

Appendix 2 : "King's Wisdom"

*"You must not quote to me what I once said.
I am wiser now."*

Romy Schneider (1938-1982)

In the same way as when Mao 1966 summarized his thoughts in "the little red", the Monthly magazine Z 1988 summarized King Carl XVI Gustaf's thoughts in "the little blue & yellow",¹⁵⁸⁷ here supplemented with additional quotes from the site susning.nu (now discontinued) and other sources:

THE KING ON THE COMMUNIST PARTY:

"I like to discuss with them and I have read Marcuse". (Interview 16/9, 1969)

"The Communists are my new friends because they voted against woman's succession. I myself want my son Carl Philip as successor." (Interview 18/5 1979)

"Mao is an incredible man. Imagine when he and all his followers just wandered day and night through China and struggled to achieve their goal. What an effort. He has also written fine prose and excellent poetry." (Interview 13/8, 1972)

"I think complete equality is impossible. Even if all jobs were to be rewarded with equal pay, there are still some jobs that have a higher status than others." (Interview 3/10 1970).

THE KING ON WAR AND PEACE:

"I had the opportunity to shoot a couple of moose that came right against me." (Interview 6/10 1972).

"The hunting season is longer than many people think, you can always shoot crows." (Interview on TV 23/1 1984.)

THE KING ON CULTURE:

"I like modern art. Old art too." (Interview 14/12 1969.)

"Radio and television sets have brought people closer together. Freestyle has brought music into jogging all over the world." (Speech during the Japanese visit 26/3 1985.)

"Personally, I am much interested in the latest branch of musicology, music archaeology. At the wreck Kronan in Kalmarsund, where I myself have dived several times, a trumpet has been found in very good condition. It serves us as a model for the four trumpets that blew the fanfare for the Swedish victorious army and its campaigns in the 30-year war." (Speech before the Academy of Music 30/11 1987.)

"I like film and theatre but opera does not amuse me at all... I like the Moomins. They are suitable for both large and small." (Interview 1974.)

"I have nothing against Strindberg, but he is perhaps not the most hilarious." (Interview 1975).

"It is important that there is an active image of the Academy that is disseminated to the public and not a collection of gentlemen - and nowadays also ladies - who eat good dinners and chat. The one does not in itself exclude the other ... We have enjoyed a good and nourishing meal. And the schnapps has been conspicuous by its absence. But it was good anyway." (Forest and Agriculture Academy 28/1 1987.)

BUILD OUR COUNTRY THROUGH BEING DILIGENT AND FRUGAL:

"A city like Nyköping is in a way a concentrate of Sweden." (Speech 6/6, 1987)

¹⁵⁸⁷ Carl Sommerholt. Kungens lilla blå-gula. Månadstidningen Z, 1988:1-2, s 28-31.

“There is a scent of wood around Västernorrland County. Sometimes it also smells of fermented herring.” (Härnösand 9/6 1985.)

“Dear Örebro people!” (Speech 24/5 1985 at the jubilee in Arboga. One of CG's most famous slip ups.)

THE KING ON YOUTH:

“Youth has always been radical. It is good that new ideals are being promoted.” (Interview 1/6, 1970).

“I smoke, eat and dance too much at night.” (Interview 1971).

THE KING ON THE PEOPLE'S ARMY.:

“The connection between military and civil activities in our country is the basis of our total defence. That this connection works smoothly I have personally experienced many times, as I am today both admiral and king.” (Speech 15/11 1985, Fortification agency 350 years.)

THE KING ON WOMEN:

“Here I sit and appreciate ladies in beautiful costumes, when I otherwise like them best without.” (Gala at Grand [Hotel for World Wildlife Fund] 12/12 1982.)

“Woman are best suited for raising children. Someone's gotta do that, too.” (Interview 1966.)

“I think a woman should be a woman, raise children and take care of the home. Of course, if she wants a job, she's will get it. But I think that to insist on equality is excessive.” (Interview 14/12 1969)

“The man is usually a little more powerful in the way he protests, in a completely different way than the woman. She is usually softer

and more accommodating.” (Interview 1968).

THE KING ON THE ENVIRONMENT:

“Our natural elements like air, water and wind know no geographical boundaries.” (Environmental Conferences in Gothenburg 9/11 1987.)

“Life is nice - it is the people who destroy it, according to a Brazilian saying.” (Speech to Travellers Club 3/2 1987.)

