

Cipher building makes way for Barrakka lift



Works on the reconstruction of the Barrakka Lift kicked off this week, with the demolition of the Cipher Building at the ditch beneath Ġlormu Cassar Avenue.

A MEPA permit giving the all clear to demolition works was issued last Friday.

The building was built in the 1950, and had housed cipher operations for Britain and NATO. It had recently been used by the National Statistics Office.

A statement issued by the Department of Information described it as a building without any architectural or historical value, and said that its removal would improve the bastions' aesthetic.

The demolition will be followed up by the construction of the lift, which will link Valletta's centre to the Grand Harbour, thus improving access.

The Grand Harbour Regeneration Corporation is currently evaluating the bids submitted for the construction of the lift.
