

ACC 10000/1245/76 20084/2/c PISA - MISAPPROPRIATION OF ROBBLE

NOV. 1944 - MAR. 1945

APPROPRIATION OF RUBBLE

MAY 1945

MINUTES

20084/2/C

Misappropriation of Rubble① To: CA Section:

Letter at

19 Mar 45.

for approval and signature please

Connecticut Rubble

Minute Sheet

200 94/2/A / MFAA

PISA

TO: MEAA Sub=Commission.

23 Dec 44

In view of the fact that your Sub=Commission reports that PBS have on occasion been cooperative, will you please prepare a letter for the signature of the VP to PBS.

Although it is essential that a firm stand must be taken about the facts which you cite in your Memorandum, facts which will have to be included in your letter it is suggested that you phrase it diplomatically.

CA Section are not in agreement with the suggestion contained in paragraph 3 of Lieut. Hertt's letter. It is considered unnecessary to ask that notices signed by the Commanding General PBS should be prepared and affixed to monuments.

Will you therefore please request in your letter

- a) that an enquiry into the incident should be made
- b) that the persons involved should be disciplined.
- c) that PBS issue instructions that the AIG notices are to be obeyed.

Mr. G. S. Dulluck, Mayor

CA Section

775: MFAD

MFNA
TO confirm
Please redraft
consultation with the Director
para 2 of the

15 confirm ^{confront} para 2 of the
A. Please redraft

$P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_n$ as follows:

485

2. Therefore it is requested that P.B.S. investigate these two

- a) that persons involved be
in custody;
b) treat the
disciplined; General

disciplined; ~~disciplined~~ General.

MEMO
CA

Ref. letter RVIII/69/A/44 of 18 Dec 44 re Protection of Ruined Monuments. In this letter the Regional Commissioner, Toscana Region refers to incidents reported to him by MPAA officer Toscana Region on 13 Dec. 44 (RVIII/31/MPAA/9.4) and in part reported to SCAO AMG 5 Army in monthly report of MPAA officer 30 Nov 44 (207/9), - on the basis of a report submitted 25 Nov 44 by the Superintendent of Monuments for Pisa.

Since these communications by the MPAA officers were addressed to the Regional Commission Toscana Region in the one case, and to the SCAO AMG 5 Army in the other, and only copies sent to this office, this Section was awaiting action by the parties to whom the reports were made before taking action itself.

In view of the letter of the Regional Commissioner Toscana Region RVIII/69/A/44 to HQ, AC above referred to it would seem that action is now necessary from HQ, AC.

The facts reported and to be acted on are as follows:

- a) On 24 Nov 44 negro troops entered the ruined church of S. Paolo Ripa d'Arno on which an "Off-Limits" sign signed by General Clark had been posted and where Italian laborers were doing repair jobs for the Superintendency of Monuments and took by force considerable material necessary for the reroofing of the church. They scoffed at the sign and beat up the Italian laborers performing their duties.
- b) About the same time negro troops of the 838 Engineering organisation demolished all that remained of the house of Giuseppe Mazzini and most of the convent of S. Antonio, and wished to take the church as well, to provide rubble for Pisa airfield. The Provincial Commissioner, AME Pisa, refused permission and the church was spared.

It would appear from the above that these matters be brought to the attention of PBS, - which heretofore have been of greatest assistance to MPAA in helping to do proper repairs in the Pisa Region, - and that some disciplinary action be taken in case a) above.

December 23, 44

Ernest T. DeWard
Lt-Col.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

20084/2/3/AFSA

21 March 1945

Subject: Protection of Ruined Monuments - PISA.

To : RC, TONKINA Region.

1. On 18 Dec 44, under reference RVIII/69/A/44, you wrote to this Hq. asking that PBS be approached with a view to putting a stop to such conduct with regard to ruined monuments as had been reported in RVIII/31/AFSA/9.4 of 15 Dec 44.

2. On 2 Jan 45, under reference 20084/2/4/AFSA, this Hq. wrote to the Commanding General, PBS, presenting the facts as then stated and asking for an investigation and other suitable action. A copy of this letter was sent to your Hq.

3. Herewith, as forwarded by Hq. PBS, under indorsement dated 6 Mar 45, is a copy of the report of the investigation carried out by Army Air Force Engineer Command, MPO.

For the ONLY COMMISSIONER:

W. A. S. Dollard, Major

for C. R. DEJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Sec

Incls--

File of correspondence dealing
with above subject, covered
by 2nd Ind., Hq. PBS, dated
6 Mar 45.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

M + F. R. 2157

OOO.4

1st Ind

(J-1-7)

HQ, AAF ENGR COMD, MTO (PROV), APO 528, US Army, 2 Mar 1945.

THRU: Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section, APO 782, US Army.

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 394, US Army.

1. Transmitted is report of investigation requested in letter, Hq Allied Commission, Subject: Protection of Ruined Monuments, Pisa, 2 January 1945, and 1st Ind thereto, Hq, PBS, 11 January 1945.

2. The report of investigation discloses no grounds for disciplinary action against personnel of this command.

3. Additional instructions have been given to personnel in the Pisa Area in regard to the protection of monuments of historical, cultural or artistic significance.

For the Commanding Officer:

E. A. Barnes
E. A. BARNES,
Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

7 Incls: n/c

PBS 10979

AG OOO.4 BPAGO-0 (1 Mar '45) 2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION, APO 782, 6 March 1945

TO: Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 394, U. S. Army

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

O. M. Madien
O. M. MADIEN
Captain, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

3 Incls
n/c

9 MAR 1945

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A. C. C.
MONUMENTS FILE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSION

10 MAR 1945

FILE No

20054/2/1K

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

WDM/PS

Ref : 20034/-/A/AFCA

2 January 1945

SUBJECT: Protection of Ruined Monuments, PISA.

TO : Commanding General, PBS.

1. It is desired to draw your attention to the following incidents concerning ancient monuments in PISA, which have been reported to this Commission.

a. The MPAA Officer with AMG, TOSCANA Region has reported that on 24 Nov negro troops entered the ruined church of S. Paolo Ripe d'Arno (Piazza S. Paolo Ripe d'Arno; see A on plan attached), on which an Off-Limits sign carrying the signature of General Clark had been posted, and where Italian labourers directed by the Superintendent of Monuments were engaged in effecting repairs. These negro soldiers scoffed at the sign, beat up the Italian labourers, and removed by force a considerable amount of material necessary for the re-roofing of the church.

b. The same Officer reported that at about the same time negro troops of the 838 Engineering Unit demolished all that remained of the house of Giuseppe Mazzini (or Museo Mazziniano - Via Mazzini; see B on plan attached) and most of the Convent of S. Antonio (3. end of Via Mazzini; see C on plan attached). They were with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of the Allied Military Government from demolishing the church as well. These negro troops were in search of rubble for use in connection with the reconstruction of an air-field at PISA.

2. You have in the past been extremely cooperative in assisting the protection of ancient monuments and fine arts. Your assistance is again asked in order that recurrences of this sort may be avoided.

3. Therefore it is requested:

- a. that PBS investigate these two incidents;
- b. that the persons involved be disciplined;
- c. that the Commanding General issue instructions to PBS units that AMG notices for the protection of monuments of historical, cultural or artistic significance will be obeyed.

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1. It is desired to draw your attention to the following incidents concerning ancient monuments in PISA, which have been reported to this Commission.

a. The MPAA Officer with AMG, TOSCANA Region has reported that on 24 Nov negro troops entered the ruined church of S. Paolo Ripa d'Arno (Piazza S. Paolo Ripa d'Arno; see A on plan attached), on which an Off-limits sign carrying the signature of General Clark had been posted, and where Italian labourers directed by the Superintendent of Monuments were engaged in effecting repairs. These negro soldiers scoffed at the sign, beat up the Italian labourers, and removed by force a considerable amount of material necessary for the re-roofing of the church.

b. The same Officer reported that at about the same time negro troops of the 838 Engineering Unit demolished all that remained of the house of Giuseppe Mazzini (or Museo Mazziniano - Via Mazzini; see B on plan attached) and most of the Convent of S. Antonio (S. end of Via Mazzini; see C on plan attached). They were with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of the Allied Military Government from demolishing the church as well. These negro troops were in search of rubble for use in connection with the reconstruction of an airfield at PISA.

2. You have in the past been extremely cooperative in assisting the protection of ancient monuments and fine arts. Your assistance is again asked in order that recurrences of this sort may be avoided.

3. Therefore it is requested:

- a. that PES investigate these two incidents;
- b. that the persons involved be disciplined;
- c. that the Commanding General issue instructions to PES units that AMG notices for the protection of monuments of historical, cultural or artistic significance will be obeyed.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

T. R. H. H. H.
C.R. URUGAL, Brig
VP CA Sec
D.C.O.S.

1 Incl -

City-plan of PISA, with location of monuments marked.

