

HIDDEN HEROES OF BRACCIANO



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BRACCIANO

ITS ROLE DURING WORLD WAR II



1. Strategic Importance

2. Clashes and Battles

3. Impact on Civilians





UDINO BOMBIERI

the beginning of his career



YEAR 1915

He was born in Grezzana,
but not much is
documented about his
early life

YEAR 1937

He began his military
career in the
"Cavalleggeri Guide"
Regiment

YEAR 1938

He was promoted to
sergeant and he was sent
to Albania

YEAR 1939

He returned to Italy,
ending his first foreign
deployment



Udino Bombieri

The Sacrifice for his Country.

01

On **September 9, 1943**, at around **12:00 PM**, Udino Bombieri and his platoon, in their M13 self-propelled tank, engaged a German Panzer unit near Bracciano. Bombieri's men fired all their ammunition, disabling two Panzer IV tanks by hitting their tracks and killing a few German soldiers.

02

The Italian tank was soon hit by enemy fire, rendering it immobile. Despite being **under heavy attack**, Bombieri remained calm and took control of the situation.

03

Already wounded, Bombieri ordered his radio operator and driver to abandon the tank, ensuring their safety as the battle continued. **He stayed behind**, committed to **protecting** the vehicle.

04

Bombieri, **still inside** the damaged tank, attempted to disassemble the machine gun to prevent the Germans from capturing it.

05

A German soldier, flanking the battlefield from **Olmata-Tre Cancelli**, approached unseen while Bombieri was on the ground, trying to remove the gun.

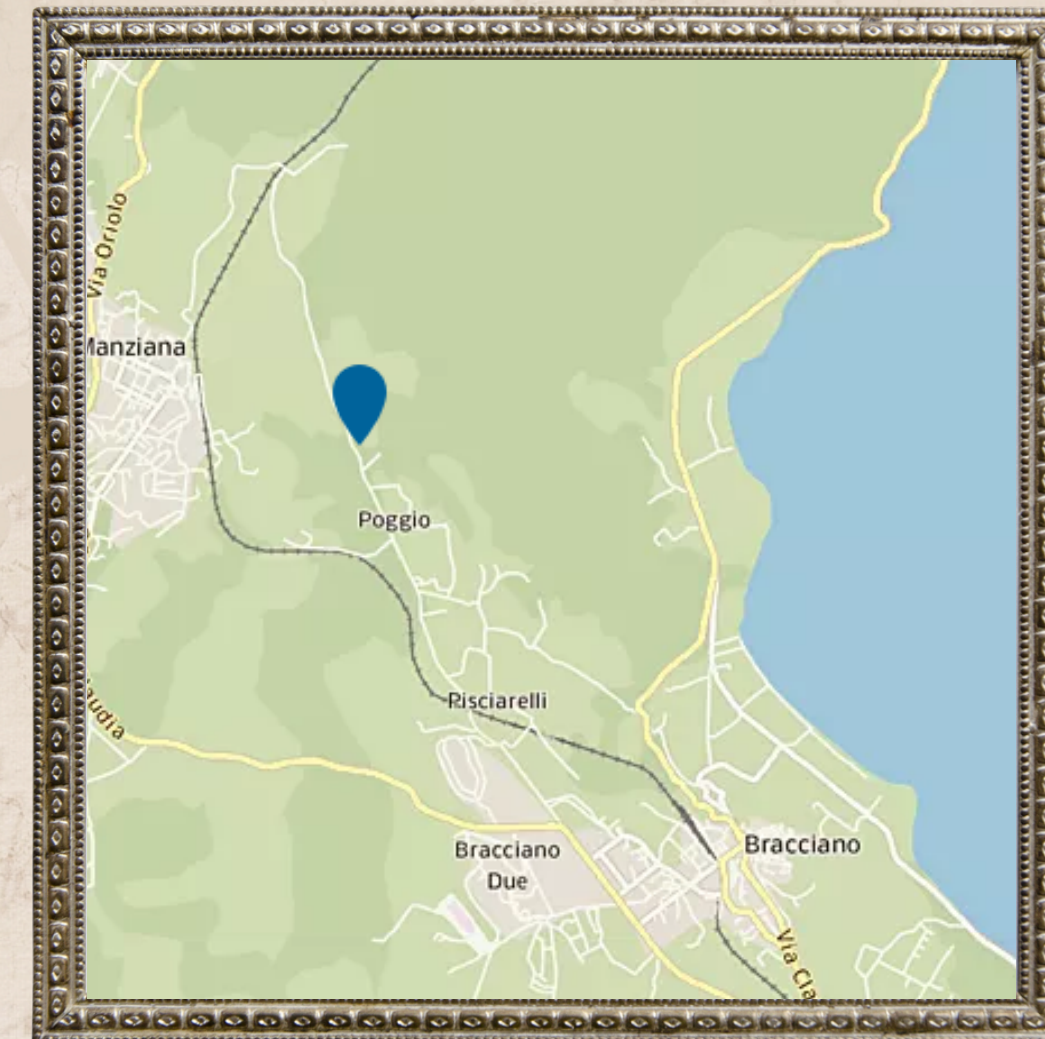
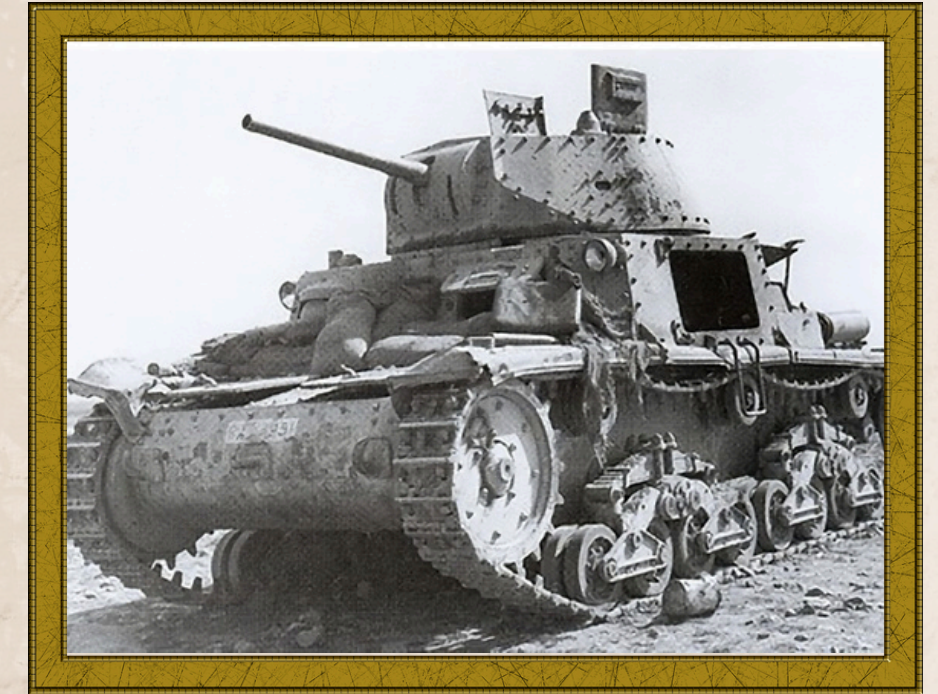
06

