

Civitella,  
Arezzo.

10 November 44.

STATEMENT OF :-

MARZOLI Francesco,  
Capo Contra di Sopra,  
Civitella,, Arezzo.

Male  
59 years.

Who saith,

I am a farmer and have lived at the above address for the last seventeen years.

About 2130 hours on Sunday 18 June 44, I went to the DOPO LAVORO CLUB, CIVITELLA. As I passed through the outside room of the club I noticed four German soldiers sitting down listening to the radio. I cannot describe these Germans; I did not pay much attention to them. There were also a few Italian civilians in the room.

I passed through into the bar and found several Italian civilians inside drinking. There were no German soldiers present in the bar.

About fifteen minutes later I was standing at the bar drinking when I heard a voice in the outside room say in Italian, "Hands up". Immediately afterwards I heard the sound of machine gun fire, one burst.

The lights went out in the bar and I heard someone shout in Italian, "Outside Italians." The lights remained on in the outside room.

I put my hands above my head and walked out of the bar into the outside room. In this room were four or five men dressed in khaki and carrying rifles. I did not recognise any of them.

I was ordered to pass behind them and in consequence I could not see anyone else in the room, these men blocked my view.

I went home quickly and did not return to CIVITELLA until the morning of St. Peter and St. Paul's Day.

During the intervening period I saw no German soldiers and as far as I know the district remained quiet and undisturbed.

On the morning of the 29 June 44, it was necessary for me to obtain meat from a butcher in CIVITELLA and accordingly I made my way there, arriving in the town at about 0700 hours.

The town was quiet when I entered by the West gate; there were no Germans in the town and I went to the butcher and after completing my purchases I was walking homewards when at the West gate I saw many Germans. I cannot estimate the number. They were firing machine guns and rifles at Italian Civilians who were trying to leave the town.

I joined in with the Italians and was walking through  
the gate when /....

/was walking through

the gate when I heard a man near me shout " My God, I am wounded".

I was at this time, carrying the meat under my left arm and was holding my right arm above my head. I carried on walking and saw that there was another party of the Germans on the road in front of me.

Seizing an opportunity I ducked and ran to a vineyard on the right of the road.

At the same time I noticed blood on my right hand which I was still holding up and felt blood running down my back.

I ran through the vineyard and made my way across country to my home.

My hand and my back was hurting me and it was a difficult journey, but I managed to get home without assistance.

At my home my wounds were bandaged by my wife and friends. I then took to the woods until the British captured OLIVETO about a fortnight later, because I was afraid of the Germans.

After the Germans had retreated I received medical aid from an English officer at a hospital near OLIVETO.

I returned to my home about eight or nine days after OLIVITELLA was liberated by the British.

After I returned home I was treated by Doctor GAMBASSINI, the doctor of OLIVITELLA.

I cannot describe the German soldiers; I was very frightened, there was a lot of smoke with the shooting going on and my mind is still confused as to what happened.

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

(Sgd.) MARZOLI Francesco.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by MAYER Massimo, interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. CHARLES, both of 78 Section SIB on Friday 10th November, 1944.

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

(Sgd.) MAYER Massimo.