Copies (see inclosure) to:
2.C. Toscana Region, attn. MPAA Officer
SCAG, AMG, 5 Army, attn. MPAA Officer

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY AIR FORCE ENGINEER COMMAND,
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (PROV.)
APO 528

(G-1-5)

1 March 1945

000.4

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation of Ruined Monuments, Pisa.

TO : Commanding Officer, Army Air Force Engineer Command,
MTO (Prov), APO 528.

1. Herewith is a report of investigation concerning ruined monuments at Pisa, Italy on or about 24 November 1944 involving the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion.

2. Facts:

a. Attached letter, including Certificate of 1st Lt Alonzo C. De Costa, marked Inclosure 1, from Headquarters Allied Commission, Ref: 20084/2/A/MFAA, points out three complaints in the Pisa area as follows:

- (1) Negro troops removed material from the ruined church of San Paolo Ripa d'Arno. (See A on attached plan of Inclosure 1)
- (2) That the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion demolished all that remained of the house of Giuseppe Mazzini. (See B on attached plan)
- (3) That the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion was with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of Allied Military Government from demolishing the church and convent of San Antonio. (See C on attached plan)

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3. Finding:

a. No evidence can be found that the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion troops entered the San Paolo Ripa d'Arno church to obtain material of any sort. See Exhibit A on policy of operations of 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion in the Pisa area. It is pointed out that a large number of colored troops are stationed in and around Pisa, Italy.

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(Ltr, 000.4, dated 1 Mar '45, contd)

b. The house of Giuseppe Mazzini which had been previously demolished was used by the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion for rubble since there was no marking on the buildings to show that it was of any historical importance or a monument of any sort. See Exhibits B, C and D from citizens of Pisa regarding the lack of markings on the buildings.

c. The statement that the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion was with difficulty restrained from demolishing the church and convent of San Antonio can not be substantiated since the officer in charge of securing rubble in Pisa contacted Lt Colonel Walters of Allied Military Government, Pisa to determine if the rubble of the church could be used. See Exhibit E of Lt Colonel Walters' and Exhibit F of Captain Kesselbacher of the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion.

4. Recommendations:

a. That no action be initiated against the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion since the action taken by them in securing rubble in Pisa was in good order and proper steps were taken to safeguard the monuments of Pisa.

b. That units of this Command be advised again to safeguard Italian monuments and when in doubt to contact local Allied Military Government officers for release when rubble is desired.

c. That this investigation be returned thru channels to Headquarters Allied Commission for handling thru the claims section for any action they desire concerning the house of Giuseppe Mazzini which was in a demolished condition and used by the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion for rubble since it was unmarked.

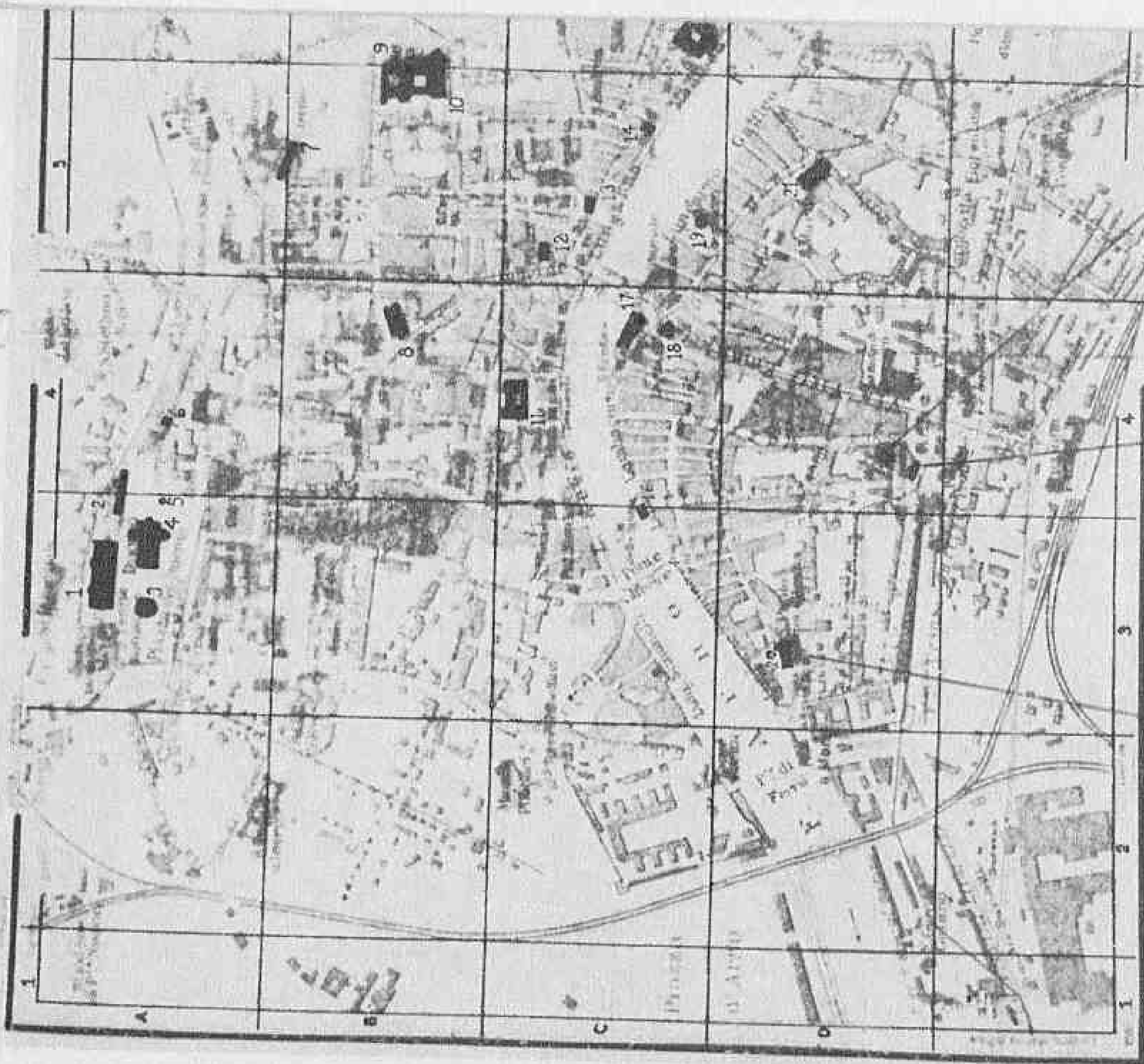
J. T. Latham
J. T. LATHAM,
Major, CE,
Investigating Officer.

7 Incls:

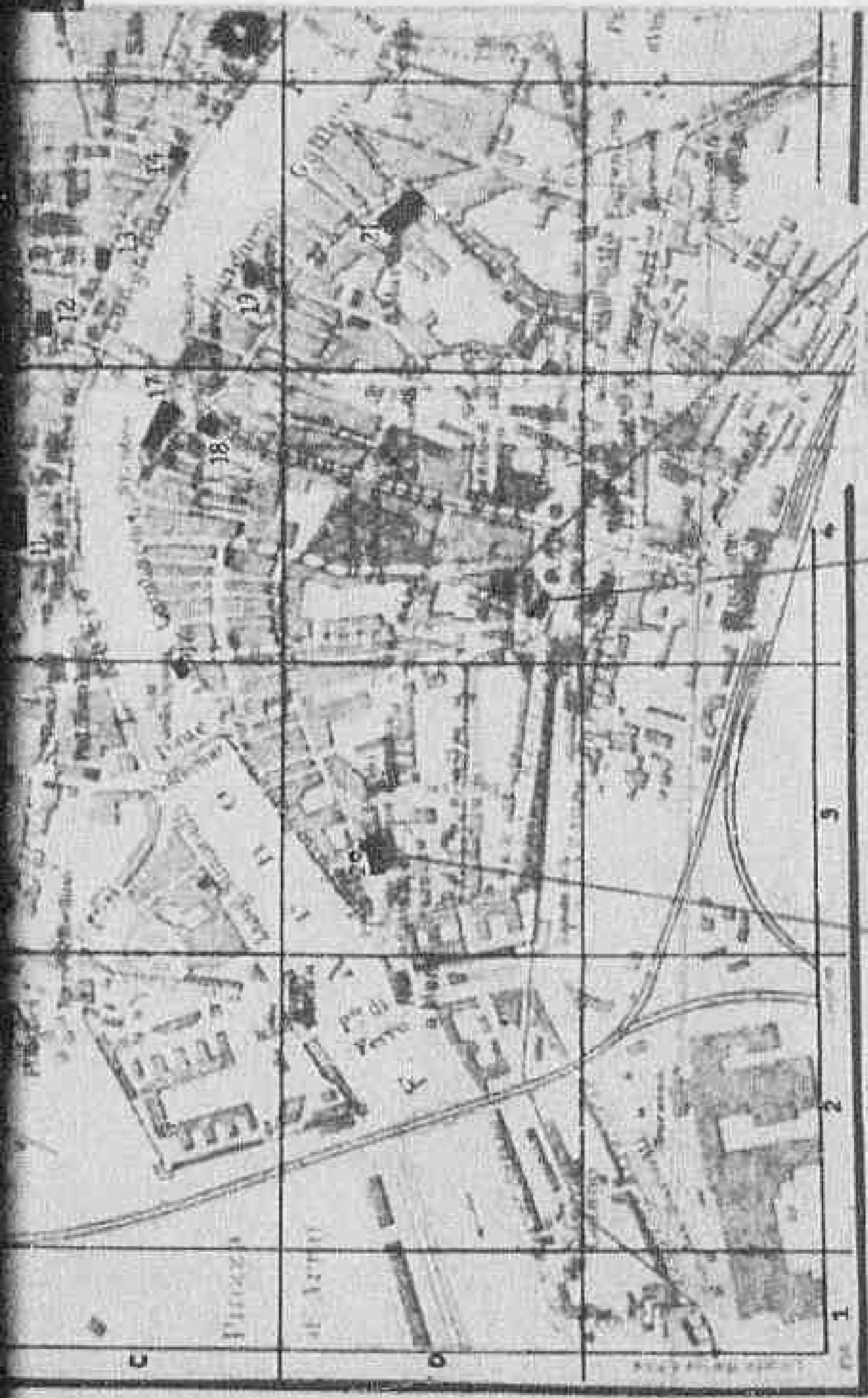
Incl 1 - Ltr, Hq AC, w/related papers.
Incl 2 - Exhibit A, Statement of Col C.H. Seranton.
Incl 3 - " B, " " Guido Pagni.
Incl 4 - " C, " " Alaide Vanni.
Incl 5 - " D, " " Maria Teresa Frediani.
Incl 6 - " E, " " Lt Col T.W.J. Walters.
Incl 7 - " F, " " Capt G.E. Kesselbacher.

