

272

10, San Pancrazio,
Comune of Bucine,
Arezzo.

30 January 45.

STATEMENT OF:-

GAVILLI Annita,
San Pancrazio,
Bucine.

Female.
Aged 44 years.

Who saith,

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

About 0600 hours on the 29th. June, 1944, I was in the house when I heard the sound of some motor cars in the village. Upon looking through the window I saw some German soldiers in the street, so as a precaution I locked the front door. My husband GAVILLI Giro, aged 44 years, a labourer, was at this time, in bed with an illness.

A short time later two German soldiers came to my house and asked for food. They went upstairs and saw my husband in bed. I explained that he was ill and they said that if any other soldiers came and saw him, I must not reveal that they had seen him. They then went away with the food that I had given them. I cannot describe these soldiers.

My husband remained in bed, and about 1330 hours as I was looking through the window I saw all the women and children being escorted away from the village by German soldiers. I informed my husband and advised him to come with me and the children away from the village. He agreed to my suggestion and he got up and dressed. On our way through the village we passed two soldiers who did not stop us, but upon going out of the village another soldier told my husband to go to the PIAZZA. At the same time he ordered me to take my children at least two kilometres away. That was the last time I saw my husband alive and I have not seen him since.

Later that day I learned that the houses in the village had been set on fire by the German soldiers and that there was no trace of the men. I remained in the woods outside the village until the arrival of the Allied troops some weeks later.

After learning what the Germans had done to the men of the village, I am led to believe that my husband suffered a similar fate. My husband was not a partisan and never at any time did he do any harm to the Germans during their occupation. To the best of my knowledge there was no trial or court of any kind held in SAN PANCRAZIO on the 29th. June, 1944.

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

(Sgd.) Annita GAVILLI.

The above statement taken down in Italian and signature witnessed by Sgt. SALZMANN.M., Interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. VICKERS, both of 78 Section S.I.B., at SAN PANCRAZIO on the 30th. January, 1944.

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