

DACC NEWS BULLETIN

NO. 2

MAY 1992

Man Of The Year Award

Excerpts from Man of the Year acceptance speech by Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen on the occasion of the Dinner Dance hosted by Danish American Society and DACC, March 20th, 1992:

"It is indeed an honor to be awarded this distinguished nomination; especially at this time when so many old boundaries and concepts are disappearing, and when the ideals we fought for are ever prevailing. Also, because our common Atlantic values and ideas about freedom proved strong enough to carry us through the difficult years.

I feel as a Dane - and a European.

Many of you here tonight feel as Danes and Americans.

As Danes, Americans, or Europeans we are united by those ideals of freedom and democracy we share, a message we have spread to countries that for many years were our neighbors, but could not dwell with in a natural way.

As Foreign Minister of Denmark, it is thrilling to turn new pages in the book of history, placing our country in a new and favorable position.

Sure, we are a small country. But, if we are consistent and faithful to the fundamental ideals we share with our partners, and are ready to take on the responsibility and burden, we can join the

process of changing the world.

There is no reason for Danes to assume a national minority complex... per our defeat by the Germans in 1864. In today's world, characterized by strong and close international cooperation between sovereign states, policy often plays a greater role than the mere size of the country.

Do you remember these phrases from Hans Christian Andersen's patriotic song "In Denmark I Was born: A tiny land, but in the world you tower/there ring the song and chisel of the Danes".

YOU, who are here are ringing the song and the chisel of the Danes ... We are proud of you.

And, back home your countrymen are engaged actively in the world around us. We are interested in the world, sharing in responsibilities and participating in it.

The 75 year celebration of Transfer Day of the former Danish West Indies - now the U.S. Virgin Islands - which my wife and I will participate in next week - recalls a special historic event between our two countries.

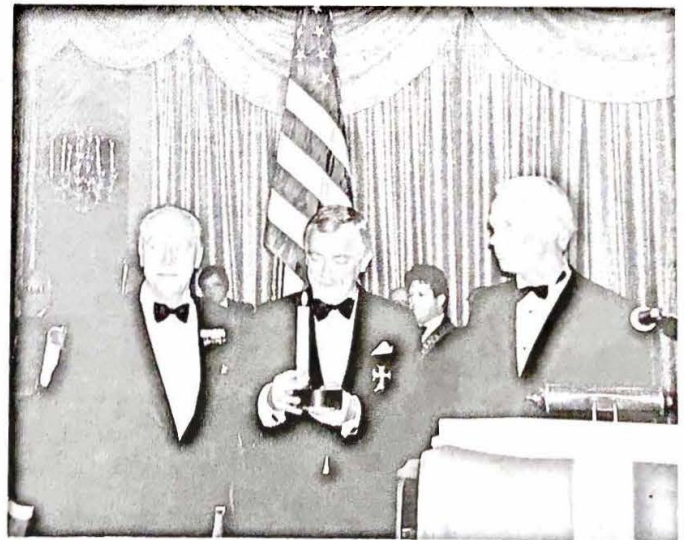
Shortly after America in 1776 had declared its independence, a ship under the American flag was forced by an English privateer close to the shores of St. Croix. Our fort at Frederikssted protected the American ship with heavy gunfire and, in doing so, Denmark became the first sovereign nation to accord national privileges to the self proclaimed state of what was then looked upon as mere rebels!

I mention this episode from our mutual history because it reflects an ongoing policy of Denmark all these years to support other countries wishing to be independent - in words and deeds. We were the first to send an ambassador to the Baltic states, after they regained their freedom. Denmark is sending nearly 1,000 men to the former Yugoslavia to safeguard peace. Danish soldiers are working as UN guards in northern Iraq to protect the Kurds against attacks by Saddam Hussein.

We are active, we share joint responsibility, and have broad public support.

A tiny land - BUT...

Therefore, I accept the honor you show me tonight, which I take as an expression of respect for the attitude your countrymen in the old country show the world around us."



Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen flanked by Mr. Werner Valeur-Jensen, Chairman, DACC, on the left and Mr. Bent Olrik, President, DAS, on the right.

DANISH AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dinner Dance March 20, 1992

Danish American Society and Danish American Chamber of Commerce held a joint gala dinner dance on Friday, March 20, 1992, at the Grand Ballroom of the Pierre Hotel in New York City.