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PISA, ITALY (PROV. PISA)



PISA, ITALY (PROV. PISA)

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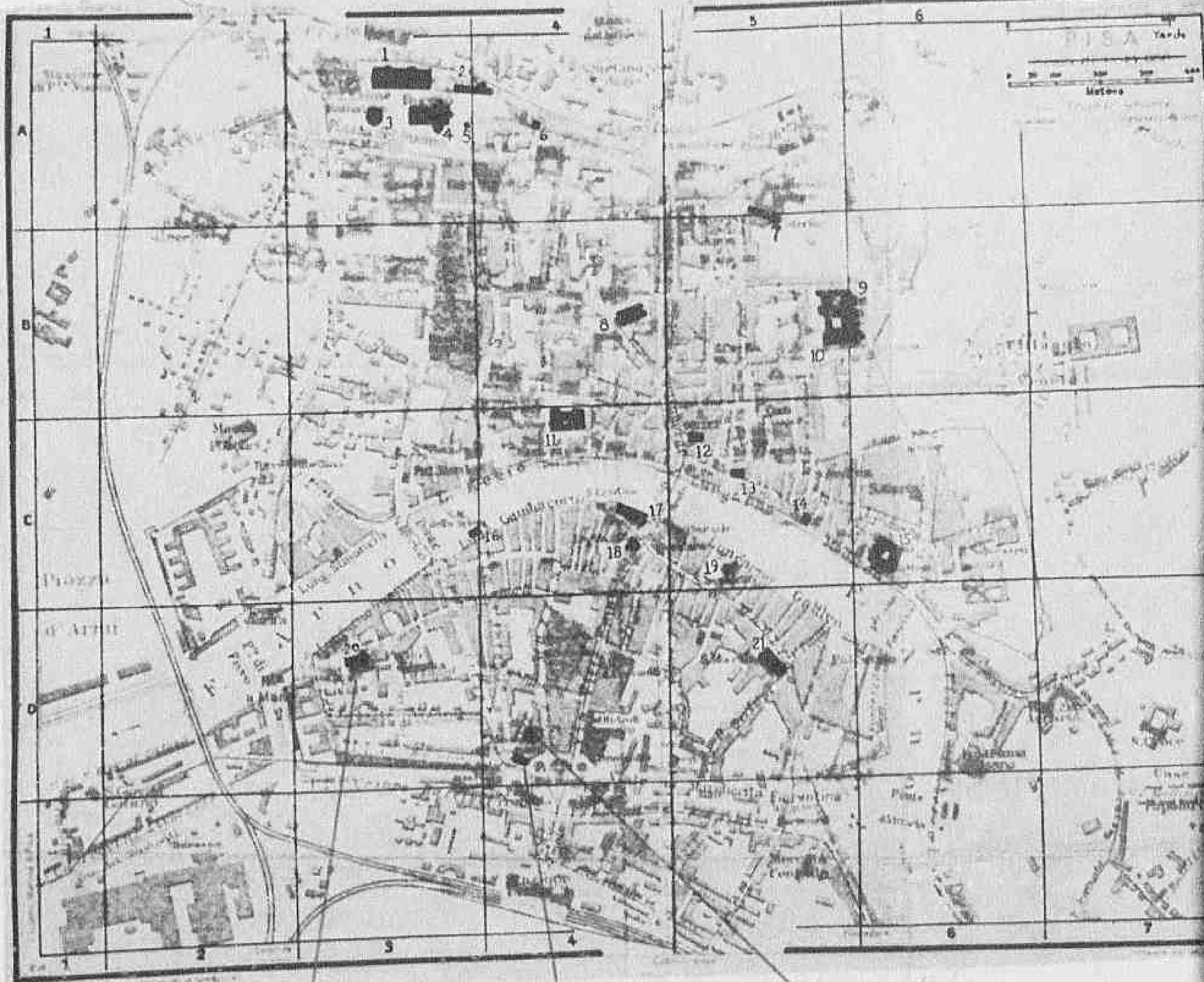
Sant' Antonio

