The intervention of the Photogrammetric Unit of the Bari traffic police in Basilicata

The Bari Police Department is equipped with a Photogrammetric Unit which, made up of three specially trained traffic police, operates in the city with a van equipped for the photogrammetric survey of road accidents and for checks on construction sites.

The Unit is equipped with a Wild C120 stereometric chamber, with a base of 120 cm and wide-angle optics, suitable for shooting within an angle of 60 ° between a minimum distance of 6 meters and a maximum of 24 meters.

Born as part of the research project aimed at "Photogrammetry and protection of the territory", started by the Chair of Architectural Photogrammetry of the University of Bari, the UF, completely independent as regards the development and printing of photographic material, uses for translation of the reliefs from photographic to graphic language, a Wild A40 restitutor made available by the Department of Culture of the Puglia Region and placed at the University.

In addition to the survey of road accidents, the Photogrammetric Unit has been engaged, at the explicit request of the judiciary, in the fight against illegal construction as a "police eye" which intervenes, especially as a preventive measure, to avoid infractions governing the matter. building.

I would also like to mention the reliefs of some farms, towers and fortified works in the municipal area, carried out on the occasion of the cycle of "Bari rediscovered" events, organized by the Municipality's Department of Culture.

In 1980, as I will say shortly, the Photogrammetric Unit intervened to survey many monuments affected by the earthquake.

I would like to immediately point out that in the face of this meritorious and courageous initiative of the Municipality of Bari, there has not been an adequate development. For each survey carried out, there was never a request for translations of the reliefs themselves into graphic language, which would have entailed the permanent displacement of at least two police officers at the University, but even if the Corps had equipped itself with its own restitutor, I believe that, thanks to photogrammetry, we would have canceled the cultural operation which consists precisely in reading the photographs, which is up to the user of the survey and which would have brought our policemen out of their institutional task.

But let's get to the findings made on the occasion of the earthquake.

A few days after the serious catastrophe that hit Basilicata and precisely on 12-12-1980, Prof. Antonio Daddabbo proposed the use of the photogrammetric unit for the reliefs of monuments damaged by the earthquake.

Friendship relations prevented me from replying negatively, so I started all the initiatives to provide me with the necessary authorizations from the superiors of the same municipal administration, which proved to be very sensitive in this circumstance: but perhaps I will never be able to describe the difficulties met to explain why the city police of Bari had to take over the monuments of Basilicata.

To the same Superintendency of Basilicata, which we reached with an adventurous journey between detours and icy roads, when I went to communicate the availability of the Municipal Administration of Bari, I don't think that the perplexities were minor and, to be honest, the most perplexed I was really me. In fact, only a few days the components of the photogrammetric unit had begun to grapple with the architectural survey: but the serious situation created by the earthquake, fortunately, made any type of indecision impossible. After clearing the plans for immediate intervention with the Superintendent of Potenza, Architect Bucci, the dispatch of the traffic police to the earthquake zone of Basilicata began on 5-12-1980: due to the severity of the season, the double chamber was mounted on an AH car, type Campagnola, supplied to the Corps. I don't think that such equipment has ever undergone a test like that in our past. The U. F. operated, in fact, in the presence of obstacles once deemed insurmountable. Shoots were made despite the presence of ice making it dangerous to move the delicate equipment with your hands. Rain and wind and sleet did not suggest any damage to the instrument. The low light has led to shutter speeds of over 10 minutes, but the results have been more than satisfactory.

Although having the U. F. a recovery potential of 240 plates, in our situation it has been exploited to a minimum, since most of the time

was used to move from one country to another. Initially the intervention was daily, with the use of the two crews making up the unit on alternate days. It was subsequently deemed appropriate

bring the crew members to three and operate, more profitably, on alternate days.

The average distance at which it was operated was 200 Km .; the U. F. left at six in the morning from Bari and returned there at around 19.30. In total IU has traveled about 9,000 km in the earthquake-stricken areas of Basilicata; the brigade stopped in thirty locations and shooting 40 monuments, they took a total of 1,368 frames.