A festive gathering of over 250 members and guests gave a warm welcome to the Man of the Year, Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Foreign Minister of Denmark, and his wife, Mrs. Alice Vestergaard.

The Foreign Minister accepted the award and expressed his appreciation for this great honor, and mentioned his warm feelings for the long and supportive relationship between Denmark and the United States.

Among the honored guests were Danish Ambassadors to the United States and the United Nations, Peter Dyvig and Bent Haakonsen respectively, with their wives; also Consul General and Honorary Chairman of the event Leif Donde and Mrs. Donde, as well as the Society's first Man of the Year, Victor Borge.

SAS donated two round trip tickets to Denmark, and the lucky winner was Mr. Leif Clemens Petersen. Congratulations!

Let us not forget to mention that DACC also celebrated its 60th anniversary on this festive occasion.

BM

LEGO Honored With Export Award

Peter Eio, President of LEGO, Inc., USA, accepted the Export Diploma of the National Association of Danish Enterprises and His Royal Highness Prince Henrik's Medal of Honor at the dinner dance co-hosted by the Danish American Society and DACC on March 20, at the Pierre Hotel, New York.

The prestigious award, given in recognition of the outstanding results achieved for the marketing of Danish products in the United States, was presented by Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen - himself the recipient of the Man-of-the-Year honor on the same occasion.

In making the presentation, H.E. Ellemann-Jensen praised LEGO Systems, Inc. for its success in making Lego a household word in America, as well as for its community spirit in establishing a special chair at MIT and involvement in day-care centers for children.

EN

The American Club, Copenhagen, Calender

Monday, May 25: Luncheon Meeting, Hotel D'Angleterre
Friday, June 12: Annual General Meeting, Hotel Kong Frederik

Mr. John C. Jensen, Secretary/Treasurer, 33 14 76 56

DACC June Luncheon Meeting

The last luncheon meeting before the summer is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, at the New York Yacht Club. The guest of honor and speaker will be the new Head of SAS North America, Mr. Owe Lovenborg.

STF

New Members:

Mr. Klaus Justsen
8514 Brickyard Road
Potomac, MD 20854

Chief US correspondent for the newspaper Jyllands-Posten

Mr. Anders Rosenquist
Scandinavian Newspaper, Inc.
P.O. box 1409

Summit, NJ 07902-8409

Distribute and market Scandinavian Newspapers and magazines in the United States.

New Hours for Passport & Visa Office

The passport and visa office of the Danish Consulate General, NY, is now open to the public Monday-friday from 10am - 2 pm.

bm

DACC Summer Office Hours:

Office closed June 18-30

July opening hours:

Wednesdays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 9am-1pm

Office closed August 3 - Sept. 7

As of Sept. 8 the regular office hours are 9am-1pm Monday to Friday

PUBLISHER:

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Danes To Lead In The EC

Once again Danes are to lead the development in the European Community. From January 1, 1993, when the extended open market is supposed to become a reality, Danes will preside at meetings at all levels in Brussels. And, already this June a special Danish event will act as opener for the more serious discussions on the European Union, which was laid out in Maastricht this year. Among the subjects for discussion will be matters such as a common currency "ecu" and more power to the central authorities in Brussels. On June 2, Danes will vote on whether to support this transfer of authority from Copenhagen to Brussels.

The Danish government takes a very matter-of-fact attitude towards this referendum. In its understanding, it is not necessary to change the Danish constitution to allow this transfer of sovereignty. The Danish constitution, "Grundloven", allows the Danish government to transfer sovereignty to an unspecified degree to supranational organizations. The paragraph in the constitution was formulated, though, to facilitate international cooperation in organizations such as the UN, and not with the vision of an integration of European countries in mind. From the beginning of this debate there has been a solid lead of some

5-8 per cent of no-voters in the polls. Admittedly, these polls could be seriously flawed as they were in the first referendum, in 1972, on whether or not to join the EC. With some 30 per cent of potential voters not being committed as late as two months before the referendum, this vote could still turn in favor of the European Union. This is also indicated by the very latest opinions expressed by political commentators in Denmark.