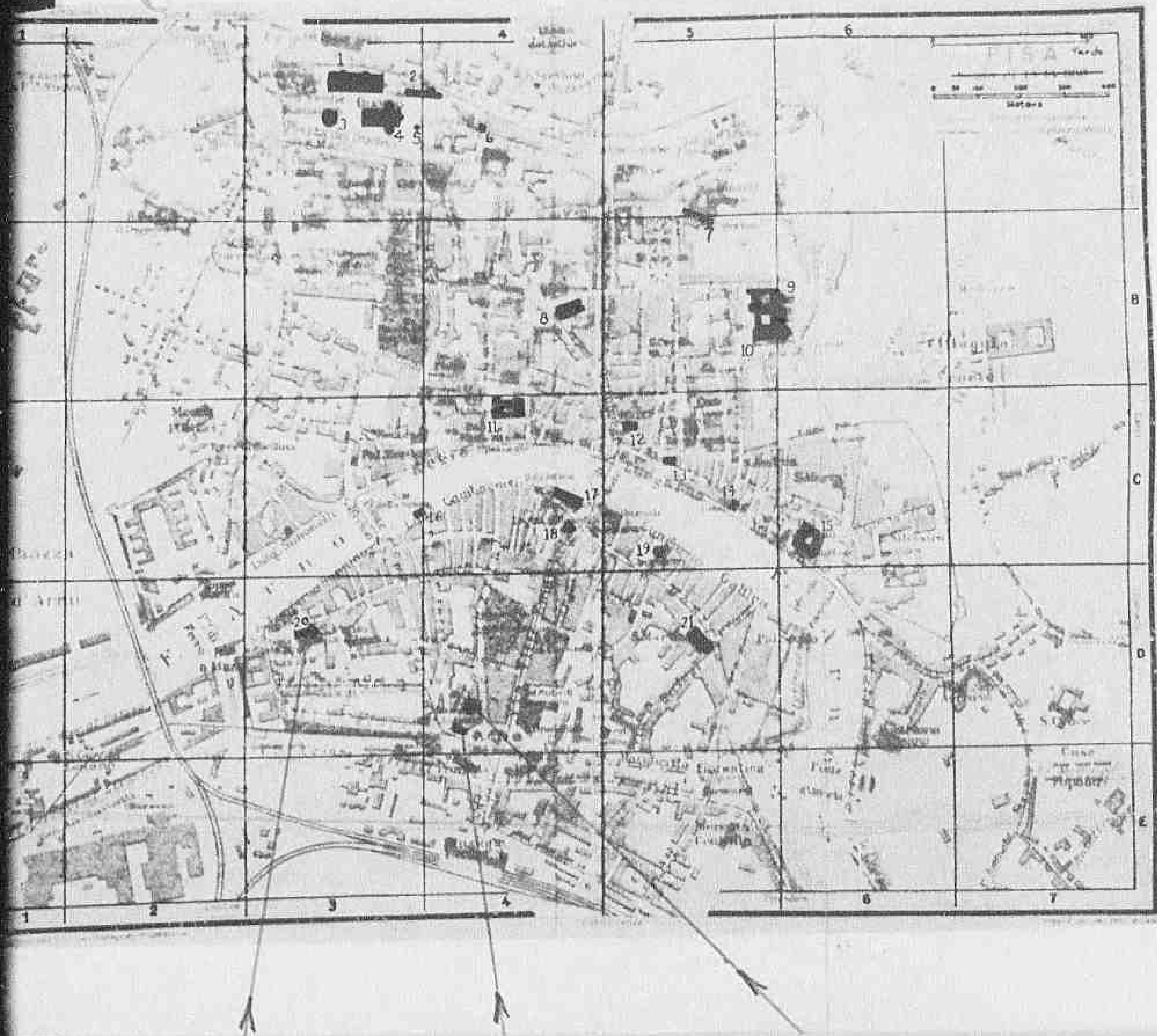
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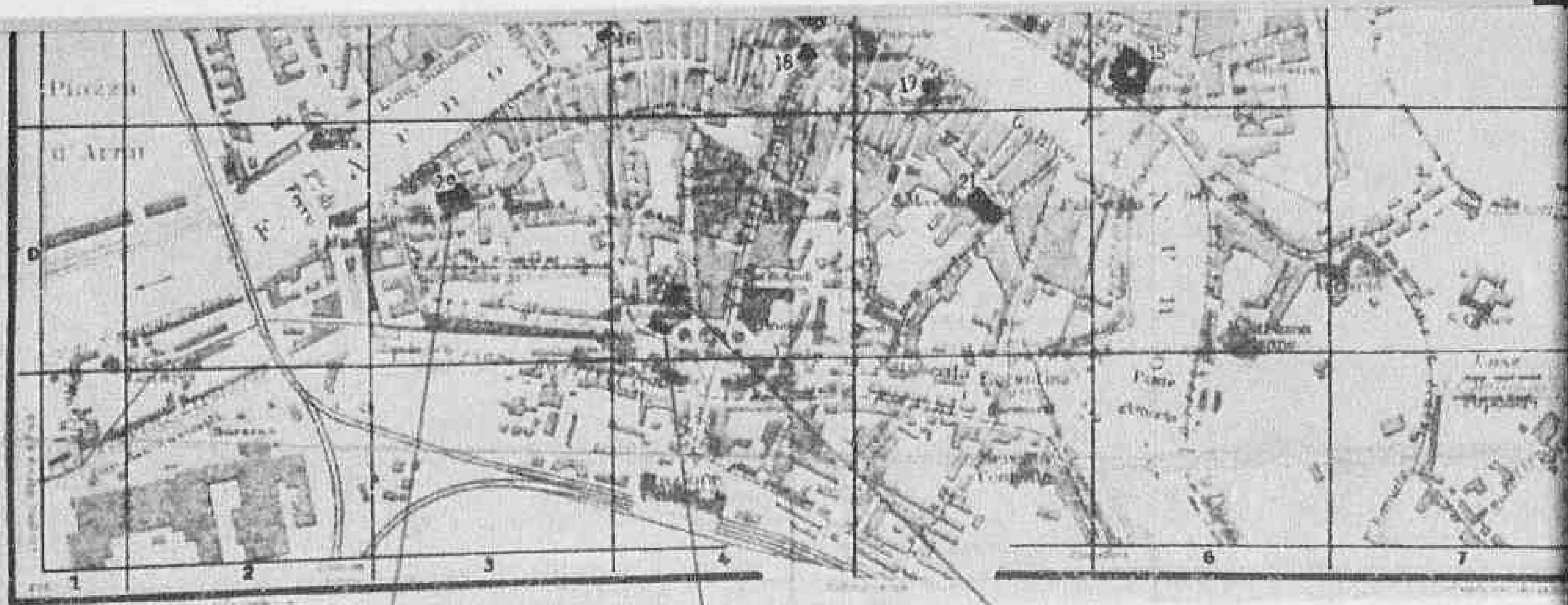
San Paolo
Ripa
d'Anno

Incl 1

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PISA, ITALY (PROV. PISA)

(A)

San Paolo
Ripa
d'Anno

(C)

Sant' Antonio

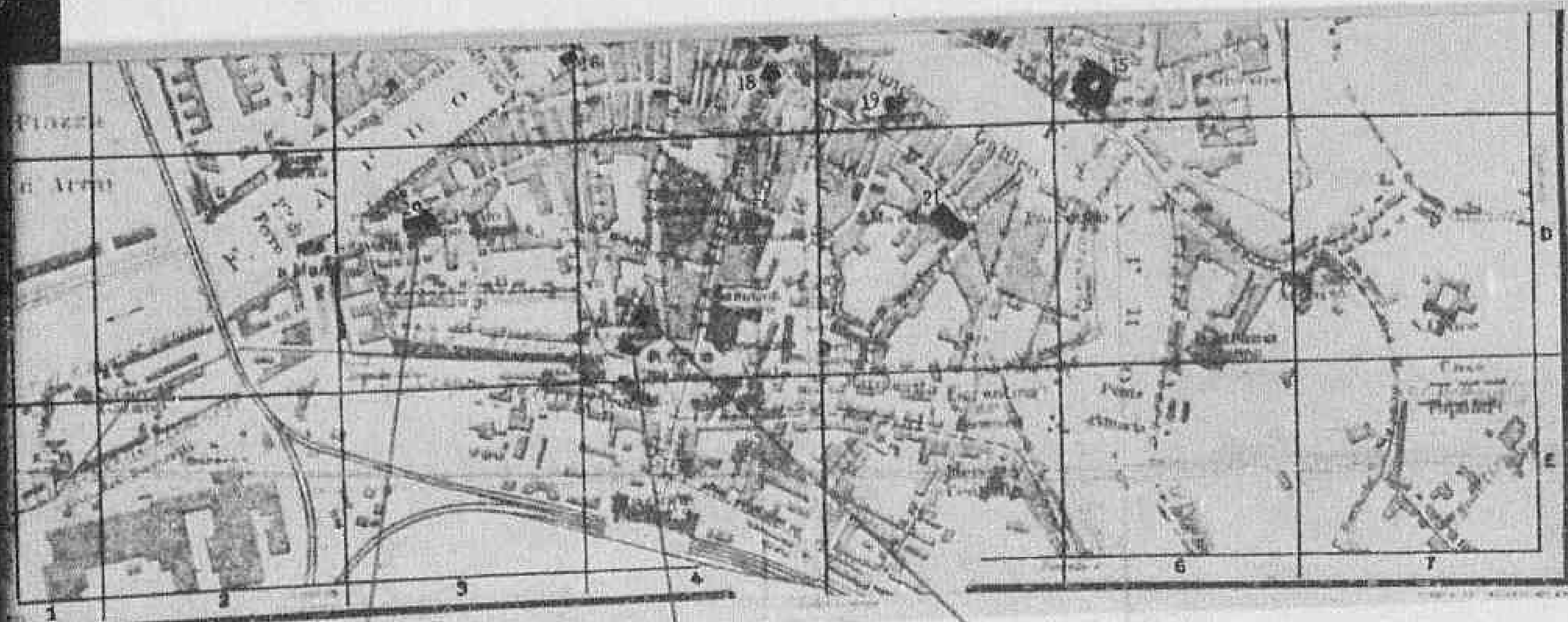
(B)

House of G.
Mazzini
(Museo Mazziniano)

187

Incl 1

In



PISA, ITALY (PROV. PISA)

(A)
San Paolo
Ripa
d'Anno

(C)
Sant' Antonio

(B)
House of G.
Mazzini
(Museo Mazziniano)

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Incl 1

Incl 1

CONFIDENTIAL

ACG, (2 January 1945) 1st Ind. RWK/jr
 HEADQUARTERS, PENINSULAR BASE SECTION, APO 782, U. S. Army. 11 January 1945

TO: Commanding General, AAFEG/ETO, APO 650, U. S. Army

1. It is requested that you make the investigation requested in basic communication in as much as the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion is a unit under your command.
2. This Headquarters is taking no action on basic communication because at the time of the incidents complained of Pisa was in 5th Army territory and under 5th Army operational control. On 2 December Army rear boundary was moved forward so that Pisa is now in FBS territory.
3. Since Pisa is now under FBS control, it is requested that your report to Headquarters, Allied Commission be forwarded through this Headquarters.

For the Commanding Officer

L. F. Rickel
 L. F. RICKEL
 Lt. Col., A.G.D.
 Adjutant General

1 Incl: n/c

2

500.4 88 Ind (J-1-1)
 HQ, AAF ANGR COMB, ETO (PROV), APO 529, US Army, 20 January 1945.
 TO: Commanding Officer, 838th Engr Avn Bn, APO 529, US Army.

For investigation.

