

Chapter 37 : “Threats, humiliation & security”

As Crown Prince, CG had six part-time adjutants for official functions. These were military and a combination of bodyguards, private secretaries and companions. In 1974, the adjutants were equipped with “service weapons”, tear gas spray and a small calibre pistol. As king, CG has 12 adjutants, four from each branch of the army, navy and air, who take turns to follow him wherever he goes. Since the late 1970s he also has two police officers as full time bodyguards. On CG's private trips, he is accompanied by an adjutant, but no bodyguard. When travelling abroad, the security police of the receiving country is informed. The surroundings found it odd with so many people around CG and renamed them Måns, Bill and Bull. The adjutants have a higher status than the bodyguards and are allowed to eat at the same table as CG. The bodyguards eat in the kitchen. Neither the adjutant nor the bodyguards normally leave his side. The ideal for bodyguards is to be part of the background. Safety requirements have increased over time. There are more police officers now and CG and Silvia must not get too close to the spectators. Any hecklers and other troublemakers are taken care of by the local police. Sometimes very enthusiastically.

The bodyguards were not part of secret service but recruited from the normal police force and received three weeks' extra training in close-up protection (using the car as a defensive weapon etc) and some grounding in ethical issues and standard procedure. They should never feel like an unnecessary burden for the person they were protecting. The training took place partly in Stockholm and partly at the motor school in Strängnäs.¹ As training this does not seem very advanced. For example, Josef Prana's bodyguard school in Vienna at this time was three years part-time but perhaps overlapped with the Swedish police education. Membership of the “royal group” was considered an honour, but these seem to have been no more qualified than the rest. Everyone was bound by confidentiality agreements, but this has not stopped some of them from recounting their experience. At first there were three bodyguards who served as required. After the wedding, this force grew and worked in shifts with an overnight room at the castle. In the 2000s the skills requirements have increased. They now have four years of police experience and 10 weeks of additional training.

The bodyguards initially feared that CG would not be cooperative, but he has always complied with their wishes. The lives of CG and Crown Princess Victoria should be protected, but not at any price. They must be able to live a normal life too. CG's private residence at the castle is kept secret and where he sleeps. He and Crown Princess Victoria are not allowed to fly together but they are allowed to ride in the same car. The most common task has been to protect CG from overly intrusive people, including all those schoolgirls who were initially going to hug him to win a bet with the peers. Some procedures exist such as CG not opening any portfolios or packages.

The prevailing spirit of “forced discretion” seems in practice to have weakened protection. There were few mandatory procedures: If CG deliberately wanted to risk his life, which appears to have happened a couple of times, he was allowed to do so. The security detail received the monthly program and the more detailed weekly program and acted on it. Threatening mail and the like were always forwarded. Beyond that it was up to individual initiative, which evidently didn't work. CG wanted more information about threats and incidents.² The long employment enabled CG to gain the loyalty of the bodyguards. As a result, they also took on responsibility for CG's good name and reputation. There are many

¹ Svenska Dagbladet, 1986-04-02.

² SOU 2004:108. Personskyddet för den centrala statsledningen.

stories of them confiscating films and threatening witnesses. The bodyguards are not paid for by the appanage. CG and Crown Princess Victoria have two bodyguards each at a minimum cost of 35 million crowns. The castle is guarded by 12 additional guards commanded by a “master of arms”. Drottningholm Castle is also guarded.

The surveillance was adapted to the perceived threat, but CG has only occasionally been subjected to physical or verbal threats. A selection:

In 1965, some drunk Borgholm youngsters broke into Solliden and vandalized the place. Among other things, they shot up an antique commode and a portrait of CG.

In 1966, Clark Olofsson, a criminal, claimed to have been about to knock down CG to steal his car.³

At the inauguration of the environmental conference on June 5, 1972, some 50 protesters, apparently anarchists, most of them aged 14-17, tried to storm the castle but were stopped by the guard who had live ammunition and bayonets.⁴

On April 24, 1973, the police revealed that the terrorist organization Ustasha had advanced plans to kidnap CG and Princess Christina in exchange for the 129 of their members who were imprisoned in Sweden and Yugoslavia. CG's security was strengthened but nothing more came out of it.