The conservative/liberal Danish government has turned up the heat on the reluctant Danes. A NO will mean relinquishing the chance of having any influence on the development in Europe. Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter even insists on seeing a parallel to the 30's. Back then countries like Denmark had full sovereignty, and no influence whatsoever. Not even the Danish business community represents a united front. The prominent ship owner and industrialist, Maersk McKinney-Moeller, in an open letter from March 1992, expressed his serious reluctance as to the benefit of Denmark transferring more sovereignty to Brussels. However, he has recently modified his position, claiming that on June 2 he will cast a "yes" vote.

Chr. Juul-Jessen
Frankfurt, Germany

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SAS
SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES

Danish Foreign Minister at Work in the USA

During his visit to the United States, March 18 - April 1st Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen made business calls to Washington, DC, New York, Pittsburgh, Raleigh-Durham and Houston.

A great deal of the program was committed to the "Investment in Denmark" campaign, with breakfast and luncheon meetings at the above mentioned locations. Furthermore, the Minister gave a lecture at The University of Pittsburgh and visited a research center in The Research Triangle, North Carolina.

On Monday morning March 23, Mr. Uffe Ellemann-Jensen was interviewed live on CCN Business Day on the topic of Denmark as the gateway to Europe for American companies.

NH

Danish Trolls Conquer The US

Troll dolls, those homely, elf-like creatures with wild colorful hair, are back. The trolls, which are characters from the Danish folklore, were introduced into the American toy market around 1960 by Danish troll designer Thomas Dam. The troll dolls, which were copied by several competitors, were popular until the mid 1960's.

The revival of the troll-fever has created an export fairytale for the small Danish company Norfin, which in the first four months of 1992 exported more than three million trolls to the U.S. The trolls sell from USD 1 to 85 each at retail stores.

Norfin has only 25 employees that work out of a small factory in Gjol in Northern Jutland. Because of the revived popularity of the trolls, the company has problems keeping up with the demands and has, therefore, started production at a third Chinese factory.

NS

New Leader of Denmark's Social Democratic Party

Denmark's largest political party, the Social Democrats, has elected a new leader, Mr. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen. Mr. Rasmussen is known for having a very good understanding of the problems in the private sector. However, the Social Democrats have not been members of the ruling Danish government for more than a decade.

NS

Age Is A Plus

SAS International Hotels have introduced a new offer to senior citizens. During weekends, Friday to Sunday, the room rates at all SAS hotels are slashed by a percentage corresponding to the age of the guest.

The offer applies to all persons aged 65 or over. A guest who is 65 years old will consequently get a 65% discount. If the guest is 100 years old, the room is free. In case the guest is over 100, don't count on receiving a refund. The

offer is based on "space available". A sumptuous breakfast and late check-out (8 pm) on Sunday is included.
EN

Joint Venture Agreement Between FLS Miljø A/S And NOXSO.

In the presence of Mr. Uffe Ellemann-Jensen a joint venture agreement between FLS Miljø A/S and the Pittsburgh-based company NOXSO Corp. was signed on March 24. NOXSO has developed a new technique to remove gases emitted by power plants without producing other pollutants. FLS Miljø is to sell pollution control systems using the NOXSO technology in Europe including Eastern Europe, which is widely regarded as one of the most polluted regions in the world.

NH

TELECOM Denmark.

On March 31st Telecom Denmark sponsored a seminar at The Helmsley Palace in New York City entitled "Tele-gateway to the New Europe". The seminar highlighted the excellent infrastructure in the telecommunications sector in Denmark and the opportunities available by using Denmark as a telecommunications "HUB" for Europe in general and Eastern Europe in particular. Approximately 40 representatives from American companies attended the seminar, which was repeated in Chicago a few days later.

NH

A Success Story For Socialism

"A Success Story for Socialism" was one of the headlines on the front page of The Los Angeles Times recently. The story referred to Denmark.

Revolution may have swept Soviet-style communism from Eastern Europe, and hardnosed believers in such welfare states as Sweden may try to dismantle key programs, but tiny Denmark still makes socialism work", the article said. In this context we would like to mention that Denmark has been ruled by a conservative government for more than a decade.

The story continues: "Indeed, perched on the fringe of a continent that is in the midst of fast and bewildering change, this tidy, affluent Scandinavian nation of 5 million is about as close to the rainbow as a European country will get in these troubled times.