By order of Colonel COLBERT:

E. A. Barnes
 E. A. BARNES,
 Lt Colonel, AGD,
 Adjutant General.

1 Incl: n/c

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CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

Ind # 1

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

000.4 3rd. Ind. CHS/paq
 HEADQUARTERS, 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION, APO 528, 18 February 45.

TO: Commanding Officer, Army Air Force Engineer Command, MTO, (Prov), APO 528, US Army.

It is believed that the enclosed Certificate of the Officer in charge of the Rubble Supply while this organization was building Taxiways and Dispersal Areas, Fisa Air Base, will explain any discrepancies noted in the basic communication.

Clarence H. Schanton
 CLARENCE H. SCHANTON
 Lt. Col., CE
 Commanding.

3 Incls:
 Incl 1. n/c
 Incl 2. (added) Certificate, Lt. DeCosta, 13 Feb 45
 Incl 3. (added) Drawing.

000.4 4th Ind (J-1-7)
 HQ, AAF ENGR CMD, MTO (PROV), APO 528, US Army, 21 Feb 1945.

TO: Major JOHN T. LATHEN, O 328 708, Hq, AAF Engr Cmd, MTO (Prov), APO 528, US Army.

You are directed to make the investigation requested in the basic communication.

By order of Colonel KURSTEDT:

E. A. Barnes
 E. A. BARNES,
 Lt Colonel, AGD,
 Adjutant General.

3 Incls: n/c

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
COMPANY "A" 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
A. F. O. # 528

13 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that on or about 24 November 1944, I was in charge of a detail of men hauling rubble from demolished buildings in Pisa, Italy for use in the construction of runways for the Pisa Airfield. At no time, however, to my knowledge, during the entire time that we were doing this work, did my detail during duty hours enter the church of San Paolo Ripa d'Arno, located at Piazza San Paolo Ripa d'Arno for any purpose whatsoever, since the bulk of our operations were many blocks to the east and southeast. I want to point out that at about this time there were at least 4 or 5 negro units stationed in the immediate vicinity of Pisa, and furthermore, since we are an engineering unit, I cannot see why our troops should resort to force to obtain materials ("re-roofing") which are readily available within their own unit.

I do recall that I did have our power shovel, bulldozer, and trucks remove 3 demolished buildings in the triangle formed by the roadfork of Via Mazzini and Via d'Azeglio and immediately north of the church and convent of Saint Antonio (See diagram). The southernmost of these buildings I have just been informed was the house of Giuseppe Mazzini (or Museo Mazziniano). At that time, however, there were no distinguishing marks or any signs whatsoever to set this apart from any other demolished building, as inquiry in the immediate neighborhood will reveal. This series of three buildings were a mass of rubble, empty shells, with perhaps one or two walls of each standing.

I thought that the brick walls of the ruined convent and church of San Antonio would provide a good source of rubble for the runway, so in the company of Captain George E. Hesselbacher, Operations Officer of this Battalion, I went to the office of the PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER of the Allied Military Government in Pisa, Italy, to obtain permission to raze these buildings. Lieutenant Colonel Walters, a British Officer in the Allied Military Government told us that it was not permitted to remove the debris of any of the Italian churches. That we "were with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of the Allied Military Government from demolishing the church" is a misstatement of fact as inquiry from Lieutenant Colonel Walters will show. We did not touch either the convent or the church of San Antonio, Pisa, Italy. However, subsequently, I did see negro South African Troops, removing rubble by hand from the site of the San Antonio Church and Convent. At that time there was a unit of negro South Africans working on the Pisa Airfield.

Alonzo C. De Costa
ALONZO C. DE COSTA
1st Lt., C. E.

HEADQUARTERS
COMPANY "A" 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATT LION
A. P. O. # 528

13 February 1946

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that on or about 24 November 1944, I was in charge of a detail of men hauling rubble from demolished buildings in Pisa, Italy for use in the construction of runways for the Pisa Airfield. At no time, however, to my knowledge, during the entire time that we were doing this work, did my detail during duty hours enter the church of San Paolo Ripa d'Arno, located at Piazza San Paolo Ripa d'Arno for any purpose whatsoever, since the bulk of our operations were many blocks to the east and southeast. I want to point out that at about this time there were at least 4 or 5 negro units stationed in the immediate vicinity of Pisa, and furthermore, since we are an engineering unit, I cannot see why our troops should resort to force to obtain materials ("re-roofing") which are readily available within their own unit.

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Alonso C. de Costa
ALONZO C. DE COSTA
1st Lt. C. S.

HEADQUARTERS
COMPANY "A" 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
A. P. O. # 520

13 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

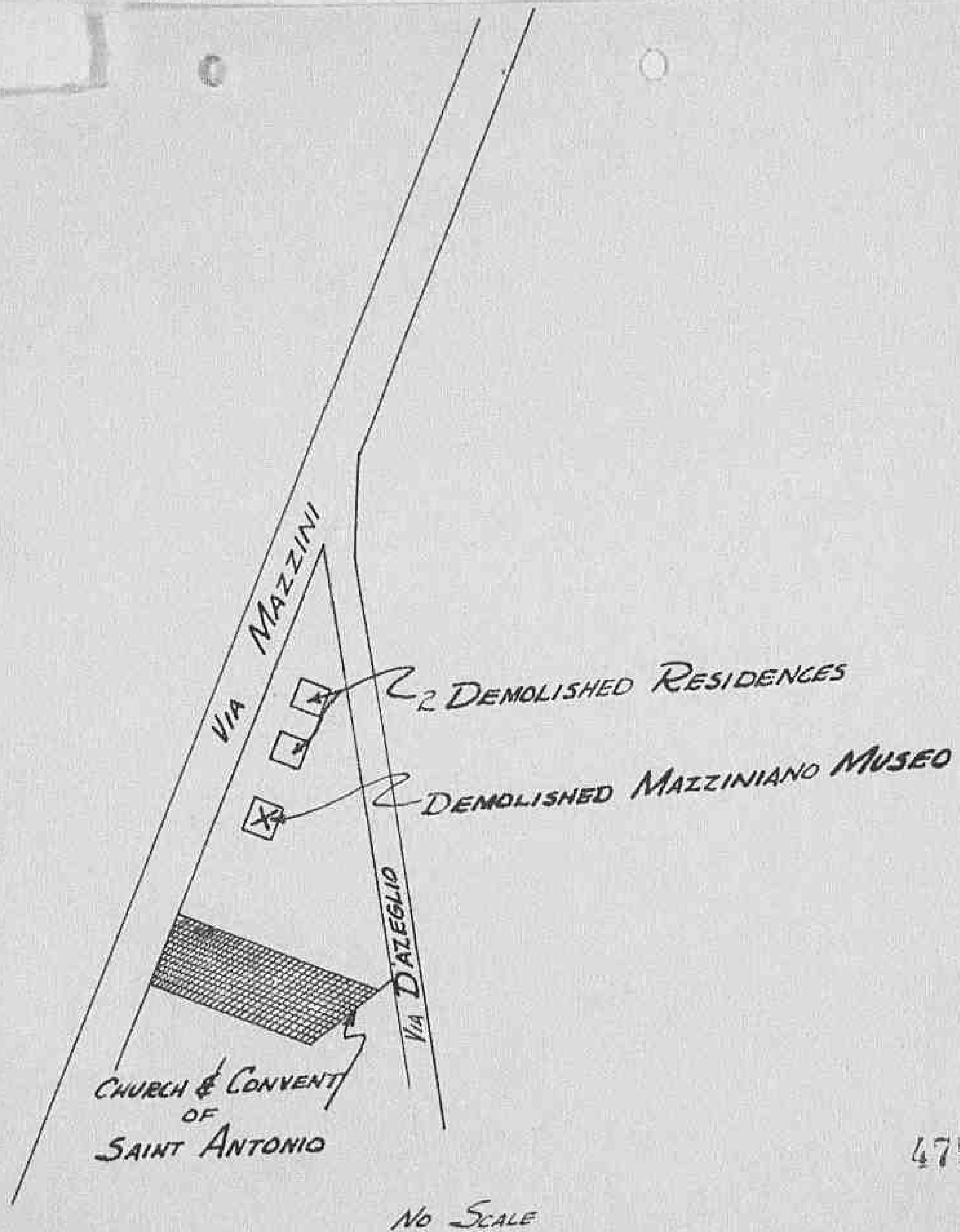
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Alonso C. De Costa
ALONZO C. DE COSTA
1st Lt., C. E.

Exhibit 2



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Sheet 3.

HEADQUARTERS 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
APO 528, U. S. ARMY

25 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths, one CLARENCE H. SCRANTON., Lieutenant Colonel, 0347216, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about 1 October 1944, the job of building taxiways and dispersal areas at Pisa Airfield was assigned to Company "A" 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion by the Operations Officer of this unit. The Company Commander in turn so organized his work that an officer would be in charge of and responsible for the loading and hauling of rubble from South Pisa to the airfield, First Lieutenant Alonzo C. Decosta was given this assignment. At that time the policy as set forth by this unit was that no buildings would be demolished if the building could be repaired. In addition no material was to be hauled from a site if it could be determined that the demolished building was a church, school, or other public building. To the best of my knowledge this policy was followed by all concerned.

