

29 Via Spinello,  
Arezzo.

8 December 44.

STATEMENT OF:-

GARALLI Biuardo,      Male.  
29 Via Spinello,      Aged 31 years.  
Arezzo.

Who saith,

I am an American citizen. I was born in  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, USA, on 7th. July 1913 and lived in  
AMERICA until 1932, when I returned to ITALY to study in  
FLORENCE.

I both read and write English and am employed  
as an interpreter for EPSC Allied Military Government, AREZZO.

I joined the RAGGRUPPAMENTO "AMIATA" Brigade  
of partisans on 3rd February 1944 until 20th. July 1944, and  
acted as Liaison Officer between the National Committee of  
Liberation and my partisan brigade.

About 0700 hours on Thursday, 29th. June 1944,  
I was in bed with my wife Elia and my daughter Maria Louise,  
aged two years, at the house of CHIATTI Stefano, near CORNEA.

We were awakened by the sound of automatic small  
arms fire which came from the direction of CIVITELLA which is  
about one and a half kilometres away.

I immediately got out of bed with both my wife  
and baby and went outside my house where I learned from my  
neighbours that SS troops had entered CIVITELLA and were  
killing the inhabitants. With other civilians of CORNEA  
we went to a well hidden valley about 300 yards away and hid.  
In all there were about twenty civilians in this valley.

Later with an escaped South African prisoner  
of war whom I knew as "Bill" WILLIAMS, I walked to the top of  
the rise and from a position of observation saw an open truck  
driven from the direction of CIVITELLA enter the yard of a  
farm-house about 500 metres away from us. A crowd of men  
whom I took to be German soldiers jumped from the truck firing  
sub-machine guns towards the house. They were too far away  
from me to describe them but we could hear them shouting like  
madmen. They were there about fifteen minutes and I saw a  
fire start in the house. They were firing all the time and  
as stray shots were passing over our heads we moved back to  
our hiding place. We afterwards heard trucks going towards  
CORNEA.

Shortly after 0900 hours we heard the sound  
of small arms automatic fire from the direction of CORNEA  
and I crept forward up the hill and although I could not see  
the village I saw dense clouds of smoke rising from its  
direction, which indicated to me that the village was on fire.

About 1100 hours everything went quiet but we  
did not move from the valley until the evening. We made our

way to another/....

/We made our

way to another valley where there was a hut which we had constructed for escaped British prisoners of war.

The next morning we moved back to our original hiding place.

On the 8th. July 1944, with my family, some civilians and three British prisoners of war, we decided to try and contact the British.

We succeeded in doing so on the 9th. July 1944, at CIGGIANO.

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

(Sgd) GARALLI Eduardo.

Statement taken by Sgt Charles, 78 Section, SIB, on Friday, 8th. December, 1944, at AREZZO.