



INVITATION

The War Archive is delighted to invite you in the presentation

Non-Jewish Greeks in fascist and Nazi concentration camps: Experiences and testimonies, 1942-1945

Saturday 6 June 2015 at 7.30 pm

The presentation will be in Greek

Exactly seventy years ago a large number of Greeks outside Greece celebrated the end of the war and the end of their own personal nightmare as prisoners in concentration camps.

Whereas there is a great deal of material on the experience of Greek Jews in concentration and extermination camps, there is relatively little on the experience of non-Jewish Greeks in these camps. Unlike the Jews who were transported to camps to be killed, non-Jewish Greeks were sent there primarily as forced labor, especially after 1944 when the impending military collapse of Germany necessitated a desperate effort to maintain war production but with an ever-diminishing German labor force.

There are no exact numbers of the non-Jewish Greeks who were sent to camps, estimates vary up to the, possibly exaggerated, 45,000, with an equally exaggerated estimate of 14,000 of those dying in the camps.

The fate of those who managed to survive the forced marches from camp to camp as Nazi Germany collapsed but would not give up its prisoners was not happy one. After treks lasting months at the time, the survivors managed to return to a Greece, already torn up by the civil war, to an indifferent and even hostile community and state and to face collaborators who were mostly free and unpunished.

The presentation makes use of extensive research in very disparate sources as well as on the personal testimonies **of** survivors.

The presenter

Annita M. Panaretou

Born in Athens in 1958, she studied English and Greek literature, receiving her Ph.D from the University of Crete.

Her area of specialization has been travel literature and translations. Her research and book on I.M.Panagiotopoulos and his body of work, won a prize from the Athens Academy in 1986,while two of her fiction books were short-listed for major prizes.

She has published extensively both books and articles on diverse topics but especially on modern Greek travel literature and travel books.

The Arheion is looking very much forward to your presence in this event.

We ask you however to let us know whether you will be coming either by replying to this email at afrreris@wararchivegr.org and/or by contacting Maka Dokhnadze at the phone of the Arheion, 210-8676390 ,or mobile phone 69-98088220 by latest Thursday 4 June 2015. Please do note that space is limited.