The German soldier fired a **fatal shot** directly at Bombieri's head, killing him instantly while he lay wounded next to the tank.

07

Before dying, Bombieri had signaled his platoon commander not to risk helping him, urging him to return to the fight. He was posthumously awarded the **Gold Medal for Military Valor**.

M13 Tank



Olmata-Tre Cancelli

His heritage

Udino Bombieri, Gold Medal for Military Valour which is Italy's highest military honour. He exemplified a hero who sacrificed his life for those values that inspire hope for a better future.



MEDAGLIA D'ORO AL VALOR MILITARE
BOMBIERI UDINO DI LUCIANO E FU
FERRARI SPERANZA, DA LUGO DI GREZZANO
(VERONA), SERGENTE MAGGIORE, 10° LANCIERI
V. EMANUELE II, III GRUPPO, 8° SQUADRONE
(ALLA MEMORIA)

CAPO CARRO E VICE COMANDANTE DI PLOTONE,
RICEVUTO L'ORDINE DI ABBANDONARE IL PROPRIO
SEMOVENTE ORMAI INUTILIZZATO DA UNA PERFORANTE
GERMANICA, GIÀ FERITO, ORDINAVA AL MARCONISTA
ED AL PILOTA DI LASCIARE IL SEMOVENTE E RIMANEVA
SOTTO LE RAFFICHE NEMICHE PER INUTILIZZARLO
COMPLETAMENTE. COLPITO NUOVAMENTE DA SCHEGGE
DI GRANATA NON ABBANDONAVA IL CARRO FINO A
CHE NON ERA SICURO DI LASCIARLO COMPLETAMENTE
FUORI USO NELLE MANI DEL NEMICO. CADUTO FERITO
MORTALMENTE FACEVA CENNO AL PROPRIO COMAN-
DANTE DI PLOTONE CHE CERCAVA AVVICINARGLISI
E DI PORTARGLI SOCCORSO, DI NON CURARSI DI LUI
DI NON ESPORSI DI TORNARE AL SUO PLOTONE IN
COMBATTIMENTO. CONTINUAVA IL FUOCO CON IL
MITRA, ACCASCIATO POCO LONTANO DAL PROPRIO
CARRO IN FIAMME, FINO A CHE NON VENIVA COLTO
ALLE SPALLE E UCCISO A REVOLVERATE
DA GRANATIERI GERMANICI.-

BRACCIANO, 9 SETTEMBRE 1943.

DECRETO 31 GENNAIO 1947

BOLLETTINO UFFICIALE ANNO 1947-DISP. 12°-PAG. 1152

Still remembering him in Grezzana and Bracciano.



The Partisans And The Resistance

During World War II, the Italian resistance “Partisans” played a crucial role in opposing Nazi occupation and Fascist Rule.

Bracciano also witnessed resistance activity, Local Groups formed to resist the occupation, often making use of dense the countryside for hiding and launching surprise attacks.



The women of the Resistance

Before

MOTIVATION:

Evolution in military action was the result of two situations:

- Women's deliberate choice to fight
- the need to escape capture, after having been identified as anti-fascists.



Tina Anselmi
first woman to be elected a minister in
1976

During

ROLES:

- - Women often served as nurses and medics, providing medical care to wounded fighters.
- - They gathered food, clothes and medicine and also assisted the families of fallen or imprisoned Partisans
- - Many women served as couriers delivering vital information, intelligence and orders to partisan groups.
- - Others fought directly in battles alongside their male counterparts.

"I didn't come here to look for a lover. I am here to fight and I will stay here only if you give me a weapon and put me among those who have to keep watch and carry out actions. Plus I'll be a nurse. If you agree I'll stay, if not I'll leave".

Elsa Oliva



- Even if we have an idealised view of these strong women, we should be aware of the fact they faced immense risks. If captured by Nazi or fascist forces, they were subject to brutal treatment, including torture, rape and deportation.

- The importance of their role in the "Resistenza" was not immediately recognised and the bravery of these women was often downplayed or ignored due to the social gender conventions of the time.

After

More than 55,000 partisans
16 gold medals
1946 First universal suffrage
Liberation Day



Sacca di Colorno tombstone



Ines Bedeschi

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**Thank
you**

