

Civitella,
Arezzo.

23 November 44.

STATEMENT OF :-

BOZZI Giuseppa,
Podere alla Fonte,
Civitella.... Arezzo.

Female
47 years.

Who saith,

I am the widow of BOZZI Conforto. He was 48 years of age. We have lived on this farm for the past thirty years.

The farm is about one kilometre south of CIVITELLA.

On Sunday 18 June 44, some civilians called at the farm during the evening. They told me that two German soldiers had been killed at the DOPO LAVORO CLUB. I did not worry seeing as we do not live in the village.

On Tuesday 20 June 44, about 1900 hours, some German soldiers came to the farm. These soldiers were dressed in camouflage jackets, steel helmets and were all armed.

These soldiers ordered everyone outside and then searched the house. They did not harm anyone that evening but when they went away five ducks and fifteen kilo of cheesewas taken.

The next time I saw the Germans was on Thursday 29 June 44. About 0600 hours I saw some German Lorries on the CIVITELLA road also some German soldiers in the fields.

About 0700 hours, I saw some of these soldiers coming towards the farm and thought that they were coming to take some more of my stock. So I sent my son Alighiero, 26 years away with the oxen whilst I saw to the sheep. Whilst I was doing this I looked back to the farm and saw my husband with three of our sons walking away with the Germans. The three sons were:- Bernardo, 28 years, Fernando, 20 years, Pietro, 19 years.

I was about five hundred metres away from them when I heard some shooting and then saw my husband and sons fall one at a time.

I then ran to my son who had taken the oxen away to tell him what I had seen. He was being fired at by some German from the village but he was hiding behind a rock and not hurt. My son had no boots or coat so I told him to wait until I went back home and got them for him.

When I got back to the farm, I first went to see my husband and sons. All of them had bullet wounds in the head and the two youngest were still alive. I could not help them as they were too big and heavy for me to lift.

I then went to the house to get the coat and boots but whilst I was here six German soldiers came asking for the men. I told them the men were already dead, they then told me to get out of the house. I refused to do this and sat on the steps outside.

The Germans set fire to the bedroom but after they left I put this out.

I then went back to my son Alighiero and told him to run away/....

/and told him

to run away and hide in the woods, then I came back to the house.

I could not do anything for the men who were dead as I could not move them. About 1700 hours in the evening two men called at the farm whom I do not know; they carried my husband and sons into the barn and we washed them as best we could. About 1900 hours Alighiero returned and he and the other two men made three coffins. These coffins took all day Friday to make.

About 1500 hours on Saturday 4 July 44, the bodies of my husband and sons were put into these boxes. Then Alighiero and I put them onto a handcart and pushed them to the cemetery.

There was no priest present at the cemetery so we buried them as best we could.

I cannot remember anything about the Germans except that they were all dressed in camouflage jackets and wore steel helmets.

My husband and sons were not Partisans and they never helped the Partisans in any way.

This statement has been read over to me. It is correct and true. I herewith append my mark.

(Sgc.) X Mark of BOZZI Giuseppa.

Statement written down in Italian and read over and mark witnessed by DI DUCA Bragia, interpreter, in the presence of Sgt. OLEWLOW, both of 78 Section SIB. on Thursday 23rd November, 1944, at CIVITELLA, AREZZO.

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

DI DUCA Bragia.