

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET BY THE
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

Release by the Services of Coast Road from
Ghallis Tower to Bahar ic-Caghaq

The land between Bahar-ic-Caghaq and Ghallis shown bordered in red on attached plan No. L.D. 97/71 was surrendered to the Government of Malta by the British Authorities on the 24th January, 1968.

It has an overall area of about 500 Tumoli.

At the time of its surrender to Government the land was subject to the following leases and/or encroachments granted previously by the British Authorities :-

1. The part shown in yellow wash on the plan, measuring about 60 Tumoli, was leased to Mr. Giuseppe Mifsud on the 14th September, 1928 for grazing and shooting at £3 per annum (Services Letting No. 1317).
2. The part shown in green wash on plan measuring approximately 390 Tumoli with the exception of the beach posts mentioned below, held on lease by Mr. Ernesto Cuschieri "for cultivation and shooting" at £40 per annum (Services Letting No. 1972). Parts of this land are being sublet to and cultivated by a farmer.
3. A Defence Post on the land mentioned in para (2) above held on encroachment by Mr. George Debono (Services Permission No. 1932) shown on plan by a purple spot.
4. A Defence Post on the land mentioned in para (2) above held on lease by Mr. Clo. Schembri (Services Letting 2261) shown on plan by a purple spot.
5. A hut on the said land mentioned in para (2) above, which had been originally granted on encroachment to the late Mr. Clo Ciantar and which is still occupied by unknown persons. (Services Letting 1888) shown on plan by a purple spot.
6. The area shown coloured in brown on plan, measuring some 30 Tumoli, which is held on lease by Mr. Tack Delia at £10 per annum (Services Letting 2049). A bungalow has been erected by the tenant on the land.

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7. A hut on the foreshore shown by a purple spot on plan held by Mr. V. Cordina.

None of the abovementioned tenants or holders of encroachment permits have been recognised by Government, except for Mr. Ernesto Cuschieri to whom Notice of termination of his lease was given with effect from the 14th August, 1970.

The decision to terminate Mr. Cuschieri's lease followed upon a Parliamentary Question (P.Q. No. 9784) (copy attached).

Mr. E. Cuschieri has been requesting Government to reconsider the decision to terminate his said lease.

As Mr. Cuschieri's lease is only one of several in this area, it is considered fair that if Government were to proceed to evict Mr. Cuschieri, then the same action should be taken in respect of all the other lessees listed above.

There is no immediate Government requirement for the land, and presumably it was solely as a consequence of the abovementioned Parliamentary Question that the decision to evict Mr. Cuschieri was taken.

The Commissioner of Land recommends that if the occupants of these lands and Beach Posts are not evicted altogether, their present leases should be converted into encroachment permits.

Ministers are asked to decide:-

- a. Whether all persons in occupation of the land and Beach Posts should be evicted, so that all the land would remain open to the general public, (except for one or two small areas which are at present under cultivation).
- b. Whether the present occupants (including Mr. Ernesto Cuschieri above mentioned) should be permitted to remain in occupation, and, in the affirmative, whether the present leases should be converted to encroachment permits.

Land 55/68.

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