On September 11, 1974, during the national tour in Värmland, there was a bomb threat.⁵ The King was to be received with a large welcome committee at Stora torget in Årjäng, but on the day the king was due to arrive, the Swedish Police received a telephone call from a man who told them that a bomb would detonate in the square at 15.30. The police evacuated the square, the royal procession changed it's route. The program was delayed. No bomb exploded in Årjäng, but the police say that you have to take all threats seriously. A king is a king, and there is always a risk that he might be attacked.⁶

In the winter of 1974, a gunman attempted to enter the castle, possibly to kill CG. He was discovered by a guard post and fled through the old town. The police later arrested him at Slussen.

During a visit to Malmö in May 1975, a man called twice and threatened CG with murder.

At the national tour in Östergötland in the spring of 1975, CG was received a bomb threat when he having lunch at Finspång Castle.

[In 1975, Princess Christina was threatened with murder by the Bader-Meinhoff-gang.]

³ Dokumentärfilm om Clark Olofsson. TV4, 2001-08-29.

⁴ Expressen, 1976-06-05.

⁵ Svenska Dagbladet, 1974-09-12.

⁶ Lektyr, 1974:48.

In 1976, the Swedish police received an anonymous message that CG would be shot during the inauguration of the mall in Stockholm together with Silvia. The ceremony went without a hitch however.

On June 19, 1976, a Baader-Meinhoff gunman threatened to assassinate CG during the wedding procession.

[In 1983, the bodyguards wanted to seal off parts of Drottningholm Castle Park for security purposes but were not allowed.]

On the evening of March 25, 1986, a man tried to penetrate Drottningholm Castle, which caused a major police operation. The motive was unclear.

In 1986, the Americans passed on information that, in the event of war, CG would be kidnapped from Solliden if he were there. CG did not believe the scenario to be very credible.]

On June 17, 1987, a man with mental difficulties managed to enter Solliden's courtyard. The guards thought he was a construction worker. As he got out of the car and started running towards CG, he was overwhelmed by a hired Abab-guard.

In 1989, a mentally ill man entered Drottningholm Castle and smashed antiquities for 100 thousand kronor. Asked why he replied "I am the Messiah".

In 1991, a man called the guard at Drottningholm Castle and announced that a bomb would explode. The police searched the premises but it was a false alarm.⁷

In the autumn of 1992 and spring of 1993, the number of hate mails increased significantly. The senders appeared in need of psychiatric care: They sent several letters a day, alternating between declarations of love and threats etc. Säpo managed to identify five of the writers.

In 2001, CG was also exposed to so-called "caking" ...

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"Caking" is about throwing a cream cake or the equivalent in the face of the person, much as in a Mack Sennet farce. The pioneer of this form of political protest was the Belgian Noël Godin, who in 1968 personally caked one of his teachers. Later he formed an organization called Pâtissiers sans Frontières. 95% of their attacks are reported to have succeeded despite bodyguards and everything. Perhaps not so strange after all because sometimes up to 30 people have cooperated. The bodyguards have been very upset and for example at one point tried to drown two female cakers by forcing their heads down the toilet.⁸ In 2001 Swedish politicians Leif Pagrotsky, Bo Ringholm and Marit Paulsen were caked. On Wednesday, September 5, 2011, also CG. This is how it happened:

It was late afternoon. CG and Silvia were at a national tour in Halland County. They had completed a visit to Getterön Nature Center (located on a peninsula outside

⁷ Johan T Lindwall. Tidigare hot mot kungafamiljen. Expressen, 2009-10-15.

⁸ Agnieszka Taborska. Conspirators of the imagination. Odaterad. (Omkring 2005.)

