

**TIMES OF MALTA**

Monday, September 13, 1943.  
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and ends 6.27 a.m.

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**GORT AND HIS PEOPLE**  
**Victory Celebrations**  
**In Valetta**

**CITY BANDS' PARADE**

BY SPECTATOR

I was on the roof of a building in Valetta, overlooking the Palace Square. I looked towards the North. There was the powerful Italian Fleet, riding at anchor, "beneath the guns of Malta." I turned my eyes to the opposite direction, and there, on the Palace Square, were the People of Malta, cheering their great leader Gort, the Victor of Malta. And, further on, beneath the palaces and churches of Valetta, and between them and the ravaged but unconquered Three Cities across the harbour, Cunningham's gallant fleet rode at anchor. A great day for Malta; its significance was summarized in Lord Gort's address to the people.

**LORD GORT'S SPEECH**

To-morrow is the first anniversary of the official presentation of the George Cross to the People of Malta. Although I had brought the George Cross with me to the Island I had reserved this presentation for the time, which I knew would inevitably come, when a big ceremony would stir our hearts, and help to steel our nerves, to face still greater privations in our determination to endure to the end, confident that the United Nations must finally triumph. I said on that occasion "Battle scarred George Cross Malta, the sentinel of the Empire on the Mediterranean, meanwhile stands firm, undaunted and undismayed, awaiting the time when she can call 'Pass Friend' all is well in the Island Fortress'."

Again on last New Year's Eve I stated "May the year which begins to-morrow carry us far along the road which leads to the portals of victory. Let us go forward with confidence into 1943." Even so the events, which have happened during the past 12 months, have surpassed our most optimistic dreams.

**BELLS OF SENGLEA**

Who would have foretold on 8th September last year that the bells of the Three Unconquered Cities would ring again this year, as of old, in commemoration of the great victory of 1565? Who would have prophesied that the Statue of Our Lady of Victories would again be carried in procession through the ruined streets of Senglea Invicta, and that the bells, which would ring in 1943 in celebration of Malta's National Day, would continue their joyous peals to celebrate the downfall of Italy, — the Italy who had so recently and so arrogantly boasted that Malta had been "rubbed out".

Again who would have dared to predict that the news would flash round the world on 11th September 1943 announcing that the great Italian Fleet would be at anchor off the shores of our unconquered Island Fortress.

Malta may well be content but in her contentment let everyone of us remember that it still remains his or her duty not to waver or to slacken but rather to continue to work faithfully until the United Nations win their final and decisive victory over the Crooked Cross of Nazi Germany.

**IN KINGSWAY**

Valetta, like the rest of the Island had been beflagged for four days — since September 8. The two City Bands, had arranged a Victory March. An additional hour for the bus services was a great boon to all.

The Committees and Members of the King's Own and La Valette Band Clubs organized Victory Parades in Kingsway, and marched down the street applauded by people gathered from all over the Island. Their public-spiritedness on such occasions, in organizing these programmes from their own Club funds is appreciated by all.

The same may be said for Band Clubs throughout the Island, who are foremost in these patriotic demonstrations.

Lord Gort again appeared on the Palace Balcony, amidst renewed cheers, as the bands played the Hymn of Malta, followed by "God Save the King".

The people waited in Kingsway to cheer His Excellency as he drove out of the City.

**Our Lady Of Victories**  
**CELEBRATION AT SENGLEA**

The Feast of Our Lady of Victories (Il-Bambina) which is the Birth of Our Lady, was for the first time since the beginning of the war with Italy, again celebrated this year in the City of Senglea, which is now in complete ruin.

The Parish Church dedicated to Our Lady of Victories on Thanksgiving for the great Victory of 1565, is also in ruin and the blitzed Sacristy has been turned into a Chapel pending the restoration of the Church. The venerated statue of Our Lady had been taken for safety to Birkirkara but this year it was brought to this temporary Chapel at Senglea where it lay until the Eve of September 8, when it was taken in procession to the Church of St. Philip, which though facing the harbour at the edge of L'Isola, luckily still stands. The ceremony was conducted by His Lordship Mons. Emanuel Galea, D.D., J.C.D., B.Litt., B.L. Can. Auxiliary Bishop of Malta, and among those present were Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Kenneth Mackenzie, Mrs. Campbell, visited the Church on the Eve of the Feast.

Wednesday was however the day on which the people of Senglea, now scattered all over the Island and of the other two Dockyard cities of Vittoriosa and Kospikwa congregated among the ruins of Senglea to celebrate this traditional feast of Our Lady. The Bland Band of Zejtun, the Maria Mater Grazia Band of Zabbar and the De Paule Band of Pawla played and flowers were strewn in the path of the Religious Procession as it wound its way through streets which had been carefully cleared of tons and tons of rubble.

As the Statue of Our Lady borne on the shoulders of the faithful, after leaving St. Philip's Church, arrived at the Marina, a megaphone from on board a Naval vessel in the creek, "bawled out the news" of the unconditional surrender of Italy.

The news quickly spread and thenceforth the procession became a pilgrimage of Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Victories for this second great Victory over their enemies granted to the people of Malta on the day September 8, — the birth of Our Lady. Men and women overcome with emotion, with tears trickling down their face lined the route and followed the Procession to the Church of St. Philip. It was a sad yet glorious day for these people.

