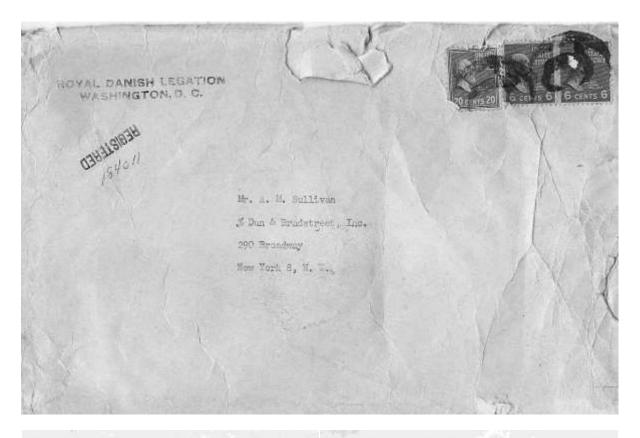
# King Christian X of Denmark's Medal of Liberation presented to A.M. Sullivan



# Allerhøjst stadfæstede Statuter "Kong Christian den Tiendes Frihedsmedaille." Amalienborg, den 9. Marts 1946.

## STATUTER

### Den af Os under Dags Dato indstiftede Frihedsmedaille.

- Til Bukummelse af den 5. Maj 1995, den Dag, de Dagmark blev befree for den tyrke Militærmagte Aug, og for at bolenne sandanne Personer, som i Udhanjet under Besettelssonsene og ved Befrinken gjorde en særlig Indeats for Dagmarks Sag, har Vi udstilltet en Medaille, som benavner «Kong Christian den Tienes» Prihedemedallies
- 2. Medaillen przegos i Selv og borner paa Adversen; den komples Schler Hans Hajestet Kong Christian den Trendes Billede med Omskrift «CHRISTIANUS X REX DANLEs og paa Reversen; en Egekrans med Indeknift; sPRO DANIA 1940—45c. Foreven ambringes en Kongekrore med en Bereseken.
- Možaillen skal basen par venetre Side af Brystet i et melt Boand med kvld Strite til venetre for Dannebequerlenene Biddenkors og Dannebequerandense Haderstegn som andre danske Høderstegn.
- 4. Tüdelingen al Medaillen siere ved kongelig Rosolotion efter Udmingaministerene Indvilling og Joregnar 5. Maj 1946, den første Aarsdag for Danmarks Bofriske. Hvor tamlige Omstænligheder taler herfor, vil den dog undbagelenvis kunne tiblelen pår en anterer Date.
- pas en auteur (Jaco.

  A. Medaillen akal kunne tilfeles Pursener af fræmmed Nationalitet, Mænd eller Kvinder, sem mider Boosttefassnarene har gjort en aærlig Indeate for Danmarke Sag ved at udbrede Kandeloch til det danske Folke nationale Indetilling, ved at yde Hjælp med Rasel og Dasel i det danske Folke Pribedelanne, ved at sage sig at danske Freilige, danske Semmed og danske Priptialinge, ved at organisem Hjørjorstejde til Freidel for Danske, die Foesyningerne af vigtige Forsødenheder begyndte at svigte, eller ved at stilfedere Arbejdelemt til Braddighed for danske Genanliskober og Konsulater, samt vandenne som, de Befredense Time kose, gjorde sig sænlig fortjern ved dress Indeate for Danmark Medaillen skal entridere kræse tildese danske Statsbergers, Mæd eller Kvinder, besatte i Udbacht, som under Besetteloseaarnen var særdig sikkontne for Organisationen at Kampen for det frie Danmark eller pas andre Mande gjords en særlig Indeate for Føderlandet.

- 6. Medaillen man ikke gives til angen, der ikke kan anses for uberygtet.
- 7. Eil Modaillen herer et Diplom, der nähenliges af Ordenskapitlet. 1
- 8. Medaillen forbliver den dekoreredes persenlige Ejendam og skal ikke tillageleveres ved Dedetald.

Heurefter alle regionemende sig have at rette.

Givet paa Amalienborg, den 9. Marts 1946.

Under Vor Kongelige Hanné og Sogi.

Christian R.

Gustav Rasmussen.



July 31st, 1946

I hereby have the honour and pleasure to inform you that on May fifth, 1946, the anniversary of the liberation of Denmark, His Majesty the King has most graciously bestowed on you "Kong Christian den Tiendes Frihedsmedsille" (King Christian X's Medal of Liberation) as an appreciation of your contribution to Denmark's cause during the years of Nezi occupation.