Varberg) where they inspected a bird station and various nesting sites. They were on their way to the car, for the day a limo, but stopped from time to time so that the spectators would get to photograph them. These were about 500, mostly pensioners because it was a working day. Bodyguard 1 held up the door for Silvia who sat down in the back seat. CG rounded the limo to step in from the other side where bodyguard 2 was waiting. Bodyguard 2 looked at CG instead of at the spectators, a cardinal error. A 16-year-old boy, after this in his circle of friends named Cake-Erik, took the opportunity to rush forward and push a strawberry cake into CG's face. The bodyguards immediately wrestled him to the ground, being quite ungentle about it. CG went forward with the jam running in his face and asked what was going on with him. No answer though. A gossip site the next day: "The king liked my home-baked strawberry cake. He actually said it was good but it needed a little more sugar, weird prick. He was angry but didn't want to stand and scream among people."⁹ According to an eyewitness, there was a strange mood afterwards. People were shocked and crying. The eyewitness apologized on behalf of Varberg. CG dismissed the point saying "It was nothing. That's what you have to expect." Then he and Silvia continued to the next landmark, the radio station Grimeton, classified as a World Heritage Site. CG let it be known that he would not comment on the incident. Neither the bodyguards wanted to speak about it.

The 16-year-old youth lived in Varberg. He was taken to the police station there and arrested for high-treason. On the way there, a journalist asked about his motives and received the answer "Tear down the walls. Crushing capitalism". One acquaintance claimed to be a syndicalist. According to his lawyer, he wanted to protest against the existence of royalty and authority in society.

An attack on the Head of State is high-treason according the Criminal Code 18:2 and punishable by a maximum of six years in prison. However, the government has to give its permission first, which did not happen. Cake-Erik was sentenced to 100 daily fines and his three comrades who had helped in the planning were sentenced to 80 daily fines each for harassment.¹⁰ Afterwards he made a public apology to CG and said that his cake throwing was a prank. However, he still maintained that Swedish society needed changing. The Republicans rejected the action. Varberg's neo-Nazis, happy to provide a public service, beat him up. Cake-Erik, in non-political life, farrier and bruiser Eric Kalseth, is now classified as a terrorist with an entry ban to the USA.¹¹

Two months later, on November 8, 2001, CG was on a state visit to Russia. Putin and his closest associates were as uncertain as ever their communist predecessors' how to behave in front of a king. The delegations sat around a meeting table and stared at each other as CG began to talk about the caking-campaign and how he himself became a member of the international cake-throwing victim club. Putin began laughing violently and the ice between the delegations was broken.

CG has also been subjected to egg-throwing. Jari Petersson "The Pentecostal Prophet" who, among other things, also hates monarchy has published a video on YouTube where he throws eggs at a photograph of CG, in the process uttering inarticulate roars. Dozens of them...

⁹ Flashback. Kungen & min jordgubbstårta. #1, 2001-09-06.

¹⁰ Dom i mål B2049-01, Varbergs tingsrätt, 2001-12-03.

¹¹ Anders Eriksson. Eric Kalseth inför the zone. Fighter Magazine, 2008-09, s 20-23.

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In recent years, physical threats to the royal family (death threats, stalking, harassment, etc.) have been directed almost exclusively at Crown Princess Victoria and Princess Madeleine, and most of them are sexualized fantasies of violence. Summary:^{12,13,14}

July 1999 A 35-year-old Dane is arrested at Solliden. He is obsessed with the Swedish royal family and has written several love letters to Victoria.

August 1999 During a concert rap artist Ken Ring threatens to rape the princess. He is reported to the police for sedition and slander. Ring sends the princess an apologetic letter which is also published in Aftonbladet. The charges are dropped, which Ring sees as a victory for freedom of speech.