THE KING ON RELIGION:

“We probably like it best in open landscapes. It hurts the Swedish people's soul - yes, it hurts at least my own royal soul - to see how the forest takes over fields and meadows.” (Academy of Agriculture and Forestry 28/1986.)

THE KING ON SURVEYS AND STUDIES:

“I keep reading until the pages run out. Unless the book is too boring. But not at a stretch. You have to sleep too.” (Interview 26/12 1968.)

“I suppose one thinks it's no use doing anything. There are new kids born all the time. Misery is everywhere.” (On the famine in Africa 14/12/1969.)

THE KING ON DISCIPLINE:

“I don't think beating a child helps. They' get scared. And they can hit back too.” (Interview 1978).

THE KING ON CRITICISM AND SELF-CRITICISM:

“Of course, it points downwards.” (On the future of the royal house in interview 26/12 1968.)

“I myself have been to all continents except Antarctica and no one thinks there is

anything strange about that. No one calls me the Traveller King or Carl »the widely travelled» Gustaf. (Speech to Travellers Club 18/2 1986.)

THE KING ON SERVING THE PEOPLE:

“I'm not a nightclub king.” (Interview summer 1973.)

“I guess I got the wrong string.” (The King failed 8/6 1984 to let the cover fall at the inauguration of the sports park in Norrköping. Took the wrong string the second time too.)

“It's fun to be king... It's mostly a coincidence where you end up. Many start somewhere and end somewhere else. You have to be flexible and take the opportunities that exist in life. It is enriching to change jobs a few times until you find the right one.” (Interview 27/4 1986)

“I would answer yes to an offer to become president.” (Interview 30/3, 1970)

“An old king can be good. A young king can be good too.” (Interview summer 1973.)

THE KING ON THE RIGHT WAY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE PEOPLE:

“Anyone can say what he wants and you can have any opinions. Nothing counts.” (Interview 12/5 1983)

THE KING ON REVOLUTIONARY HEROISM:

“They were real men then, men of a kind scarcely allowed today - men from the great seas and the plains, from the ice and the deserts - men who have cut their way through the jungles and waded in swamps.” (Travellers Club 18/2, 1986.)

THE KING ON HISTORY:

“It used to be better.” (Travellers Club 18/2 1986.)

THE KING ON PATRIOTISM AND INTERNATIONALISM:

“I don't dislike any people. Nor foreigners.” (Interview 1967).

“I'm happy I'm Swedish, sang a few years ago one of our most appreciated artists. For today's Swedes, the song sounds a little ridiculous, as an echo of the blue-yellow nationalism of the turn of the century. The song contains a lot of chauvinism.” (Speech to Vitterhetsakademien 20/3 1985.)

“You have to meet and touch each other to get the right contact so that a true friendship emerges. Honda's cars, small and cheap, have contributed a great deal to mankind in this area. Personally, I would like to express my thanks for an overwhelming generosity. You should know that motor sport is a great interest of mine and I will appreciate driving my new 400-cubic Honda.” (Acceptance speech at Honda 27/3 1985.)

“On the outskirts of Amazonia I experienced a day with the Zingo Indians. And thank God they were friendly.” (About the Around the World Tour 3/2 1987, Travellers Club.)

THE KING ON THOUGHT AND WORKING METHODS:

“It's hard to be impartial when you have an opinion.” (Interview 1967).

“Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, famines and human conflicts remind us of the concerns of others.” (1985).

DARE TO FIGHT, DARE TO WIN:

“Nothing comes of itself, just because you wish it. Nothing is free in that sense.” (1983).

THE KING ON THE MASS LINE:

“Our guests have today been out in nature to check on how we Swedish Scouts keep going. They have experienced how we manage primitive conditions. That is - find our way in a large forest, find what can be eaten and the matching song. And now we have found our way to this place too.” (Scouting day in Eskilstuna 2/6 1985.)

“To boast is indicative of poor upbringing. But since I am King of Sweden, I think I can take certain liberties.” (Speech 6/5 1985 at Construction and plate fair in Malmö.)

THE KING ON POLITICAL WORK:

“You don't learn anything when emptying garbage cans.” (25/9/1969).

“Politicians show up and politicians disappear. The people know their king.” (Speech in USA 17/9 1982.)

THE KING ON CORRECTING WRONG IDEAS:

“Freedom is better. That things move.” (Interview 1967).

