

Civitella,
Arezzo.

16 November 44.

STATEMENT OF:-

MARSILI Paolina, Female.
Civitella, 24 years.
Arezzo.

Who saith,

I am a shopkeeper and have lived in CIVITELLA all my life and am the daughter of MARSILI Emilio who was killed on the 29 June 44. He was a shopkeeper aged 67 years and had lived in CIVITELLA all his life.

About 2100 hours on Sunday, 18th. June 1944, I was at home with my father listening to the radio when I heard a woman crying in the street outside my house. I went outside, spoke to her and ascertained that some Germans had been shot in the DOPO LAVORO Club.

None of us in the house went to bed that night but were preparing to leave the house the following morning. This was because we were afraid the Germans might come and harm us.

About 0600 hours on Monday, 19th. June, 1944, we left our home and went into the hills about two kilometres from CIVITELLA staying there for six days.

The town was quiet and I saw no Germans until 29 June 44.

On that day about 0700 hours I attended a service at the church of SANTA MARIA ASSUNTA. I was alone. Towards the end of the service I heard shots outside and shortly afterwards two German soldiers entered the church. They were very tall men, both blond, wearing steel helmets. I cannot remember the rest of their dress but they were carrying rifles slung across their backs and were each holding a revolver in their hands. They were shouting, "Rouse, Rouse," and menacing the congregation with their revolvers. The people started to leave the church and I moved out of the church with them. On the Piazza outside, I saw that the men were being separated from the women and children. There were about twenty Germans in the Piazza. We were directed to leave the square. I went to my home and found my house on fire from the top floors. I had seen no houses on fire previous to this.

In the square I saw the bodies of three men lying on the road. They were MARSILI Emilio, my father, who appeared to have been shot in the left side of his head, VARNUCCHI Silvio, 52 years, an evacuee from PIEVE ALTOPPO, who had been shot in the head and TIEZZI Leonello, a native of CIVITELLA. There was a lot of blood on him. All these men were dead.

I left the town and made my way to the house of my aunt at VICIO MAGGIO, eight kilometres from CIVITELLA.

I saw no more bodies on the way to my aunt's.

I Returned to/....

/to my aunt's.

I returned to CIVITELLA on the 1 August 44. My house was completely destroyed and all my belongings were lost in the fire in my house.

My father was not a partisan and had never assisted them. He was a Fascist until the fall of Mussolini, but only because he had to be in order to make a living.

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

(Sgd) MARSILI Paolina.

Statement written down in Italian and signature witnessed by MASSIMO MAYER, Interpreter, in the presence of Sgt Charles, both of 78 Section, SID, on Thursday, 16th. November 1944, at CIVITELLA.

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

(Sgd) MASSIMO MAYER.