(This took place during a gig at the water festival when playing the song "Blow up the government". Ring, known for his "frankness", urged the audience to storm the castle and rape Princess Madeleine. This caused his recording company, EMI Productions, to discontinue the collaboration. The album dropped from 23rd to 86th in just one week. He was cancelled from a long series of concerts. A couple of years later, Madeleine's cousin Patrick Sommerlath came across the Ring during an evening at Sturecompagniet and took the opportunity to head butt him. Ring was dejected. "I tried to explain to him that I was a musician and used metaphors but he didn't listen." Long afterwards, Ring commented his action as: "It was wrong then, at that time [1999], but in the long run I have only benefited from it. I have loyal fans and have become a form of spokesman of the underclass."^{15,16,17}

Ring is said to have been inspired by Ulf Lundell's first album Wolf Moon. "When rapper Ken Ring cried out in 1999 "raise your hands and bring your sword, then we'll go to the Castle and rape Madeleine" it was quite rightly a fucking ruckus. But back in 1977, a plastered Ulf Lundell at the Mosebacke stage in Stockholm screamed the same, that he wanted to "fuck the king in the arse, everything else is bull shit". Something that as far as I know never caused the slightest headline. Life's unfair, Uffe."¹⁸

In 2009, Lundell, Sweden's only literate rock star, was awarded a gold medal by CG of the eighth size. Uje Brandelius, pop star of the band Doctor Kosmos and press secretary of the Left Party, expressed his sadness: "Why do you accept a pat on the shoulder from this feudal shit system of ours when you should fight it instead? Why do you care about the royal grace granted to you in the form of a ridiculous medal? You may like most people think, that monarchy or not is a purely symbolic issue and that it is quite nice with princesses and medals. Or perhaps you do not have the energy to get involved in an issue that is so relatively minor. But the thing is, you wouldn't have to get

¹² Mattias Sandberg. Här är hot mot kungafamiljen. Aftonbladet, 2010-03-03.

¹³ Johan T Lindwall. Tidigare hot mot kungafamiljen. Expressen, 2009-10-15.

¹⁴ Rober Holender. Internetbluff i natt: "Kungen är mördad". Expressen, 2004-08-21.

¹⁵ Fredrik Strage. Mikrofonkåt. 2001.

¹⁶ Mats Pettersson. Silvias brorson attackerade popstjärnan. Expressen, 2003-01-05.

¹⁷ Linna Johansson. Varför stoppas inte Ken Ring? Expressen, 2008-01-26.

¹⁸ En Hermeles dagbok. Här böghånar Lundell kungen. 2009-01-13.

involved at all! By the power of your person, you would cause a small earthquake under the castle and a media storm that would focus on an outdated power order built on millennia of violence and oppression. Just two words are needed: NO THANKS.”¹⁹ The answer is probably that CG knows his Markuse. The cultural left is most securely killed of by hugging it to death: The repressive tolerance.)

July 2000 A 44-year-old psychiatric patient climbs the fence to Solliden in the middle of the night. The man has previously pursued the Crown Princess.

June 2001 A mentally disturbed man in his 57s shows up at Princess Madeleine's student party. When Madeleine turns down the chocolate box he wants to give her, he throws the box after her and Victoria.

August 2002 Carl Philip and then-girlfriend Emma Pernald are pursued by a gang of youths late in the evening at Stureplan. The Prince takes refuge with the bouncers at Laroy nightclub.

November 2002 A group of Eastern Europeans were in Sweden at the end of November. Their task was to plan and execute a kidnapping of Princess Madeleine. Two of the men in the group were identified. The princess was given temporary bodyguard protection.

September 2003 Victoria receives extra protection during a trip to Västergötland after a 37-year-old man showed unhealthy interest in her.

February 2004 Madeleine receives extra bodyguard protection after threats from several mentally ill people.

July 2004 A mentally ill man who has pursued Victoria is taken into custody at Solliden after trying to get close to the Crown Princess.

August 2004. A mass dispatch on Hotmail of a falsified BBC online news report that the king had been murdered: “Swedish King Carl Gustaf was shot dead in Athens tonight while he was on his way back to his hotel after watching Jan-Ove Waldner.”

June 2005 A man throws himself over one of the cars in the crown princess's motorcade during a visit to Oslo. He screams that he wants to kill.

September 2005 A mentally ill athlete steals a car and crashes it in the courtyard of the Royal Castle. He is convinced that he and the Crown Princess are a couple. [This prompted CG to request better protection for the castle, which also included the transports.]