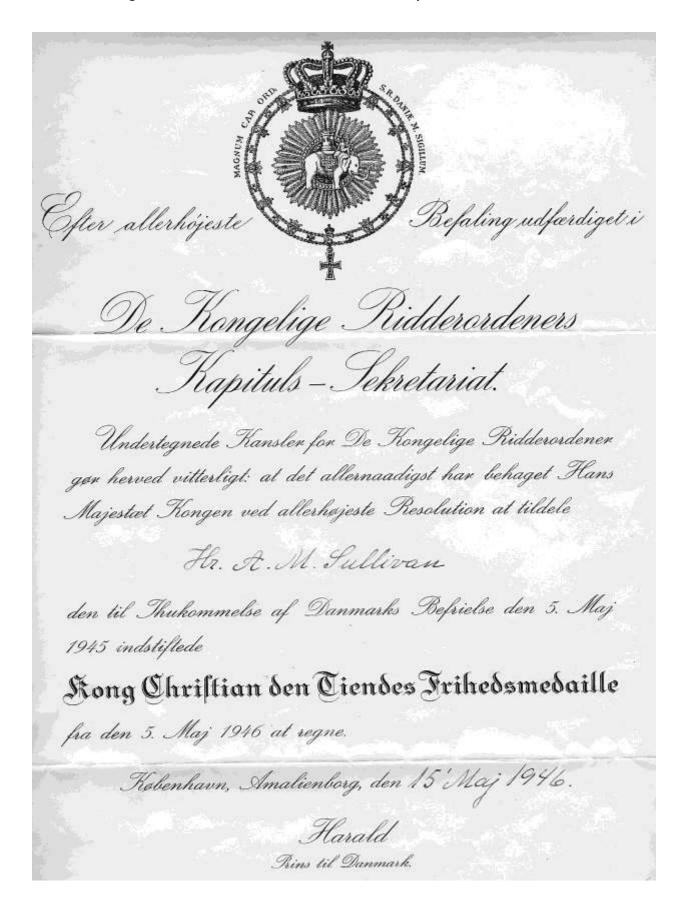
In forwarding the Medal, I should like to convey to you my hearty congratulations.

Please acknowledge receipt of the Medel.

Povl Beng-Jensen

Charge d'Affaires a.i. of Denmark

Mr. A. M. Sullivan c/o Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. 290 Broadway New York 8, N. Y.



King Christian X of Denmark's Medal of Liberation presented to A.M. Sullivan



# King Christian X of Denmark's Medal of Liberation presented to A.M. Sullivan

I found the lumpy envelope among my Aunt Catherine Sullivan's personal effects. I heard the tale behind this medal many times from my mother and my aunt over the years but I assumed it had been lost to the junkies who repeatedly burglarized Cathy's Greenwich Village apartment. According to the story, my grandfather, A.M. Sullivan, was honored shortly after World War II by the King of Denmark for his support of the Danes' struggle against Nazi Germany. My grandfather evidently used his position as editor in chief at Dun's Review and his connections in the press to promulgate news of the resistance in Denmark. In particular, there was one story of Christian Danes wearing the yellow Star of David in solidarity with the Danish Jews who were forced to wear it. Some of these Christians were reportedly sent to concentration camps along with the Jews. It was a moving story of bravery and sacrifice and made me very proud of my grandfather for his part in spreading the story. When I found the medal and proclamation, I decided to do some research to get more details and context. What I discovered was disappointing. It turned out that the story was not true. It was part of a British propaganda effort to sway American public opinion to generate support for joining the war effort in Europe. The good news was that most Danish Jews escaped Denmark before Hitler sent in occupation forces. There being no physical barriers (mountains, major rivers etc.) between Germany and Denmark, it was plain that the Nazis could overrun the country in a matter of days. Though he hated Hitler, King Christian X saw no point in fighting the inevitable and seeing his country destroyed for nothing. The 2000 or so Jews who chose to stay behind while the others left mistakenly thought they could survive the Nazi occupation. King Christian was allowed to maintain his office but without any power. He still did his best to maintain morale among his people by riding unescorted on horseback through Copenhagen. His tepid response to Hitler's birthday greeting apparently enraged the Führer to the point that he sent troops into Denmark.

I don't know if A.M. Sullivan ever knew that he was spreading propaganda but it doesn't really matter. It's a legitimate tool of war and the Allies did prevail. Maybe his role helped turn the tide in some small way. Anyway, he received a medal from a King. That's pretty cool. – Mike Tuohy