





Il-Kwartieri Ġenerali tal-Gwerra f' Malta milqut mill-bombi

Fil-Bastjun ta' Lascaris taħt il-Barrakka ta' Fuq waqt il-gwerra kien hemm il-Kwartieri tal-Gwerra f' Malta u ċ-Ċentru tal-Operazzjonijiet. Din il-fortifikazzjoni kienet inbniet mill-Ingliżi fl-1854 minflok ġnien li kien sar mill-Gran Mastru Lascaris (1636-1657). Dan il-post li huwa 150 pied taħt l-art kien jinkludi diversi fatturi ta' importanza strateġika tal-Alleati fir-reġjun tal-Mediterran. Kull tip ta' moviment kemm tal-Alleati kif ukoll tal-għadu kien jiġi osservat minn din il-bażi. Minn hawn kienet ukoll kkordinata l-invażjoni ta' Sqallija f' Lulju, 1943 taħt it-tmexxija tal-General Dwight D. Eisenhower li bejn l-1953 u l-1961 kien il-President Amerikan. Wara l-gwerra, dan il-post beda jintuża bħala Kwartieri Ġenerali tal-Flotta tal-Mediterran fejn kellu parti attiva fl-invażjoni Anglo-Franċiża tal-Eġittu matul il-kriżi tas-Swejz fl-1956 u fl-1967 beda jintuża min-NATO.

Malta War HQs bombed

War Headquarters and the Operations Centre were housed within the Lascaris bastion underneath the Upper Barracca. The fortification was constructed by the British in 1854, replacing a garden made by Grand Master Lascaris (1636-1657). This place, 140 feet underground, was of strategic importance in the Mediterranean region. All Allied and Axis movements were observed from this base. And it was from here, in July 1943, that the Sicilian invasion, under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower later to be US President between 1953 and 1961, was coordinated. After the war, the place was used as the Mediterranean Fleet General Quarters and played an active role in the 1956 Anglo-French invasion of Egypt, known as the Suez Crisis. NATO started using it in 1967.