2006. Princess Lilian is threatened with death in a blog. The anonymous person writes that he will run over Lilian. The blog is then closed down.

April 2007 The Westboro Baptist Church, a religious hate cult, opens a website God Hates Sweden, where they primarily persecute Princess Madeleine for her indecent

¹⁹ Uje Brandelius. Varför vänstern känner sig sviken av Lundell. Newsmill, 2009-02-20.

dresses. They also send repeated faxes of insults to the court. This had been going on since 2005. (Westboro is otherwise mostly dedicated to hating homosexuals. The Swedish hate had its origins in a trial of Pentecostal minister Åke Green over a sermon targeting homosexuals.)

June 2007. The Young Socialists (AFA) burned a flag on the National Day in the square outside the castle with a cheering crowd of on-lookers. But ... “People don't seem to really know how to deal with cries like 'All of us who hate Sweden clap now!' and the like [...]”

July 2008 The so-called Ninja-man, a confused Dane, 44, tries to force Crown Princess Victoria's birthday party on Öland. The man wears a samurai sword, is masked with a black scarf and appears on several occasions threatening.

October 2009. A stalker sends a suspicious package to Madeleine in New York where she works for the WCF. This is believed to be a bomb, but is revealed to contain panties, bra, cords, cassette tapes, and a letter expressing love and admiration.

At their May 1, 2010, demonstration in front of the castle, the Stockholm syndicalists chant “Execute the King and desecrate his corpse, proclaim Sweden a Soviet style republic.” Maybe an empty threat but unpleasant anyway. CG's bodyguards have at least once prevented him from attending because syndicalists were demonstrating in the vicinity.

June 2010. Before the wedding, Daniel Westling and his family are pursued by a nut-case assailant, who purports to be Crown Princess Victoria's fiancé. His contact attempts are very concrete and intrusive.

However, our royal house has escaped what happened to Norwegian Crown Princess Sonja at the Eurovision song contest in Bergen on 3 May 1986. A female protester sprayed her with a 1.5 litre soft drink bottle filled with a mixture of furniture polish, oil and vinegar.²⁰

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The main effect of the threats has been to isolate CG from the population. Going out becomes such an affair that it isn't worth the trouble. He obviously feels a certain nostalgia for Gustaf Vs and Gustaf VI's attitude: “I have a bodyguard of six million people, I have no use for police surveillance and private detectives.” Those were better times. In order to minimize the impact on safety issues, CG's programs are often first published after the event, e.g. the program for the IVA trips abroad, “Royal Technology Missions”. Since no outside person is informed about them until CG is back and the names of the participants are not published, the press coverage is bad. I have not found any threats against Silvia which must be considered remarkable. Either they have been kept secret so as not to tarnish her image or she actually managed to charm (almost) the entire population.

Since the notion of Lèse-Majesté was abolished in 1948, the above has been prosecuted in the normal way. Section 18 of the Criminal Code contains a term high treason for a crime against the survival of the state or an attack on the head of state. However, it has not been considered

²⁰ Svenska Dagbladet, 1983-05-04.

applicable to what CG is exposed to: Stalking, symbolic death threats, vandalism, taunting and defamation. Our neighbouring monarchies Denmark & Norway still prosecute Lèse-Majesté which adds to the regular punishment. Thailand has the strictest laws, up to 15 years for taunting. Because of the lack of a definition, the law has been used in all possible contexts to stifle a discussion about the political position of the Thai royal house.^{21,22} Our own royal house and above all Silvia seems to have taken notice of the fact. Perhaps CG & Silvia should spend their holidays elsewhere.

²¹ David Streckfuss. The Future of the Monarchy in Thailand. *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia* Issue 13 (March 2013): Monarchies in Southeast Asia.

²² Andrew MacGregor Marshall. REVIEW: King Bhumibol Adulyadej, A Life's Work: Thailand's Monarchy in Perspective. *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia* Issue 14 (oktober 2013) [Recension av en officiell biografi.]