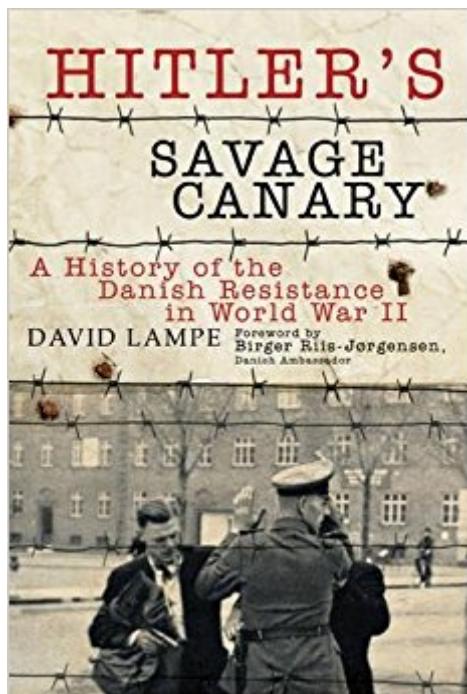


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# Hitler's Savage Canary: A History Of The Danish Resistance In World War II



## Synopsis

After Adolf Hitler made plans to create a model protectorate out of Denmark, Winston Churchill predicted that the nation would become the Führer's tame canary. Isolated from the Allies and fueled only by a sense of human decency and national pride, the Danes created an extraordinary resistance movement that proved a relentless thorn in the side of the Nazis. By 1945, they had published twenty-six million issues of illegal newspapers. They set up radio guides for Allied aircraft on the coasts and proved invaluable in penetrating Nazi defenses. Regular boat services ran between Sweden, Denmark, and Britain. German ships could not move out of ports, and troops were stymied again and again by the sabotage of railways and air bases. Most amazing of all was the transportation of some 7,000 Danish Jews to safety in Sweden. They were not trained; they were not soldiers. They were simply ordinary citizens who refused to stand idly by and witness an atrocity. The story of the selfless courage and daring should inspire countless future generations. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

## Book Information

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: David Lampe; Reprint edition (April 15, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1628723718

ISBN-13: 978-1628723717

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #578,043 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Denmark #1158 in Books > History > World > Jewish > Holocaust #1859 in Books > History > Europe > Germany

## Customer Reviews

In a new foreword (the book originally appeared in the U.K. in 1957), Riis-Jorgensen, the Danish ambassador to England, writes that the story of the Danish occupation "carries within it many tales of humiliation, human strength, courage and compassion, of collective and individual acts of bravery." Within four hours of Germany's invasion, notes freelance writer Lampe (who died in 2003), the Resistance began with a 17-year-old's distribution of illegal leaflets. Not all resistance was organized; Danish laborers dumped sugar into cement they mixed for German gun emplacements, making them crumble. The Resistance set up radio guides for Allied aircraft on the coasts; Danish saboteurs attacked German army installations; and entire cities went on strike against occupation rule. If caught or even suspected of working for the Resistance, prisoners were interrogated, threatened, and tortured. Lampe also highlights the Danes' heroic efforts to protect its small Jewish community from Nazi concentration camps. By war's end, thanks to the role (and sacrifice) of Danes in the Resistance, Denmark was credited with helping to win Europe's freedom. (Apr.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

David Lampe was born in Maryland in 1923. He served with the United States Army Air Corps in Europe during World War II until his discharge in 1952. After the war he lived in Britain, working as a freelance writer. This was his first book, originally titled *The Savage Canary*, and published in 1957 in England. Lampe died in 2003 after suffering from a long-term illness. Birger Riis-Jørgensen holds a master's degree from the University of Copenhagen. He joined the Foreign Service in 1976 and now serves as the Danish ambassador to London.

The Danish resistance movement during WWII was incredible in both scope and zeal. Each chapter of *Savage Canary* covers a different aspect of the resistance movement from underground printing presses to sabotage of German communications, railroad service, military lines. The description of how the resistance was able -- in all their myriad ways -- to contain a Wehrmacht division recalled from Norway in order to support the German front from the invading allies, boggles the mind. The resistance orchestrated the containment with great precision and detail. With this German division contained in Denmark, it aided in turning the tide of war in favor of the allies. Amazing also is how the resistance was able to smuggle 7200 Danish Jews into Sweden within 30 days. Some 500 Jews were captured by the Germans and deported but these Jews were the ones who refused to flee -- who couldn't believe the Germans would harm them. My only disappointment with the book is that a chapter had not been devoted to the monarchy....the only one Hitler allowed to remain on the throne. We know from history that King Christian was imprisoned for the duration of the war after he

publicly spoke out against the Germans for their treatment of Danish strikers in Copenhagen. Although Sweden was generous in accepting Danish refugees, it is unclear how these refugees were treated -- whether they were allowed freedom to mingle with the native population or whether they were interned in refugee camps. It would have been nice if this aspect had been addressed. It's a good book, well worth the read.

An excellent and sometimes humorous account of Danish Resistance doings in WWII. Obviously written, somewhat matter-of-fact-ly, by an author whose native language is the Queen's English. We Americans may find it strange to be riding around in a "saloon" (something like a limousine), etc. All that said, the accounts are so fascinating that the book definitely rates five stars for interest and intrigue.

Essential reading of the occupation of Denmark by Germany in WWII. This book explains the background history of the relationship of Denmark to Germany before the war, so that the reader has a better understanding of Germany's strategy in occupying Denmark instead of "invading". The Danish people, those of the resistance and others not directly involved in the covert sabotage operations, are brought to light in the big picture of the occupation. It is a good read and provides better understanding of this part of WWII.

Although I found the lack of citations rather peculiar for a history book in general the book was very good and helped me realize that the Danish were far from over when their country was overrun by the Germans. I was somehow under the impression that they were "docile" and accepted their fate but I was very wrong. However I believe that the stories depicted in the book must be a detailed account of what was happening since a Danish ambassador is forewording the book.

Great obscure story. So glad I happened on to this gem about the daring Danish resistance during WWII. Makes me proud to be married to a Dane. Another reminder that the world is full of heroes to match its villains.

Good info and an easy read. Used it for my grandson's report plus my own interest.

I will be going to Copenhagen soon and will try to visit the Resistance Museum there. I was so happy to read that Denmark did so many amazing things during the war for the jewish people and the

US allies against the Germans.

Simply brilliant.Great to read about my Grandfathers country esp as his family involved.

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