OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
AUBERGE DE CASTILLE, VALLETTA

Kingsway u t-Teatru Rjal wara attakk

It-Teatru Rjal kien beda jinbena fl-1860 mill-Gvernatur Gaspar Le Marchant (1855-1864) u tlesta fl-1866. Fl-1873 kien ħa n-nar u reġa' nfetaħ fl-1877. Dan il-bini ġġarraf b'mina li twaddbet waqt attakk mill-ajru fis-7 ta' April 1942. Triq ir-Repubblika kienet tissejjaħ Kingsway u qabel il-gwerra kienet magħrufa bħala Strada Reale imma l-Gvern fit-13 ta' Awwissu 1940 kien biddel l-ismijiet tat-toroq tal-Belt u tat-Tliet Ibliet mit-Taljan għall-Ingliż. Rigward l-attakki mill-ajru, bħala prekawzjoni qabel bdiet il-gwerra kienu daħlu għadd ta' regolamenti ta' sigurta'. Żewġ regolamenti li daħlu f'Mejju tal-1940 kienu dwar il-black-out u l-curfew. Il-black-out kien ġie introdott mit-3 ta' Mejju u kien ordnat li, mis-7 ta' filgħaxija sa tlugħ ix-xemx, l-ebda dawl ma kien jista' jkun visibbli kemm mill-ajru, kif ukoll mill-baħar. Regola oħra kienet il-curfew li beda fis-27 ta' Mejju fejn ħadd, bl-eċċezzjoni ta' nies awtorizzati, ma seta' jkun barra imma ried ikun ġewwa bejn il-11 ta' filgħaxija u l-5 ta' filgħodu.

Kingsway and the Opera House after a blitz

The building of the Royal Opera House started in 1860 under Governor Gaspar Le Marchant (1854-1864) and was completed in 1866. It was gutted in 1873 and opened again in 1877. It was badly damaged during an air raid on the 7th April 1942. Republic Street was then called Kingsway, and before that was known as Strada Reale. The Government changed street names in Valletta and the Three Cities from Italian to English on 13th August 1940. New regulations on air attacks were introduced before the war started. Two that came into force in May 1940 were the blackout and the curfew. Under the blackout, introduced on 3rd May, no lights were to be visible from air and sea between 7 pm and sunrise. Curfew came into force on 27th May. With the exception of authorised persons, everyone had to remain indoors from 11p.m. until 5a.m.

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