Further deponent sayeth not.

Clarence H. Scranton
CLARENCE H. SCRANTON,
Lieutenant Colonel, C. E.,

Subscribed and sworn before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Gordon W. Epperson
GORDON W. EPPERSON,
1st. Lt., C. E.,
Adjutant.

Encl 2

Encl. A.

HEADQUARTERS 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
APO 528, U. S. ARMY

25 February 1945

CERTIFICATE

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths, one CLARENCE H. SCRANTON., Lieutenant Colonel, 6347216, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about 1 October 1944, the job of building taxiways and dispersal areas at Pisa Airfield was assigned to Company "A" 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion by the Operations Officer of this unit. The Company Commander in turn so organized his work that an officer would be in charge of and responsible for the loading and hauling of rubble from South Pisa to the airfield. First Lieutenant Alonzo C. Decoste was given this assignment. At that time the policy as set forth by this unit was that no buildings would be demolished if the building could be repaired. In addition no material was to be hauled from a site if it could be determined that the demolished building was a church, school, or other public building. To the best of my knowledge this policy was followed by all concerned.

Further deponent sayeth not.

Clarence H. Scranton
CLARENCE H. SCRANTON,
Lieutenant Colonel, C. E.,

Subscribed and sworn before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Gordon W. Epperson 673
GORDON W. EPPERSON,
1st. Lt., C. E.,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
APO 528, U. S. ARMY

25 February 1945

STATEMENT

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths, one CLARENCE H. SCRANTON, Lieutenant Colonel, 0347216, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about 1 October 1944, the job of building taxiways and dispersal areas at Pisa Airfield was assigned to Company "A" 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion by the Operations Officer of this unit. The Company Commander in turn so organized his work that an officer would be in charge of and responsible for the loading and hauling of rubble from South Pisa to the airfield. First Lieutenant Alonso C. Decosta was given this assignment. At that time the policy as set forth by this unit was that no buildings would be demolished if the building could be repaired. In addition no material was to be hauled from a site if it could be determined that the demolished building was a church, school, or other public building. To the best of my knowledge this policy was followed by all concerned.

Further deponent sayeth not.

Clarence H. Scranton
CLARENCE H. SCRANTON,
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. A.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Richard W. Spencer
RICHARD W. SPENCER,
1st Lt., U. S. A.,
Adjutant.

472

HEADQUARTERS 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
APO 528, U. S. ARMY

25 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths, one CLARENCE H. SCRANTON., Lieutenant Colonel, 0347216, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who duly sworn, deposes and says:

On or about 1 October 1944, the job of building taxiways and dispersal areas at Pisa Airfield was assigned to Company "A" 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion by the Operations Officer of this unit. The Company Commander in turn so organized his work that an officer would be in charge of and responsible for the loading and hauling of rubble from South Pisa to the airfield. First Lieutenant Alonso G. Decosta was given this assignment. At that time the policy as set forth by this unit was that no buildings would be demolished if the building could be repaired. In addition no material was to be hauled from a site if it could be determined that the demolished building was a church, school, or other public building. To the best of my knowledge this policy was followed by all concerned.

Further deponent sayeth not.

Clarence H. Scranton
CLARENCE H. SCRANTON,
Lieutenant Colonel, C. E.,

Subscribed and sworn before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Gordon W. Epperson
GORDON W. EPPERSON,
1st. Lt., C. E.,
Adjutant.

471

A F F I D A V I T

25 February 1945

My name is Guido Pagni and I am a priest (Sacerdote) of the church and I reside at Piazza Santa Caterina #16, Pisa, Italy. I was very familiar with the location of the Museo Mazziniano and when it was bombed nothing was left of it but a heap of rubble with only a wall or two left standing. It was completely demolished as were the other two residences next to it. In passing by the Museo Mazziniano many times after it was demolished at no time did I ever see any sort of a sign stating that it was of historical importance and was not to be touched.

The above had been read to me and explained to me by Signora Alaida Vanni, Via Mazzini, #9, Pisa, Italy and I know its contents and I swear that it is the truth.

Guido Pagni
GUIDO PAGNI

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Ray Goldstein

RAY GOLDSTEIN
2nd Lt., 838th Engr Avn Bn APO 528
Investigating Officer

470

Incl 3
Encl B

A F F I D A V I T

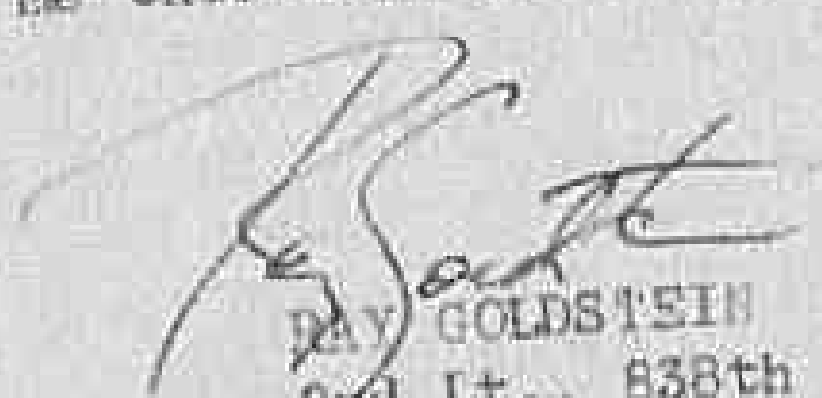
25 February 1945

My name is Signora Alaide Vanni and for the past 5 years I have resided at Via Mazzini 49, Pisa, Italy. I have lived in the United States for 15 years and I speak and can read English. The House of Giuseppe Mazzini is located only a few hundred yards from where I live and I pass it and have passed it many times. It was demolished by bombs so that only several of the walls were standing. All the rest of it was a heap of rubble. There were two other residences next to it and these were also demolished by bombs. At no time before the debris was removed did I see any kind of a sign on the Museo Mazziniano stating that it was a historical monument and was not to be touched. I swear that the above statements are the truth.

Alaide Vanni

ALAIDE VANNI

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th February 1945.


RAY GOLDSTEIN
2nd Lt., 638th Engr Avn Bn APO 628
Investigating Officer

469

2nd Lt. 4
Engr (C)

AFFIDAVIT

26 February 1945

I, who is Sister Maria Teresa Frediani, and I reside at Via Mazzini #9, Pisa, Italy. I know well where the Museo Mazziniano was located for I have passed it many times. It was bombed last year and it was completely demolished except for a wall that was still left standing. It was a heap of rubble. At no time before the debris was removed did I ever see any kind of a sign on the site of the Museo Mazziniano warning anyone to keep off the property because it was of historical importance.

The above has been read to me and explained to me by Signora Alaide Vanni, Via Mazzini #9, Pisa, Italy and I know its contents and swear that it is the truth.

Maria Teresa Frediani
MARIA TERESA FREDIANI

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Ray Goldstein
RAY GOLDSTEIN

2nd Lt., 838th Engr Avn Bn APO 528
Investigating Officer

468

Incl 5
Exhibit D

HEADQUARTERS
PISA PROVINCE
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Ref. :

Date: 25 Feb 45

SUBJECT :

TO :

On or about 24th November, 1944, Lieutenant DeCasta (A) with a Captain, came to my office in Pisa and asked permission to remove the remaining walls and debris of a church in Pisa, south of the River Arno. This I immediately refused. The officers readily accepted my decision.

T. J. Walters
T. J. WALTERS;
Lieut-Colonel
Prov Commissioner

467

Encl 6
Ltr E

HEADQUARTERS 838TH ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION
APO 528, U. S. ARMY

25 February 1945

A F F I D A V I T

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths, one GEORGE E. HESSELEBACHER, Jr., Captain, 024651, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, who being sworn, deposes and says:

On or about 18 November 1944, I accompanied First Lieutenant Alonzo C. Decosta, Company "A" 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion, to the headquarters of the Allied Military Government in Pisa, Italy. We went to ask whether it would be permissible to haul rubble away from the site of a destroyed church at 0099645 (Italy 1:25000, Sheet 104-II S.E. Pisa). We talked to the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Walters, and after explaining what we wanted and the poor condition of the buildings, Colonel Walters said that he would appreciate it if we did not remove rubble from any churches no matter how badly damaged, since a claim might be entered by the Italians if we did. We agreed at that time not to remove anything from the site and to the best of my knowledge nothing was removed.

It had been the policy in the 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion not to use rubble from any buildings, regardless of type, if the buildings could be repaired. This policy was explained by me to Lieutenant Decosta at the beginning of the job and to the best of my knowledge it was followed through out the work.

