

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET BY THE HON.  
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

DEVELOPMENT OF OLD RAILWAY TUNNEL - VALLETTA

Since the closing down of the Railway from Valletta to Imtarfa, the Old Railway Tunnel in Valletta has remained idly vacant except during the war when it was used as a shelter.

The Land Department has received several requests for the development of this tunnel.

In 1958, Mr. James Stevenson, and also in 1960, the British Agricultural Enterprises, requested the tunnel to be leased for the growing of cultivated mushrooms. The two requests were turned down as the Medical and Health Department objected for reasons of hygiene.

In 1963, the Malta Table Tennis Association requested the place as a club and premises. This request was at first favourably considered but was in the end refused on account of the impending development of the area.

Recently in 1968 the Aloha Enterprises Limited requested the tunnel for its conversion into a night club but this was also objected to.

The latest requests for the tunnel have come from two separate firms who have requested it for the construction of a car park. These are still pending.

Hon. Ministers are requested to advise whether they agree with the development of the tunnel and if in the affirmative, to establish in which direction such development should proceed.

4th June, 1969.

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L-Arkiw Nazzjonali ta' Malta