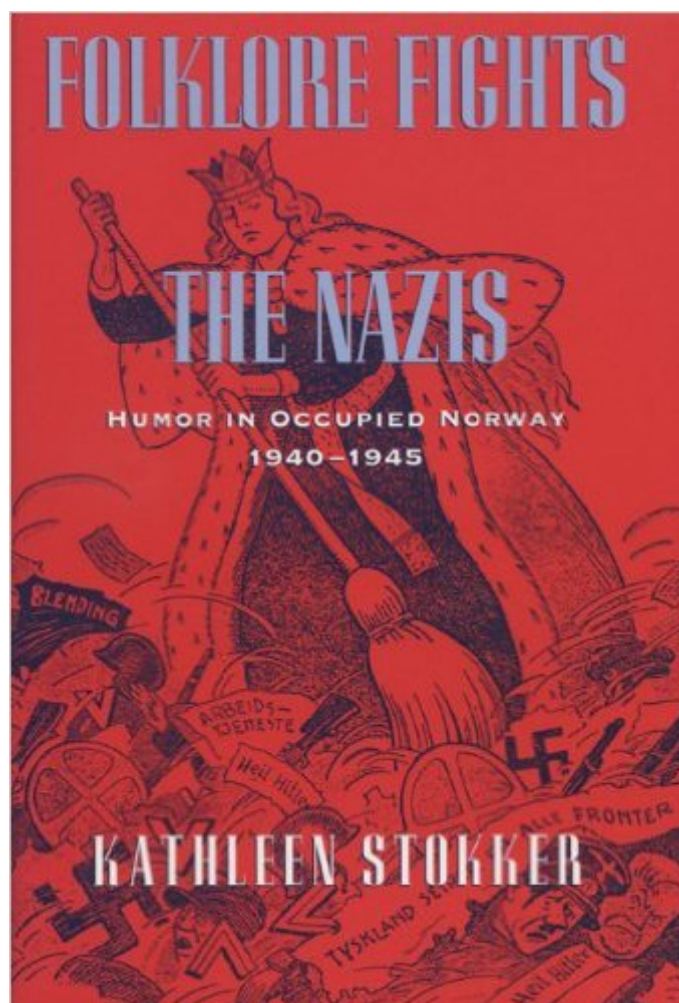


The book was found

Folklore Fights The Nazis: Humor In Occupied Norway, 1940-1945



Synopsis

Armed with jokes, puns, and cartoons, Norwegians tried to keep their spirits high and foster the Resistance by poking fun at the occupying Germans during World War II. Despite a 1942 ordinance mandating death for the ridicule of Nazi soldiers, Norwegians attacked the occupying Nazis and their Norwegian collaborators by means of anecdotes, quips, insinuating personal ads, children's stories, Christmas cards, mock postage stamps, and symbolic clothing. In relating this dramatic story, Kathleen Stokker draws upon her many interviews with survivors of the Occupation and upon the archives of the Norwegian Resistance Museum and the University of Oslo. Central to the book are four "joke notebooks" kept by women ranging in age from eleven to thirty, who found sufficient meaning in this humor to risk recording and preserving it. Stokker also cites details from wartime diaries of three other women from East, West, and North Norway. Placing the joking in historical, cultural, and psychological context, Stokker demonstrates how this seemingly frivolous humor in fact contributed to the development of a resistance mentality among an initially confused, paralyzed, and dispirited population, stunned by the German invasion of their neutral country. For this paperback edition, Stokker has added a new preface offering a comparative view of resistance through humor in neighboring Denmark.

Book Information

Paperback: 280 pages

Publisher: University of Wisconsin Press; Reprint edition (February 15, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0299154440

ISBN-13: 978-0299154448

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #449,048 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > History > Europe

> Scandinavia > Norway #1295 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences >

Folklore & Mythology #1486 in Books > History > Europe > Germany

Customer Reviews

"Hitler and Goering were once out driving. Passing through a village, they ran over a pig. Goering thought he should find the farmer and apologize for what had happened. He was gone a very long time and received very fine hospitality. When he returned, Hitler asked why he had stayed so long.

