

Clipping sheet - Denmark's Civil Protection



Introduction

As a postscript to the mention of the cut-out sheets "Danmarks Hær og Flaade" I mentioned some cut-out sheets with motifs from the Civil Defense (CB). Inspired by my article, a kind member of Figurina Danica has shown me the booklet from which the sheets originate.

"Denmark's Civil Protection"

"Denmark's Civil protection" is the title of this booklet with cut-out sheets, which was published sometime in the 1940s. The artist's name is not known. The style is reminiscent of Ove Meier's drawings in the booklet "Danmarks Hær og Flaade", but is a little more "naive" in general. The booklet is also published by Arthur Jensen's Kunstforlag in Copenhagen. The booklet bears the designation "Scrapbook No. 4412".

The booklet contains six sheets, in format 33 x 33 cm. The motives are:

- The front page bears the title Denmark's Civil Protection, and shows the main components of Civil Protection: Police, CB-Police, CB-Fire (two figures), CB-Sanitet, CB-Clearing and CB-Technology. Furthermore, there are drawings of service boundary marks from CB-Police, CB-Brand, CB-Sanitet and CB-Technik.
- CB Fire Service - 9 figures/groups of figures showing firefighters at work; also a drawing of a car sprayer (red).
- CB Police Service - 9 figures/groups of figures showing both police officers (with steel helmet Model 1923 and not the special police steel helmet used in the period) and CB Policemen (the so-called "foals").
- CB Technical Service and CB Clearing Service - 8 figures/groups of figures and a crane (red).
- CB Sanitary Service - 8 figures/groups of figures as well as a printed lorry and a motor order.
- Gas trackers (4 figures/groups of figures), Danish Women's Emergency Service (3

figures/figure groups) Factory Air Force (1 figure group), House Guard (1 figure) and a reporting post (1 figure).

Unfortunately, two of the sheets are not reproduced on this page and are not included in the material that can be downloaded. The condition of the booklet has meant that they did not dare to scan it.

The six sheets are perforated on the left side and can thus easily be torn from the spine (1.5 cm wide), which is held together with staples.

The history of civil protection

On the back of the sheet with the gas traces etc. the following text appears under the heading "Danmarks Civil protection":

"When the flying machine came into use in modern warfare, the dangers of war for the civilian population grew. To face these dangers, it was not enough for the military to have a strong defense (that tried to keep the enemy at a distance), but there special corps had to be created that could help the civilian citizens by protecting them from the dangers of war and mitigating and repairing the damage that occurred.

That is why almost all countries in the world have created a special civil protection system, the task of which is not to fight with weapons, but exclusively to help and protect the country's own population, should the accident happen to it - and also in Denmark, where the first law on this came in 1938, rules were laid down with regard to the protection of the civilian population against the consequences of acts of war on Danish soil.

The Civil Protection Organization is divided into two parts: the administration, all those who are not seen, but who sit and direct the whole thing, and then the entire practical organization that gets to work. and who stands when there is a flight warning to be ready in case of any accidents.

You will find a part of these people at their work in this book, and here you can see how many people in Denmark help at

Civil protection:

House guards	150,000 people 55,000
Factory air defense guards	people 40,000 people
CB obligees	

Police, Fire Brigade, Doctors etc	13,000 people
Signal guards	8,500 people
Voluntary participants, City and Country	87,000 people
Danish Women's Emergency Service	<u>36,000 people</u>
Denmark's Civil Protection in total	369,500 people

There are probably more than you thought! But all of them are responsible people who do their duty to their country, you and all of us, if accidents should befall us, and they are ready to go out all day and night and help Denmark's civilian population."

The text is reproduced with the correct spelling of the time.

Image material

The booklet that I have borrowed is unfortunately so fragile that I dare not experiment with scanning the individual pages.

The following image material is therefore taken from the three color copies that my father came into possession of when he assisted Edward Ryan with the book *Paper Soldiers* (New Cavendish Books, London, ISBN 0-904568-96-2) some years ago (see eg <http://www.newcavendishbooks.co.uk>).

The images are reproduced in 69% of the original size.

Closing

As far as I know, the Civil Defense has not been the subject of commercial production of toy figures and equipment in Denmark, so the cardboard figures shown have to make do with models thereof.

When I see the motifs, I can ascertain that the men and women from 1940s Denmark do not differ much from the later Civil Defense, where I served my military service in the late 1970s. The material was probably a bit newer, but the principles were still the same - and were largely based on both Danish and foreign experiences from the Second World War.

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