OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
AUBERGE DE CASTILLE, VALLETTA

Preżentazzjoni ta' Faith fil-Pjazza tal-Palazz

Fit-3 ta' Settembru tal-1943, il-fdal tal-ajruplan Gloster Gladiator N5520 Faith kien ġie ppreżentat lill-poplu Malti mill-Air Vice-Marshall tal-Qawwa tal-Ajru Rjali, Sir Keith Park, f'ċerimonja li saret fil-Pjazza tal-Palazz fil-Belt Valletta. Dan il-fdal kien instab f'barriera f'Kalafrana u kien tpoġġa fl-Armerija tal-Palazz. Meta fetaħ il-Mużew Nazzjonali tal-Gwerra, dan kien ittieħed hemmhekk għall-esibizzjoni. Dan l-ajruplan, flimkien ma' tlieta oħra bħalu, li wieħed minnhom kien twaqqa' mill-għadu, kienu l-uniċi ajruplani li ddefendew lil Malta mill-għadu fil-bidu tal-gwerra. Iż-żewġ ajruplani l-oħra kien jisimhom Hope u Charity. Jidher il-bini tal-Main Guard li kien iservi bħala l-post tal-għassa tas-suldati tal-Palazz. Dan kien inbena fl-1603 mill-Gran Mastru Alof de Wignacourt (1601-1622).

Presentation of Faith at the Palace Square

On 3rd September 1943, the skeletal fuselage of Faith, a biplane Gloster Gladiator N5520, was presented to the Maltese people by RAF Air Vice-Marshall, Sir Keith Park, in a ceremony held at the Palace Square in Valletta. These remains, recovered from a quarry at Kalafrana, were restored for display at the Palace Armoury. Afterwards, when the National War Museum was opened, they were taken to be exhibited there. At the start of the war one plane was grounded by the enemy leaving only three to defend Malta. As well as Faith there were Hope and Charity. The building in the photo is the Main Guard, the guard room of the Palace soldiers. It was built in 1603 by Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt (1601-1622).

Photo: ©IWM