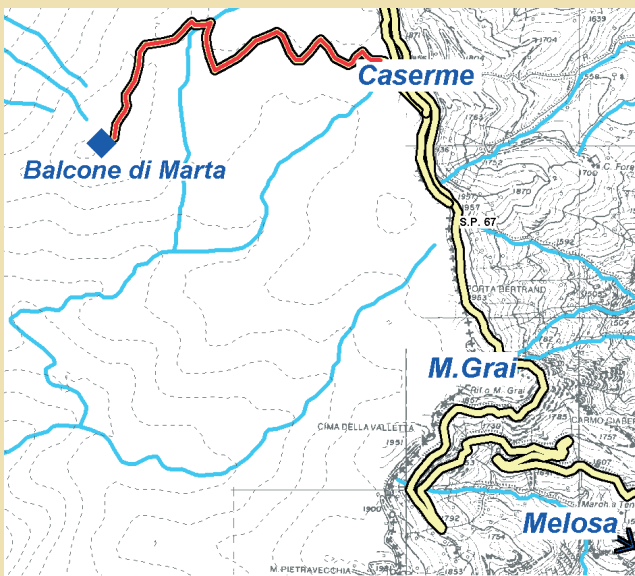


Itinerari della memoria in provincia di Imperia

FORTIFICATIONS

The defensive complex of Marta



How to get there

Starting from the coast, you drive 20 km northwards up Val Nervia as far as Pigna. Once past this village and the mountainous hamlet of Castelvittorio, you take the S.P. no. 65 to Colla Langan, and drive all the way up to the high altitude village, then turn left. You drive along the S.P. no.67 for a further 6 km, along a tarmac surface, until you get to Loc. Colla Melosa (bar).

Continue to climb (best with an all-terrain vehicle from this point) up the rough track, formerly a military road with spectacular views. After a series of wide hairpin bends you come close to the Grai Refuge (former barracks) and then continue north, crossing the Italian/French border. About 6.5 km after Colla Melosa, you come to a turn signposted "Caserme di Marta"; you must continue on foot from here for another 2 km on a good dirt road (past a barricade that prevents vehicle access).

Useful numbers:

Sito Internet: www.memoriadellealpi.net • www.provincia.imperia.it

Provincia di Imperia: Tel. 0183 704337 • ptc_parchi@provincia.imperia.it

Comune di Triora: Tel. 0184 94049 • comunetriora@libero.it

Comune di Pigna: Tel. 0184 241016 • comunepigna@tiscalinet.it

IAT Triora: Tel. 0184 94477

APT Sanremo: Tel. 0184 59059 • www.rivieradefiori.org

Riviera Trasporti Spa: info@rivieratrasporti.it • www.rivieratrasporti.it

Ferrovie dello Stato: www.trenitalia.it

Pronto Soccorso: Tel. 118

Informazioni meteo: www.meteoliguria.it

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UNIONE EUROPEA



alcotra



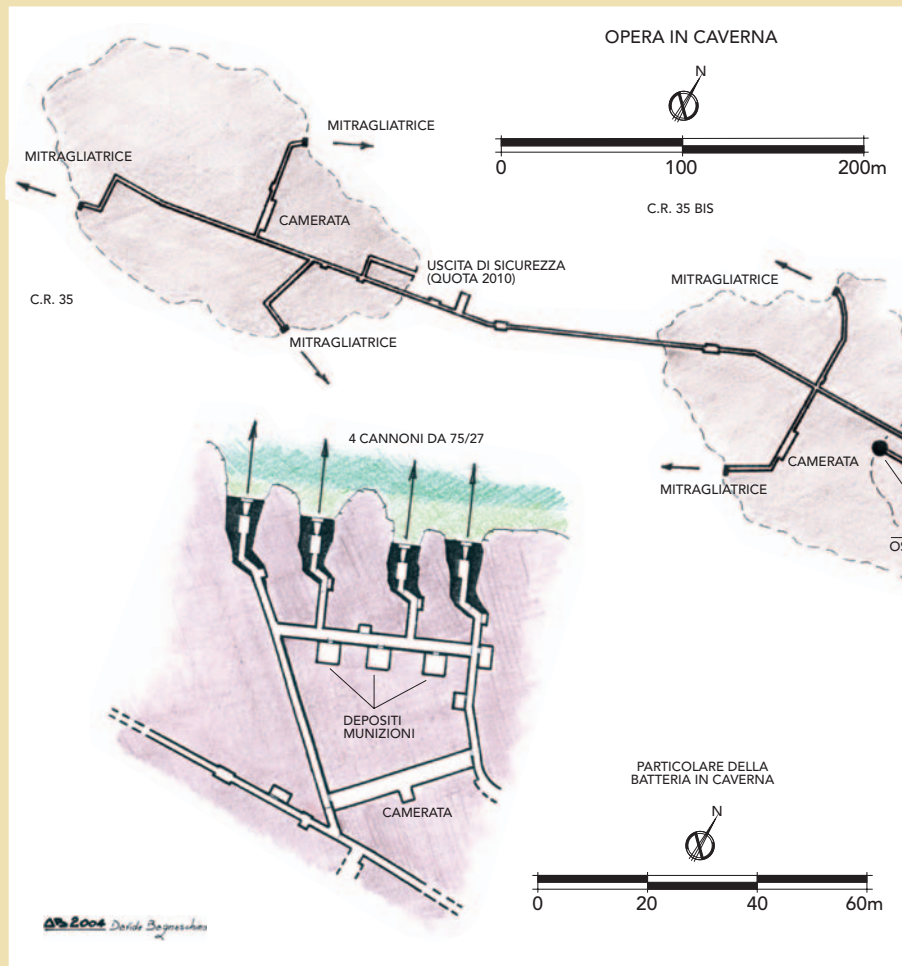
PROVINCIA DI IMPERIA

PROGETTO COFINANZIATO DALL'UNIONE EUROPEA

Foto: L. Laura, D. Bagnaschino - Testi: D. Bagnaschino, S. Zanella
Cartina: S. Zanella - Stampa: Graphicolor - 2005



LA MEMORIA DELLE ALPI
LA MÉMOIRE DES ALPES
GEDÄCHTNIS DER ALPEN



The defensive complex of Marta

The fortifications built below the "Balcone di Marta" are the most extensive complex forming part of the Vallo Alpino (Alpine Wall) in the Western Alps. They consist of the 605th underground battery (four 75/27 mod. 906 cannons) with firing range over San

Dalmazzo di Tenda and the Roja Valley, resistance centre 35 (three FIAT 14/35 machine guns), resistance centre 35 bis (two FIAT 14/35 machine guns) which protected the paths and slopes of the "Balcone di Marta", and lastly the observation post which guided the artillery shots.

The fortifications were built between

1931 and 1938 by a succession of different engineering firms which excavated the galleries, clad the underground passages with concrete, built the casemates and supplied and fitted the technical systems and equipment.

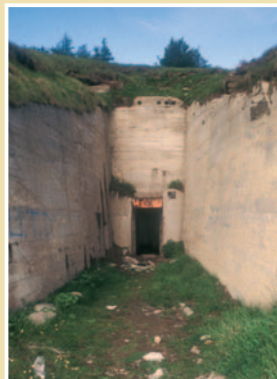
It was manned by about one hundred and fifty troops and the galleries ran over a distance of 1.5 km. Only the embrasures and the entrances are visible from the outside, opening onto the eastern side of the mountain; an emergency exit is located on the saddle between the "Balcone" and the so-called "Castle", the furthest outcrop of the "Balcone" facing France and overlooking Bassa di Giasque.

The barracks at Marta, built in 1897, also housed the cannons from other open-air batteries on Mount Pietravecchia, Ceriana, Testa della Nava and Balcone di Marta.

The zone formed part of the 5th Media Roja Sector and it was here, in June 1940, that the Modena infantry division arrived to reinforce the defensive positions.



Feritoie delle postazioni per cannone da 75/27



Ingresso Sud-Est