**LOCAL NEWS**

**Social and Personal**

**ENGAGEMENT**

The engagement is announced between Mr. Ronald S. Hind, M.R.S.G.B., Stud. Brit. I.R.E., only son of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Hind of Harrow, Middlesex, England, and Miss Tessie Bonello, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Bonello of Birkirkara.

**OBITUARY**

With deep regret we announce the death of Mr. Paul Darmania, Supervisor at H.M. Dockyard, which occurred at his temporary residence at Balzan at the age of 58 years.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife Pauline nee Bonnici, his sons Anthony chemist of the Medical and Health Department and his daughters Mrs. C. Darmania, May and Josephine, besides many other relatives and friends to all of whom we offer our sincere sympathy. — R.I.P.

**FROM MY PARROT**  
Married Daughter: "I wish you'd learn not to drop your aspirations, father. You never hear Claude doing it. Self made-man 'Pity' isn't as careful with 'is vowels' as 'es got I.O.U.'s lying about all over the place."

**NOTICE TO VINTNERS**  
Commercial vintners are requested to apply on Tuesday September 14 instant, to the Office of Agriculture, 58, Victoria Street, Hamrun or Victoria Gozo, to withdraw permits for the purchase of citric acid.

The attention of public weighers is again drawn to para. 5 Wine (Control of Production and Restriction of Shipment) Regulations 1943, whereby public weighers must forward to the Director of Agriculture a duplicate copy on a special form of note weight within five days of date of weighing.

Such special forms are obtainable from the Office of Agriculture.

**REQUIEM MASSES**  
On the initiative of the Students of the Course of Medicine and Surgery, Low Requiem Mass with Holy Communion for the late Mr. George P. Ph.C., late medical student, at University Church, Valetta, on Wednesday, September 15, at 7.45 a.m. The attendance of relatives and friends will be greatly appreciated.

**TO THANK**  
Messrs. Vincent and Frank Portelli and family wish to thank all those who in any way have shown them sympathy in the recent bereavement through the death of their mother.

"Calling British Forces in Malta" will appear in tomorrow's paper.

**TROPS THEATRE** Pat  
To-day and To-morrow  
Tyron Power in  
"THIS ABOVE ALL"  
Shows: at 6 and 8 p.m. daily  
Sundays and Festas: 2, 4, 6 and 8 p.m.

**COMMAND HALL THEATRE** Val  
Command Fair, Merchants Street  
To-day  
2, 5.30 and 7.30 p.m. Cinema Show:  
J. Stewart and J. Arthur in  
"YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU"  
Officers 2/-; Other Ranks 1/-  
Services and Lady Guests only.

**CRYSTAL PALACE Theatre** Flori  
To-day  
Richard Greene in  
"KENTUCKY"  
Shows: Weekdays at 2 and 7 p.m.  
Sundays and Festas at 10 a.m.,  
2, 5 and 7 p.m.  
Prices of Admission 1/6 and 2/-

**CARLTON THEATRE** Tel. Sliema  
To-day and To-morrow  
Jane Withers in  
"BOY FRIEND"  
Shows: 2, 4, 6 and 8 p.m. daily

**COLISEUM THEATRE** Valetta  
To-day  
Part 1. Latest Gaumont British No.  
Part 2. J. Payne and M. O'Hara in  
"TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI"  
Shows at 10 a.m., 1, 3, 5.30  
and 7.30 p.m.

**ODEON THEATRE** Hamr  
DAILY DANCING  
from 6 to 10 p.m.  
GRAND SPECIAL DANCE  
ON SUNDAY

**ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE** Qo  
To-day  
"NEUTRAL PORT"  
Shows: Weekdays at 6.30 & 7.30 p.m.  
Sundays and Festas 10 a.m.,  
2, 5.30 and 7.30 p.m.  
Admission 1/2 and 1/6

**TRIANON THEATRE** Ham  
To-day and To-morrow  
D. Lewis and J. Ellison in  
"ICE CAPADES"  
Weekdays at 5 and 7 p.m.  
Sundays at 10.30 a.m., 2, 5 and 7 p.m.

**ORPHEUM Theatre** Tel. Sliema  
To-day and To-morrow  
George Formby in  
"GET CRACKING"  
Shows at 2, 4, 6 and 8 p.m.  
Sundays and Festas Matinee at 10 a.m.

**ROXY THEATRE** Birkirk  
To-day  
E. G. Robinson and P. Lukas in

**VERNON SERVICES CINEMA**  
To-day and To-morrow  
F. Astaire and G. Rogers in  
"TOP HAT"  
Shows: 10 a.m., 1, 3, 5.30 & 7.30 p.m.  
Admission 1/- & 2/-  
Servicemen only.

**MANOEL THEATRE** Val. Cen. 4090  
To-day  
Part 1. Before the raid  
Part 2. Eddy Cantor in  
"FORTY LITTLE MOTHERS"  
Shows: 10 a.m., 1, 3, 5.30 & 7.30 p.m.  
Prices of Admission 1/6 and 2/6

**REX THEATRE** Hamrun  
To-day & To-morrow  
Lloyd Nolan in  
"CHARTER PILOT"  
Weekdays: 2, 5.30 and 7.30 p.m.  
Sundays: 10.30 a.m., 2, 4,  
6 and 8 p.m.

**MAJESTIC THEATRE** Tel. Sliema 68  
To-day  
N. Eddy Cantor in