

Main Street, the removal of the water catchments, the construction of the new cruise liner terminal. And again heritage projects were included, for the sake of their benefit to employment in tourism: further projects on the Upper Rock, and the shrine - but not the Mosque - near Europa Point. More recently have come the redevelopment of Casemates, the re-equipment of St. Michael's Cave, the conversions of Bleak House into a training centre and the Lathbury Barracks into an industrial park, the first phase of the Second World War Tunnels project, and the work on the Theatre Royal.

THE FUTURE

Since my time the Objective 2 programme has been renewed again, and over £10 million of grant is now expected for the seven years to 2006.

The choice of projects, and the administration of the grants, has of course rested with the Government of Gibraltar. Led by Francis Sheriff, the commercial director at the Gibraltar DTI, Gibraltar civil servants picked up the Euro-complexities of the work with agility. He represented Gibraltar at my meetings in London, and once joined the British delegation at the table in Brussels. My own watchword was always to take Gibraltar seriously. A simple lesson, but a valuable one."

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be written in jargon, but I had experts in London who were glad to help with the Euro-speak.

Another condition imposed by the European regulations was six-monthly meetings at the Convent to monitor progress with administering the grant programme. The Commission sent their man from Brussels, and I would come from London. And what a pleasure it was to see the improvements on the ground in Gibraltar!

BIG GRANT-AIDED PROJECTS

Big grant-aided projects included the beautification of