

## 020505 Liberation Day

Happy Liberation Day! Sunday, May 5th marked the 57th anniversary of the liberation of Denmark from German occupation.

Wednesday May 1st in addition to being Labor Day is the day when Denmark tested its invasion sirens at 12 noon. These are loud sirens mounted on towers throughout the country to alert the population if the country comes under attack. I assume that the last time they were used for this purpose was in the 1940's.

I heard the sirens go off as I sat at school and the sound made me pause to think. How different was the Europe of only 50 years ago from the cozy EU it is today. Back then there was the threat of invasion from the Germans, the threat of invasion by the Russians. How lucky are we in the US that we haven't had the need for invasion sirens? Other than the random Germans sub landing in Scituate MA, when was the last time that a foreign army was on US soil?

A shadow was cast over the US on September 11th, but the shadow is very different from the darkness of fear that others live with every day. In the US, we don't have the fear of an IRA bomb in the tube or of ETA killing officials or bombing our government buildings? We don't fear that the FARC will take our town or that Maoist gorillas will ambush our police.

Even the meaning of our independence day has been changed to picnics and fireworks since no one was alive during the war of independence. It is much better than the stories being told yesterday about life under occupation and those killed in the war.

Just a thought.

The days here continue to grow in length. The sky still clutches the last remnants of the daylight past 22:00. I cant wait till the sun is out till midnight.

The pictures that I sent were of Legoland. The cities represented included Bergen, Norway, København, Denmark and LA.

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