Further deponent sayeth not.

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George E. Hesselebacher, Jr.
GEORGE E. HESSELEBACHER, Jr.
Captain, C. E.,

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of February 1945.

Gordon W. Epperson
GORDON W. EPPERSON,
1st Lt., C. E.,
Adjutant.

*Subscribed
L. H. F.*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

REF ID: A66555

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 2008/11/1/10711

2 January 1945

SUBJECT: Protection of Ruined Monuments, Etc.

TO : Commanding General, FBI.

1. It is desired to draw your attention to the following incidents concerning ancient monuments in Italy, which have been reported to this Commission:

The FEMA Officer with AMB, UMBRIA Region has reported that on 24 Nov negro troops entered the ruined church of S. Paolo Riva d'Arno (Piazza S. Paolo Riva d'Arno; see A on plan attached), in which an Official's sign carrying the signature of General Clark had been posted, and where Italian laborers directed by the Superintendent of Monuments were engaged in effecting repairs. These negro soldiers scoffed at the sign, beat up the Italian laborers, and removed by force a considerable amount of material necessary for the restoring of the church.

The same Officer reported that at about the same time negro troops of the 638 Engineering Unit demolished all that remained of the houses of Giuseppe Masini (for Museo Masini - Via Masini; see B on plan attached) and most of the Church of S. Antonio (S. off of Via Masini; see C on plan attached). They were with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of the Allied Military Government from demolishing the church as well. These negro troops were in search of rubble for use in connection with the reconstruction of an airfield at FIM.

2. You have in the past been extremely cooperative in assisting the protection of ancient monuments and fine arts. Your assistance is again asked in order that occurrences of this sort may be avoided.

3. Therefore it is requested:

- a. that FBI investigate these two incidents;
- b. that the persons involved be disciplined;
- c. that the Commanding General issue instructions to FBI units that all notices for the protection of monuments of historical, cultural or artistic significance will be

465

11. It is desired to draw your attention to the following incidents concerning ancient monuments in PISA, which have been reported to this Commission.

4. The MEMA Officer with AMB, SO-DARA Region has reported that on 24, five negro troops entered the ruined church of S. Paolo Rapa d'Amao (Mikam S. Paolo Rapa d'Amao; see A on plan attached), on which an Official's sign carrying the signature of General Clark had been posted, and about Italian labourers diverted by the Superintendent of Monasteries were engaged in effecting repairs. These negro soldiers scoffed at the sign, beat up the Italian labourers, and removed by force a considerable amount of material necessary for the re-roofing of the church.

10. The same Officer reported that at about the same time negro troops of the 838 Engineering Unit demolished all that remained of the house of Giuseppe Masini (or Masco Masini) - Via Masini; see B on plan attached) and east of the Convent of S. Antonio (S. call of Via Masini; see C on plan attached). They were with difficulty restrained by the Provincial Commissioner of the allied Military Government from demolishing the church as well. These negro troops were in search of rubble for use in connection with the reconstruction of an airstfield at Pidi.

2. You have in the past been extremely cooperative in assisting the protection of ancient monuments and fine arts. Your assistance is appreciated in order that monuments of this sort may be preserved.

Therefore, to be useful,

- a. that PBS investigate these two incidents;
b. that the persons involved be disciplined;
c. that the Commanding General issue instructions to all units that all members for the protection of historical, cultural or artistic objects be observed.

How can online communities:

7. 100%

city-plan of Pisa, with location of museum's method.

Cotton (3000-4000) 60:

2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107,108,109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116,117,118,119,120,121,122,123,124,125,126,127,128,129,130,131,132,133,134,135,136,137,138,139,140,141,142,143,144,145,146,147,148,149,150,151,152,153,154,155,156,157,158,159,160,161,162,163,164,165,166,167,168,169,170,171,172,173,174,175,176,177,178,179,180,181,182,183,184,185,186,187,188,189,190,191,192,193,194,195,196,197,198,199,200,201,202,203,204,205,206,207,208,209,210,211,212,213,214,215,216,217,218,219,220,221,222,223,224,225,226,227,228,229,230,231,232,233,234,235,236,237,238,239,240,241,242,243,244,245,246,247,248,249,250,251,252,253,254,255,256,257,258,259,260,261,262,263,264,265,266,267,268,269,270,271,272,273,274,275,276,277,278,279,280,281,282,283,284,285,286,287,288,289,290,291,292,293,294,295,296,297,298,299,300,301,302,303,304,305,306,307,308,309,310,311,312,313,314,315,316,317,318,319,320,321,322,323,324,325,326,327,328,329,330,331,332,333,334,335,336,337,338,339,340,341,342,343,344,345,346,347,348,349,350,351,352,353,354,355,356,357,358,359,360,361,362,363,364,365,366,367,368,369,370,371,372,373,374,375,376,377,378,379,380,381,382,383,384,385,386,387,388,389,390,391,392,393,394,395,396,397,398,399,400,401,402,403,404,405,406,407,408,409,410,411,412,413,414,415,416,417,418,419,420,421,422,423,424,425,426,427,428,429,430,431,432,433,434,435,436,437,438,439,440,441,442,443,444,445,446,447,448,449,450,451,452,453,454,455,456,457,458,459,460,461,462,463,464,465,466,467,468,469,470,471,472,473,474,475,476,477,478,479,480,481,482,483,484,485,486,487,488,489,490,491,492,493,494,495,496,497,498,499,500,501,502,503,504,505,506,507,508,509,510,511,512,513,514,515,516,517,518,519,520,521,522,523,524,525,526,527,528,529,530,531,532,533,534,535,536,537,538,539,540,541,542,543,544,545,546,547,548,549,550,551,552,553,554,555,556,557,558,559,560,561,562,563,564,565,566,567,568,569,570,571,572,573,574,575,576,577,578,579,580,581,582,583,584,585,586,587,588,589,590,591,592,593,594,595,596,597,598,599,600,601,602,603,604,605,606,607,608,609,610,611,612,613,614,615,616,617,618,619,620,621,622,623,624,625,626,627,628,629,630,631,632,633,634,635,636,637,638,639,640,641,642,643,644,645,646,647,648,649,650,651,652,653,654,655,656,657,658,659,660,661,662,663,664,665,666,667,668,669,670,671,672,673,674,675,676,677,678,679,680,681,682,683,684,685,686,687,688,689,690,691,692,693,694,695,696,697,698,699,700,701,702,703,704,705,706,707,708,709,710,711,712,713,714,715,716,717,718,719,720,721,722,723,724,725,726,727,728,729,730,731,732,733,734,735,736,737,738,739,740,741,742,743,744,745,746,747,748,749,750,751,752,753,754,755,756,757,758,759,760,761,762,763,764,765,766,767,768,769,770,771,772,773,774,775,776,777,778,779,780,781,782,783,784,785,786,787,788,789,790,791,792,793,794,795,796,797,798,799,800,801,802,803,804,805,806,807,808,809,810,811,812,813,814,815,816,817,818,819,820,821,822,823,824,825,826,827,828,829,830,831,832,833,834,835,836,837,838,839,840,841,842,843,844,845,846,847,848,849,850,851,852,853,854,855,856,857,858,859,860,861,862,863,864,865,866,867,868,869,870,871,872,873,874,875,876,877,878,879,880,881,882,883,884,885,886,887,888,889,890,891,892,893,894,895,896,897,898,899,900,901,902,903,904,905,906,907,908,909,910,911,912,913,914,915,916,917,918,919,920,921,922,923,924,925,926,927,928,929,930,931,932,933,934,935,936,937,938,939,940,941,942,943,944,945,946,947,948,949,950,951,952,953,954,955,956,957,958,959,960,961,962,963,964,965,966,967,968,969,970,971,972,973,974,975,976,977,978,979,980,981,982,983,984,985,986,987,988,989,990,991,992,993,994,995,996,997,998,999,1000,1001,1002,1003,1004,1005,1006,1007,1008,1009,1010,1011,1012,1013,1014,1015,1016,1017,1018,1019,1020,1021,1022,1023,1024,1025,1026,1027,1028,1029,1030,1031,1032,1033,1034,1035,1036,1037,1038,1039,1040,104

11

Don't do it

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

18 DEC 1944

File Ref: RVIII/69/A/44

Date: 18 Dec 44.

SUBJECT: Protection of Ruined Monuments.

TO : HQ, AC, (Attention C.O.S. Section)

1. It is requested that P.B.S. be approached with a view to putting some brake on interference with any monumental structure particularly when repair work has already started.

2. Under ref RVIII/31/MFAA/9.4 dated 13 Dec 44, my MFAA officer submitted a report giving a specific example of troops taking by force some materials required for the rebuilding under MFAA supervision, of a particular monument in PISA.

