

NAPOLEONIC PERIOD (June 1798–September 1800)

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In Volume 12 No. 2 – Spring 1983, and Vol 13 No. 2 – August 1989, I published two letters from Archpriest Cassar, head of the Gozitan Government and the General Superintendent of the Gozitan Forces, one dated 13 October 1798, and the other 12 October 1798.

Today, by courtesy of our member Mr T. Eastgate another letter by Archpriest Cassar, dated 6 October, 1798 is being reproduced.

Sif. Comandante Liberato Grech

*Io sono a pregata di farmi mandare dalla
Torre di Marsalforno due barili polvere, mentre
la quantità che ho non mi serve p̄ fare
due giorni di fuoco, cioè oggi, e domani
trovandomi avere soli otto barili oggij precedenti;
Domani spedirò la barca all'ammiraglio
Portoghese per portare la polvere; Io mi
trovo sul monte Ghelmus dove aspetto sette
due barili polvere.*

The translation reads:
Commander Liberato Grech.

I would like you to send me two barrels of powder from Marsalforn Tower. I have only eight very small barrels left which are hardly enough for our guns for two days. Tomorrow I shall send the boat out to the Portuguese Admiral to get the powder loaded. I am stationed on Mount Ghelmus and shall wait for the powder here. Please ask the priest to pray for us.

Archpriest S. Cassar
6th October, 1798