'Well, there was so much celebration in the house over what I told them,' Goering replied, 'and finally I had to join in.' 'What did you tell them?' 'That the pig was dead.' This was one of hundreds of jokes told by the Norwegians from 1940 until 1945. While the phenomenon of occupation humor has certainly not been ignored, the role it played in developing a resistance mentality among the Norwegian people has until now been largely unexamined. This humor was expressed in overtly anti-Hitler and anti-Nazi jokes, but it was also found in snide replies, double-entendres, insinuating newspaper advertisements that were not understood by the occupying forces, children's stories, and even Christmas cards. Kathleen Stokker, extending an earlier study by Magne Skodvin, observes that "wartime humor granted a voice to those deprived of free speech, discouraged the undecided from hasty attachment to Nazism, and helped the initially amorphous group of individuals opposed to Nazism to develop a sense of solidarity." Norway was a neutral country in 1940, and just as it had done during World War One, it hoped to remain neutral. Geopolitical realities, however, including the German desire to control access to Swedish iron mines, made Norway and Denmark Hitler's first victims following the end of the Phony War in April of 1940. The Norwegians did not surrender.

"Hitler and Goering were once out driving. Passing through a village, they ran over a pig. Goering thought he should find the farmer and apologize for what had happened. He was gone a very long time and received very fine hospitality. When he returned, Hitler asked why he had stayed so long. 'Well, there was so much celebration in the house over what I told them,' Goering replied, 'and finally I had to join in.' 'What did you tell them?' 'That the pig was dead.'" This was one of hundreds of jokes told by the Norwegians during German occupation from 1940 until 1945. While the phenomenon of occupation humor has certainly not been ignored, the role it played in developing a resistance mentality among the Norwegian people has until now been largely unexamined. This humor was expressed in overtly anti-Hitler and anti-Nazi jokes, but it was also found in snide replies, double-entendres, insinuating newspaper advertisements that were not understood by the occupying forces, children's stories, and even Christmas cards. Kathleen Stokker, extending an earlier study by Magne Skodvin, observes that "wartime humor granted a voice to those deprived of free speech, discouraged the undecided from a hasty attachment to Nazism, and helped the initially amorphous group of individuals opposed to Nazism to develop a sense of solidarity." Norway was a neutral country in 1940, and just as it had done during World War One, it hoped to remain neutral. Geopolitical realities, however, including the German desire to control access to Swedish iron mines, made Norway and Denmark Hitler's first victims following the end of the Phony War in April

of 1940. The Norwegians did not surrender.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Folklore Fights the Nazis: Humor in Occupied Norway, 1940-1945 NASTY NAZIS 2: NASTY NAZIS & NASTY NAZI BITCHES: 165 PULP MAGAZINE COVERS FEATURING NASTY NAZIS AND NASTY NAZI BITCHES DOING WHAT THEY DO BEST... Lard, Lice and Longevity: The Standard of Living in Occupied Denmark and the Netherlands, 1940-1945 (Studies of the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation) NASTY NAZIS 3: Pulp Magazine Covers Featuring Nasty Nazis III-Treating Beautiful Women La bÃfÂsqueda: el niÃfÂ o que se enfrentÃfÂ a los nazis [Results: The Child Who Faced the Nazis] The Hunger Winter: Occupied Holland 1944-1945 Food Fights: Winning the Nutritional Challenges of Parenthood Armed With Insight, Humor, and a Bottle of Ketchup Fire and Ice: The Nazis' Scorched Earth Campaign in Norway Norway 1940 Hitler's Blitzkrieg Enemies 1940: Denmark, Norway, Netherlands & Belgium (Men-at-Arms) Fenton Glass Compendium 1940-7 (1940-1970) West Indian Workers and the United Fruit Company in Costa Rica, 1870-1940: 1870-1940 The Royal Governor.....and The Duchess: The Duke and Duchess of Windsor in The Bahamas 1940-1945 Dominican Haven: The Jewish Refugee Settlement in Sosua, 1940-1945 Uniforms and Insignia of the Luftwaffe, 1940-1945 (Uniforms and Insignia of the Luftwaffe, Vol 2) Performing Marginality: Humor, Gender, and Cultural Critique (Humor in Life and Letters Series) God Has A Sense Of Humor For Heaven's Sake: A Collection of Religious Humor Greenberg's Repair and Operating Manual for Lionel Trains, 1945-1969: 1945-1969 (Greenberg's Repair and Operating Manuals) No Cloak, No Dagger: Allied Spycraft in Occupied France A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France (The Resistance Trilogy)

[Dmca](#)