

—•— Historical Context —•—

WORLD

1939 - Hitler invades Czechoslovakia and Poland. Stalin invades Finland. Mussolini is in Africa. Franco involved in a bloody civil war. League of Nations mandate in Palestine is to end in 1949 with an independent Arab-Jewish state.

April 1940 - Hitler invades Norway and Denmark.

1941 - Hitler invades Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia, Russia, and blitzes London.

Dec. 1941 - Pearl Harbour, Japan invades China.

Sept. 1942 - 50,000 Jews slaughtered in Warsaw ghetto.

Aug. 1943 - Hamburg flattened by Allied bombing.

Major war in the Pacific between U.S. and Japan.

Oct. 1943 -

June 1944 - Hitler is testing "smart bombs," the first unmanned guided missiles.

May 1945 - War is "over." (Hitler and Mussolini are dead, concentration camps liberated).

Aug. 1945 - A-bombs land on Japan.

DENMARK

Signs non-aggression pact with Germany.

DK capitulates without a struggle. A puppet Danish government remains in parliament, Hitler calls it "a model protectorate."

Parliament resigns, refusing to accept Berlin's new ultimatums. Nazi martial law declared, massive worker strikes and rioting. Increased sabotage activity answered by Nazi counter-terror, ie: destruction of Tivoli Gardens.

Danish resistance workers evacuate almost all of the country's 7000 Jews to Sweden.

Iceland breaks with Denmark, declares independence.

50,000+ Danish resistance workers by war's end.

Jan. 1950 - Russia walks out of UN over China issue.
Truman gives the okay for production of the H-bomb (100-1000 times more powerful than A-bomb).

Feb. 1950 - Stalin/Mao pact.

1950 53 - Korean war (Communists back North Korea, U.S. backs South Korea.)

May 1951 - First H-bomb tested.

April 1952 - Pacific war ends, Japan given back sovereignty.

1953 - Riots in Berlin (anti-Soviet popular sentiments, floods of refugees from East Germany).

New constitution alters Greenland's status from colony to county.

Feb. 1955 - White Nationalist government South Africa evict 60,000 black Africans from their homes to make way for all-white residential area.

Copenhagen-Bonn declaration, concerning minorities in the border region, improves relations with West Germany.

May 1955 - Warsaw pact between Soviet Union, E. Germany and six other nations forms a "communist bloc." West Germany becomes an independent state.

1956 - Rosa Parks stays on the bus in U.S.
Soviets crush Polish and Hungarian uprisings.
Egypt takes Suez Canal, Israel invades Egypt.

Danish peace-keeping troops in Suez.

March 1957 - European Economic Community (EEC) formed among "the six": France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg. Britain is not happy.

DK stays out of EEC negotiations as Britain is their largest trading partner.

Oct. 1957 - Russians are the first in space.

Nov. 1959 - European Free Trade Association (EFTA) formed among "the seven": Britain, Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland, which hopes to absorb or at least upstage "the six". EFTA and EEC are now rival trading blocs, and begin competing for markets.

Founding member of EFTA, with Britain.

March 1960 - South African government massacres black civilians.

Danish peace-keeping troops in Congo (remain until 1964).

April 1960 - New flood of refugees from East to West Germany.

May 1960 - Soviets shoot down a U.S. spy plane, ruining a peace summit between "the big four": Eisenhower, Krushchev, deGaulle and British PM MacMillan.

Oct. 1960 - At a meeting of the UN General Assembly, Krushchev calls the Philippine delegate "an American stooge".

Nov. 1960 - U.S. elections: Kennedy narrowly defeats Nixon.

"Ban the Bomb" protests in Copenhagen amid cold war unease.

1961 - Soviets put first man in space.

July 1961 - Britain announces plans to join the EEC.

Denmark announces plans to join the EEC with Britain.

early 60s - Tighter immigration policies throughout Europe.

Right-wing groups become more vocal, but Social Democrats retain stronghold in parliament.

Aug. 1961 - Berlin wall erected. 50,000 East Germans who work in West Berlin are suddenly turned away at the border.

May 1962 - Adolf Eichmann's last words before he is hanged in Israel: "I obeyed the laws of war and was loyal to my flag".

Oct. 1962 - Cuban missile crisis.

Jan. 1963 - Britain is refused entry to the EEC.

Denmark withdraws its EEC application.

1963 -

For the first time, the value of Danish industrial exports surpasses that of agriculture.