Here, in Europe's oldest kingdom, life is calmer, more comfortable and secure. Every working individual gets five weeks vacation a year, while the jobless get unemployment benefits of up to USD 17,000 annually".

Anyhow, let us conclude with a headline from the Wall Street Journal last November "Denmark's Miracle is Gaining Believers" and the article continues "Reversal makes it Europe's new economic model".

NS

Denmark's Export to the United States

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>1990/91</u>
Ham, bacon, salami and other meat products.....	1965	1542	1840	1666	- 9.5%
Cheese and other dairy products.	250	265	279	254	- 9.0%
Fish etc. for consumption *)....	462	445	432	502	16.2%
Butter Cookies.....	299	361	320	309	- 3.4%
Beverages	48	63	46	43	- 6.5%
Mink furs and other skins	337	295	106	101	- 4.7%
Animal and vegetable raw materials	203	246	241	208	- 13.7%
Raw chemicals and combinations..	519	569	502	643	28.1%
Medicals and pharmaceuticals ...	600	598	366	481	31.4%
Wood products (except furniture)	73	58	33	17	- 48.5%
Textiles (except clothing)	72	74	72	76	5.6%
Stoneware, glass, china, etc. ..	122	146	130	111	-14.6%
Machinery (except electrical) ..	1431	1752	1853	1737	- 6.3%
Electrical machinery and equipment.....	759	753	679	768	13.1%
Transport equipment	175	358	593	455	- 23.3%
Furniture	915	917	863	651	- 24.6%
Technical, scientific, photograph- ic and optical instruments...	652	710	687	662	- 3.6%
Products in other categories ...	<u>1961</u>	<u>2281</u>	<u>1800</u>	<u>1844</u>	<u>2.4%</u>
	10843	11433	10842	10528	-2.9%

*) does not include Faroe Islands and Greenland

1988: 1 US Dollar is equal to D.kr. 6.75 (average)

1989: 1 US Dollar is equal to D.kr. 7.32 (average)

1990: 1 US Dollar is equal to D.kr. 6.18 (average)

1991: 1 US Dollar is equal to D.kr. 6,40 (average)

Source: Danmarks Statistik: Udenrigshandel.

FROM THE CULTURAL CORNER

- March 5 - "New Paintings by Ole Hamann" are exhibited at
June 8 the Consulate General of Denmark, 825 Third Avenue, NYC. Tel: 473 - 0019.
- March 26 - Irene Young shows her work "Roots" at Saint
May 5 Peter's Church, 54th Street and Lexington Avenue, NYC. Tel: 935 - 2200.
- April 1 - 30 Danish artist Inge Blomquist exhibits her paintings at Unibank's Gallery, 20 West 55th Street, NYC. Tel: 949 - 9393.
- May 18 Screening of the new Danish film "A Day in October" at The French Institute, Florence Gould Hall, 7.30 pm 55 East 59th Street, NYC. Tel: 687 - 9141.
- May 22 - 31 Retrospective of films by Danish director Henning Carlsen (best known for his film "Hunger") at Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, NYC. Tel: 708 - 9480.
- June 6 - Per Kirkeby exhibition at Parrish Art Museum, August 8 Southampton, NY. Tel: (516) 283 - 2118.
- June 6 - The Hans Christian Andersen Storytelling Committee continues its annual summer storytelling series at Sept. 26 the Hans Christian Andersen Statue in Central 11:00 am Park, Fifth Avenue at 72nd Street.
- June 7 Danish Constitution Day is celebrated at the Danish Home, Croton-on-Hudson, NY. For info call: (201) 728 - 7644.
- June 19 - A group of Danish artists will be featured July 19 at Art House Odeon, Water Street West, Sag Harbor, NY., Tel: (516) 725 - 3100.
- July 3 - 7 Training Ship DANMARK calls on New York and participates in Operation Sail's "Salute to the Age of Discovery Parade" on July 4th.
- July 3 - 21 Aarhus Pigegarde visits New York, Washington, DC and Richmond, VA. For info. call (201) 796 - 1724.
- July 4 Training Ship GEORG STAGE participates in Operation Sail's "Salute to the Age of Discovery Parade".
- July 10 - Training Ship DANMARK calls on Boston and July 16 participates in "Sail Boston 1992".