

Prisoners from Greece and Other Countries

In April 1941 the Wehrmacht occupied Greece. The Jewish population was deported to the extermination camps. The German occupying forces reacted to the strikes and partisan activities organised by the Greek resistance movement with massacres, the shooting of hostages, and deportations. Greek slave labourers in Germany who had disobeyed work orders were arrested. Around 1,200 people from Greece were imprisoned in Neuengamme concentration camp. On 4 June 1944, a transport carrying 850 prisoners arrived in Neuengamme from Athens after a 10-day journey.

People from over 20 nations were imprisoned in Neuengamme and its satellite camps. Only a few prisoners came from countries such as Britain, Switzerland, Albania or Portugal. There were also non-Europeans among the concentration camp prisoners.