no doubt that as these troops were in these billets at the time, they must have played some part in this atrocity. The civilians in this area have again been interviewed since this information was received in the hope of establishing the identity of these soldiers. However, no further evidence was obtained.

The Fascists referred to earlier in this report, namely LUGURNANI Dino of CIGGLIANO, FRATESI Celso of CIGGLIANO and LAMMIONI Ezio of BUCINE were interviewed. LAMMIONI was interviewed at TERNI on the 22 Feb 45, where he is interned. He denied all knowledge of the atrocity saying that at the time, he was in FLORENCE. He was questioned extensively regarding his activities but always strenuously denied ever being to SAN PANCRAZIO on the 29 Jun 44.

LUGURNANI and FRATESI were interviewed at SALERNO on the 26 Feb 45. LUGURNANI denies ever going to CORNIA, stating that he spent the whole day in CIGGLIANO. However, no one but his parents substantiate this. His father discovered that enquiries were being made regarding his son and immediately started to take statements contradicting that of FELICIONI Ottavio. One witness who was approached in this way was FIGRAVANTI Leda (See statement).

FRATESI Celso said that on the 29 Jun 44, he

was with his/....