To give an illustrative and summarizing idea of the commitment and professional seriousness shown on the occasion by the good policemen, regardless of the difficulties and fatigue sustained, to the enthusiastic and pioneering directives of the Director of the civil expedition, the tireless Prof. Antonio Daddabbo , here is a summary of the monuments detected:

- 5-12-80 Tricarico Chiesa di S. Francesco, 13.
- 5-12-80 Tricarico Convento di Santa Chiara, 13.
- 6-12-80 Pignola Chiesa Madre, 3.
- 6-12-80 Pignola Torre dell'Orologio, 6.
- 6-12-80 Pignola Chiesa del Pantano, 6.
- 7-12-80 Abriola Chiesa Cattedrale, 36.
- 8-12-80 Pignola Chiesa di S. Donato, 16.
- 8-12-80 Pignola Chiesa Madre (interno), 21.
- 8-12-80 Pignola Chiesa di S. Rocco, 9.
- 11-12-80 Trivigno Chiesa Madre, 25.
- 12-12-80 Cancellara Chiesa Madre, 28.
- 12-12-80 Cancellara Castello, 25.
- 13-12-80 Balvano Chiesa Madre e P.zza Cavour, 29.
- 15-12-80 Pietragalla Palazzo Ducale, 36.
- 17-12-80 Montescaglioso Chiesa Madre, 56.
- 19-12-80 Acerenza Chiesa Cattedrale, 36.
- 21-12-60 Grassano Palazzo Ferri, 13.
- 21-12-80 Grassano Palazzo Materi, 12.
- 21-12-80 Grassano Palazzo Calia, 2.
- 21-12-80 Grassano Palazzo Ruggieri, 15.
- 21-12-80 Grassano Chiesa Madre (campanile), 1.
- 23-12-80 Pescopagano Convento, 24.

- 26-12-80 Lioni Chiesa Madre, 7.
- 26-12-80 Pescopagano Chiesa di S. Lorenzo, 10.
- 26-12-80 Pescopagano Chiesa Madre.
- 28-12-80 Muro Lucano Chiesa Madre Castello.
- 30-12-80 Pescopagano Chiesa di S. Vito, 5.
- 30-12-80 Pescopagano Chiesa Incoronata, 5.
- 30-12-80 Sant'Angelo dei L. Chiesa Madre, 34.
- 2-1-81 Bella Chiesa Madre, 34.
- 4-1-81 San Eele Chiesa Madre, 22.
- 6-1-81 Tito Chiesa Madre, 31.
- 10-1-81 Salandra Chiesa Madre, 10.
- 22-1 -81 Grottole Chiesa di Ruta, 35.
- 31-1-81 Maschito Chiesa Madre, 30.
- 3-2-81 Ripacandida Chiesa Madre, 25.
- 9-2-81 Rapone Chiesa Madre, 18.
- 14-2-81 Matera Palazzo del Governo, 26. '-

May this team and avant-garde work, entrusted for now only to the spontaneity of some very valid cultural operators, meet the favor and the correspondence of the political action of the public authorities, at a regional level above all, necessary for the practical implementation of the phase of research when offering a continuous and effective service.

It would be truly a pity and a lost historical opportunity if so much work of detection and cataloging, supported also by the encouraging contribution of operational opening of the local judiciary, would be dispersed by situations of realization contrast or even worse by the omissive indifference of those who have the power and duty to organize this new social service. We urban policemen, in our institutional modesty, supported by the broad moral and financial collaboration of our administration, are convinced and proud to have contributed to the most profitable dissemination and proselytism of the new photogrammetric operating technique and, aware of the relative prestige deriving from it to our Corps, we trust in a stable and programmed institutionalization of this modern system of environmental surveys, in defense of technological efficiency and real civil progress, based on the immediacy and maximum precision of results, which guarantee the most scrupulous truthfulness than detected. This report, without having the pretension to face the strictly technical questions of the new photogrammetric method, wants to be only a sure testimony of operativeness and commitment, not common in this particular moment of moral detachment of the

national life, by the Urban Police of Bari who, responding to the charge of enthusiasm impressed on them by Prof. Antonio Daddabbo, convinced supporter of the natural vocation of the Urban Police for the protection and protection of the environmental heritage, have been able to gain recognition, also of a national nature, of the decisive role played in the propaganda and effective application that photogrammetry can have in the conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage.

At the end of this brief illustration of our work carried out in the photogrammetric recovery of the monuments devastated by the earthquake, I hope that those who are duty-bound will not remain insensitive so that all this potential heritage of faithful restitution will not be lost.

With this wish, on behalf of the Bari Police Department, I confirm the widest availability for an organic connection of an interdisciplinary work of research and study, especially at the level of competence of the Puglia Region, and I extend to the Convegnists and Organizers of this original Study Seminar the most cordial and respectful greeting of all the members of the Bari Police Department.



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