“There is a widespread perception that work and prosperity are intertwined.” (Speech 18/11, 1985)

SUSNING.NOW

“When I grow up, I shall be knug.” (1950s). Essay in school according to unconfirmed rumour, the origin for the word knugen as synonym to the king)

“The job is too heavy for a girl.” (1977, in relation to cognatic succession)

“I don't like opening nuclear power plants, but do it if ordered.” (1978) [A misunderstanding: It was in an interview with American journalists 1976-02-27]

“The subject of the day burns.” (1985). At the inauguration of medical conference on

tetanus) [A misunderstanding. It was in Ronneby 1978-06-18.]

“I hereby inaugurate the ferry that will go between...between...between stops!” (1985)

“If Gro Harlem Brundtland cannot take care of the seal problems, I wonder, how will she be able to take care of the Norwegian people?” (1989, on the subject of the contested hunting of seals by Norway)

“Honoured Rector at Uppsala University.” (1995 Speech to the Rector of Lund University)

“It is when you have a holiday that you can do this” (1999. The King had a holiday and visited flood-affected areas. Some interpreted the statement as a criticism of Göran Persson who also had a holiday and did not visit flood-affected areas.)

“I think it's important to look to the future in bright colours. Being pessimistic helps no one, neither yourself nor others. But it's about having the power to take on your own life. There ain't no such things as a free lunch. TANSTAAFL.” (2002) Christmas speech to the Swedish people)

“The Sultan has a tremendous closeness to the people”, “I feel it as a more open country than anything else you can imagine.” (2004). About Brunei and its dictator, during a state visit to the country.)

ADDENDA

“I am considered lawful game in the most diverse contexts but I yet think that it is better to be crown prince than an elk.” (The evening post on 12 October 1972 at the elk hunt at Halle- and Hunnebyberg outside Trollhättan.)

“Clearings can be a beautiful feature of the landscape as long as you hold your distance.” (The King in the journal Skogen 1981.)

When one of the country's oldest inhabitants asks to visit the castle, the king refuses, stating the reasons: "She could die at any time. Imagine what the headlines will be then!"

"Bubble bubble." (According to Lena Rainer's biography in 1996, this is CG's favourite word that he occasionally ejects in private contexts for no apparent reason.)

"You can't have a lot of small Tarzans with Allan [Ladd] syndrome running around." (The King spoke about the animal rights activists who disrupted elk hunting on 22 October 1999.)

"- Dear friends... happy new year and CHEERS!" (New Year 2000).

"It has been painful to discover that the idyll we believed and hoped we lived in has been the breeding ground for frivolity and greed." (From the Christmas 2003, the king attacks multi-million bonuses, bribes and corruption.)

"In some situations, it is better to act than to do nothing at all. Then it is better to call the ambulance and send it home if it is not needed. But here in Sweden it is often the case that no one dares to take responsibility." (The King's criticism of the government's handling of the tsunami disaster. (2005)

"Ladies and gentlemen... and all of you who have come here." (Approximately 2009, Regiment Day on K1.)

"Men are better monarchs than women." (The King attends a press conference in Seattle, probably in 2009.)

"I get so annoyed [on reality shows]. It's all about breaking the spirit of the other one. This should not be the case in our society. After all, society is based on helping each other and on helping and taking care of the weak. We must promote and support. The popularity of these television programs are

completely insanely incomprehensible. (Interview in GP 2009)

"I've seen the butts of two elks, couldn't say which sex, it was quite crowded when they disappeared. And that's about my experiences this time around. ... We turn a page, much as you do in your newspapers, and look forward instead." (2010). Comment on the revelations in the book *The Reluctant Monarch*.)

Queen Silvia did not accompany the King on a state visit to Botswana on 22-25 March 2011 due to a cold. Court reporter Johan T Lindwall repeatedly asked about the reason, until the king in his annoyance exclaimed: "Well, just for you, I'll tell you that she (Silvia) is so sick that the doctors had to cut her ears off." The episode was filmed. Lindwall felt the episode so embarrassing that he (or his employer Expressen) later tried to buy the viewing rights.

"There are some restaurants where some of the waiters, the waitresses, so to speak, are more or less, what do you say, dressed. They're not naked. Of course not, but it is a matter of definition." About strip clubs 2011.

"Oh, she's sober!" The Queen showed up a little late for a photo session on a state visit to Croatia. Previously he had said: "I think she fainted up there," Expressen wrote. [16-18 April 2013]

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As the Habsburgs had their lip as their disability, the Bernalottes have their dyslexia. (Flashback)

It is said that the king sometimes leaves Drottningholm to move among the people. He is then dressed in a poplin coat, white Adidas and a pixie cap. (Unknown.)