Here is the state after the arrival of Gran Soccorso, the Great Catholic Relief led by Sicilian Viceroy García Álvarez de Toledo. Compared to the previous version, the changes are minimal and are marked primarily by added commentaries, e.g., “Altar de Abandonate da turchi” (the Turks leaving their cannons) or “Turchi che va via” (the Turks are leaving) or “Christians mesti in terra” (landing of Christians by Don Garcia). The symbols on guidons has changed. With the progress of Christians in Birgu and on the Settefras and Marsamxett Mountain the Turkish Crescent changes to a Christian Cross. This 3rd version of the map announced as the first the end of the Great Siege of Malta.

The map shows dramatic departure of the Turks. It is characterized in the most significant changes. Compared to the 3 previous versions there are many empty areas in the port and in the inland because the Turkish army had already pulled down the camps and fled to the Marsamxett port to board. There are only scattered groups of Turkish soldiers hauling heavy cannons. On the left is seen a mass departure of Turkish army from St. Paul’s Bay. Christian and Turkish soldiers are fighting their last fights including the fight of Don Alvaro. Scattered crippled bodies demonstrate how fierce the fights were. On the right at the bottom a bugler on the horseback announces the end of the Great Siege. The text next to him describes the events of the last days.
Depeiction of the Port of Malta currently besieged by the Turks
Disegno del Porto di Malta,
come al presente si trova assediato da turchi

UNESCO Memory of the World

Map Collection of the Faculty of Science of Charles University, Prague

National Museum of Fine Arts, Valletta

The siege of Malta began. The map shows state of July 1565, deployment of Turkish camps, military units and fleet. The massive descent of Turkish fleet on the town Senglea with the St. Michael fortress is obvious. The forts St. Elmo* on the Sciberras Mountain and St. Angelo* on the Cape Bircju are also clearly visible. The Catholic fleet* anchors Sicilian offshore.