

**Konstandinos Bozinis**  
**RG-50.855\*0025**

Konstandinos Bozinis, born on July 9, 1928, in the village of Arnissa, North/Western Greece, describes his experience as a Greek Christian, in Thessaloniki (Salonika), Greece, during the period of German occupation (1941 – 1943). His father's name was Nikolaos and worked for the Trains of the Greek State (SEK). He had two brothers, (born in 1924, a medical doctor, and 1926, an attorney) and a sister (born in 1930, a Greek teacher). The family moved to Thessaloniki around 1925. Konstandinos studied Law and Business Administration. They originally lived on 41 Fintiou Street, close to the old Train Station, and then moved to 6 Doxatou Street. There were no Jews in their immediate neighborhood, and he did not know any until two classmates in High School, (does not remember names). The area above the old Train Station had small improvised houses occupied by poor Jews. The area close to his neighborhood had one and two story houses, occupied by middle class Jews.

After the Germans occupied and took over Thessaloniki from the Italians, a lot of things changed for the worst: there was tremendous hunger and misery (he saw dead bodies of children on the street); people were very fearful of the Germans, and specially the Gestapo; the Jews were ordered to wear a yellow star, and, eventually, were arrested and sent to concentration camps. His father had a number of Jewish friends, and two of them offered to give him their stores when they were gone. He did not accept either offer. The first day when the Jews were taken away, their houses were totally purged by other citizens. Konstantinos saw furniture and other personal things taken out and carried away. At the beginning, everybody thought the Jews were going to work camps, but after a while they understood they were taken to concentration camps and killed. There were rumors that the soap used at the time, was produced from the fat of the Jews.

There were Greeks who collaborated with the Germans: the Poulikoi or Germanotsoliades, dressed in German uniforms, lead by an individual named Poulos; and the Security Battalions (Tagmata Asfalias), dressed like Greek soldiers.