3. A copy of this report was sent direct to MFAA Sub-Commission at your HQ.

4. May I please be informed of your action and/or comments in this matter.

Robt. G. Kirkwood
for ROBT. G. KIRKWOOD
Colonel, FA, US Army,
Regional Commissioner.

JHS/ac.

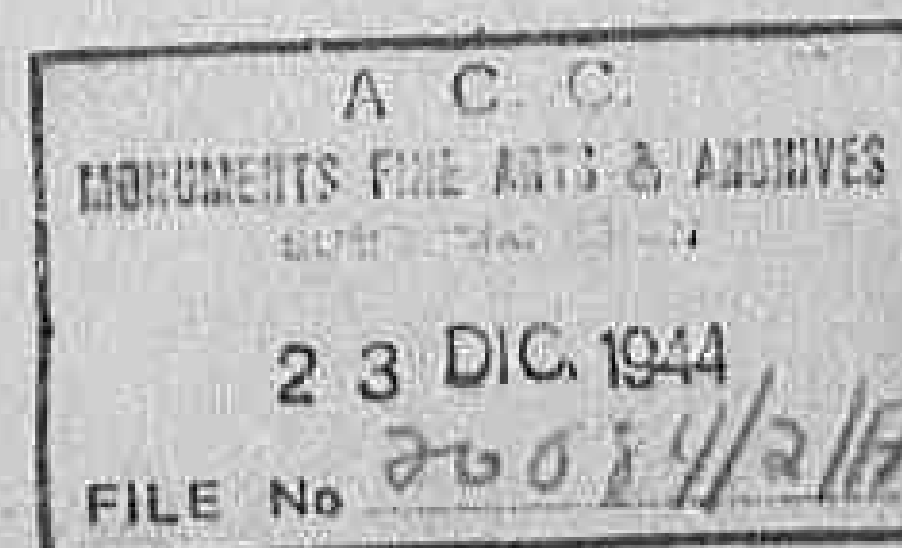
Copy to :

MFAA Sub-Commission.) Ref report RVIII/MFAA:9.4 dated 13 Dec 44.
MFAA Offr, TOSCANA Reg.)
PC, PISA - For information.

To : MFAA ✓

W.G.S. Holland, Major
C.A. Sec

22 Dec 44



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13 DEC 1944

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Monuments and Fine Arts Section

File Ref: RVIII/31/MFAA/9.4

Date: 13 Dec 44

SUBJECT: Protection of Ruined Monuments, Pisa.

TO: Regional Commissioner, AMG Toscana Region.

1. As has been stated in previous report to SCAC, AMG 7 Army, by undersigned, dated 25 Nov 44, difficulties with Negro Engineering organizations have been encountered in Pisa. 838 Engineers have demolished all that remained of house of Giuseppe Mazzini, as well as most of the ruined convent of S. Antonio, and wished to take the church as well, all to provide rubble for Pisa airfield. Provincial Commissioner, AMG Pisa, refused permission, and the church was spared.

2. Superintendent of Monuments, Pisa, stated in letter to Provincial Commissioner, and to undersigned, dated 25 Nov 44, that on the preceding day Negro troops entered the great church of S. Paolo a Ripa d'Arno and took by force considerable material, chiefly beams, necessary for the re-roofing of the church, beating up the Italian laborers. Copy of report attached.

3. It is believed that a solution of this problem would be found in the issuing of a directive by PBS forbidding interference with any monumental structure, particularly when repair work has already started. It is also suggested that PBS provide MFAA Officer with notices signed by authority of Commanding General, PBS, to be affixed at once to such structures, protecting them from any interference without knowledge and approval of MFAA Officer.

4. Request that the Regional Commissioner communicate the enclosed report and above suggestions to Commanding General, PBS, through channels.

5. It is to be emphasized that the highest degree of co-operation has already been received from PBS by MFAA officers, and that the work in the Campo Santo was done by PBS engineers with PBS materials. It is the biggest single MFAA job in the Region, and without the help of PBS would have been utterly impossible.

Carroll Mount Capt

for FREDERICK HARTT

1st Lt., AG.

the church as well as the Provincial Commissioner, and Pisa, refused permission, the church was spared.

2. Superintendent of Monuments, Pisa, stated in letter to Provincial Commissioner, dated 25 Nov 44, that on the preceding day Negro troops entered the great church of S. Paolo a Ripa d'Arno and took by force considerable material, chiefly beams, necessary for the re-roofing of the church, beating up the Italian laborers. Copy of report attached. (1X)

3. It is believed that a solution of this problem would be found in the issuing of a directive by PBS forbidding interference with any monumental structure, particularly when repair work has already started. It is also suggested that PBS provide MPAA Officer with notices signed by authority of Commanding General, PBS, to be affixed at once to such structures, protecting them from any interference without knowledge and approval of MPAA Officer.

4. Request that the Regional Commissioner communicate the enclosed report and above suggestions to Commanding General, PBS, through channels.

5. It is to be emphasized that the highest degree of co-operation has already been received from PBS by MPAA officers, and that the work in the Campo Santo was done by PBS engineers with PBS materials. It is the biggest single MPAA job in the Region, and without the help of PBS would have been utterly impossible.

Can't find Capt

for FREDERICK HARTT
1st Lt., AG,
MPAA Officer.

Copy to:
Dir. MPAA S/C.

463

A. C. C.
MONUMENTS FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES
SUBCOMMISSIONER
17 DEC 1944
FILE No 205842/A

R. SOPRINTENDENZA
AI MONUMENTI E GALLERIE PER
LE PROVINCE DI
PISA, APUANIA, LIVORNO E LUCCA

Pisa 25 Novembre 1944

OGGETTO

Posizione -----
M. di Prot. Gen. 785 M. di Part. 513

Pisa: Chiesa di San Paolo a
Ripa d'Arno.

Ill.mo Signor Colonnello Walters
Commissario Provinciale di

P I S A

e p.c.,
Al Signor Tenente Frederick Hartt
Regional Officer M3A4

P I R E N N E

Devo Informarla di quanto è avvenuto ieri mattina 24 Novembre 1944 alla Chiesa di San Paolo a Ripa d'Arno, insigne monumento d'arte pisana nel quale questa Soprintendenza, in accordo con l'Ufficio Regionale Alleato per la protezione dei monumenti ha iniziato i lavori indispensabili per evitare la rovina.

Due operai, ~~dai~~ quali comunicherò i nomi appena mi saranno pervenuti si erano recati nell'edificio per iniziare la chiusura delle porte. Al loro arrivo trovarono sul posto entro la Chiesa alcuni soldati americani negri i quali stavano asportando il legname ivi accantonata per i lavori da eseguire al tetto. Gli operai fecero notare che sulla Chiesa è apposto a cura del Signor Tenente Hartt un cartello a firma del Generale Clark che pone detto edificio sotto la protezione delle Forze Armate Americane. A tale osservazione un soldato negro rispose di non tener conto del cartello predetto continuando quindi l'asportazione del materiale.

All'opposizione ulteriore dell'operaio nacque una colluttazione nella quale i due operai ebbero la peggio. Uno di essi fu leggermente ferito ed in conseguenza dovettero abbandonare il lavoro e si rifiutarono giustamente di tornarvi.

Prego la S.V. di voler disporre che tale materiale del quale preciserò la quantità sia restituito a questa Soprintendenza e sia disposto un servizio che assicuri la possibilità di lavoro agli operai che si recano sia in quello che in altri lavori di questa Soprintendenza senza che ad essi sia recata molestia e senza che il materiale sia

Ill.mo Signor Colonnello Walters
Commissario Provinciale di

P. I. S. A

e p.c.,

Al Signor Tenente Frederick Hartt
Regional Officer MFAA

T. I. R. E. M. 2. E

Devo Informarla di quanto é avvenuto ieri mattina 24 Novembre 1944 alla Chiesa di San Paolo a Ripa d'Arno, insigne monumento d'arte pisana nel quale questa Soprintendenza, in accordo con l'Ufficio Regionale Alleato per la protezione dei monumenti ha iniziato i lavori indispensabili per evitarne la rovina.

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Prego la S.V. di voler disporre che tale materiale del quale preciserò la quantità sia restituito a questa Soprintendenza e sia disposto un servizio che assicuri la possibilità di lavoro agli operai che si recano sia in quello che in altri lavori di questa Soprintendenza senza che ad essi sia recata molestia e senza che il materiale sia asportato rendendo spesso impossibile la prosecuzione di lavori indispensabili ed urgenti.

Segnalo anche alla S.V. essermi stato riferito che associati a soldati, civili italiani si incaricano di acquistare detto materiale per farne uso e commercio.

Sono certo che tutto ciò sarà da ora in poi impedito dalla S.V. e dispongo quindi per la prosecuzione dei lavori ieri interrotti nella certezza che il fatto deplorevole non si ripeterà.

Con ossequio

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IL SOPRINTENDENTE

(Arch. Ing. Piero Sampaolesi)

