

Appendix : Carl Johan Bernadotte's marriages.

Kerstin Wijkmark (1910-1987)

Elin Kerstin Margareta Wijkmark was born March 4, 1910, in Stockholm, the daughter of the theologian Henning Wijkmark (1875-1936) and his wife Elin Larsson (1879-1925). On May 19, 1931, she graduated from the Whitlock School, the Latin line. She married twice: 1st time 1935-1936 with the manager Axel Johansson (1908-1953). 2nd time with Carl Johan (1946-1987). The marriage to Carl Johan was concluded February 19, 1946, in New York. She died September 11, 1987, in Båstad.

Kerstin has written her memoirs (Bernadotte 1975) & she occurs together with Carl Johan in the chronicles (Elgklou 1978: ss. 189-190; Skott 1996: ss. 381-390; Sundberg 2004: ss. 264-265; Lindqvist 2010: ss. 125-127; Norlin 2015: ss. 265-268). But most of all she appeared in the weekly press.

In 1939 Carl Johan met the six year older Kerstin Wijkmark. Wijkmark was the editor of Vecko-Revyn, had a past 1935-1936 as a managers wife in Kilafors and was incredibly elegant & social. They were brought together by mutual acquaintances. Carl Johan seems to have fallen in love with both herself and the cultural elite she surrounded herself with. In 1941 they moved in together, but the engagement lasted until 19 May 1945. Both were fully aware of the consequences of a marriage, but were nevertheless caught off guard by the vehemence of the reactions. The father's Marshal of the Court hired a law firm to look for scandals & the Marshal of the Realm tried to appeal to her sense of duty. In the autumn of 1945 (?) she spent a week at the Red Cross completely anaesthetized & received insulin injections. Folke Bernadotte tried to dissuade them, but there is no information about Carl Johan's father or brothers. Since King Gustaf V did not give his consent to the marriage, they had to be married abroad, in America, which caused further conflicts when the royal house got the American Embassy in Sweden to refuse her entry visa.

The Carl Johan affair has now developed in such a way that the Prince has requested permission to enter Brazil. The Brazilian chargé d'affaire has been up and told Sahlin and also announced that he will submit the matter to his government under the insistence that the visa for Mrs. Wijkmark was refused by the Americans. The result is, of course, also a rejection from Rio. I had lunch with the prince at the castle today, when he confidently informed me of this latest advance, which I knew well. He was exasperated at the royal house, which he believed to be behind the Americans' attitude, He said something about knowing many court scandals, which would become public knowledge, if he and Kerstin were not allowed to travel. Among other things, he touched on the quite famous relationship, that H.M. suffers from certain abnormal inclinations. I pointed out to the young prince how utterly inappropriate it would be to resort to such methods of revenge, which would only seriously endanger himself. It is clear that he, like Kerstin, is in a desperate mood.¹

Carl Johan ended up going to America in advance, and managed to obtain a visa from the US State Department directly. They married February 19, 1946 in New York City. They had no children of their own but adopted a son Christian (1949-) & a daughter Monica (1948-). Upon his marriage, Carl Johan lost his 40 thousand kronor appanage. Kerstin supported the family until Carl Johan got started in his business. The memoirs end with a long enumeration of her

¹ Grafström 1989: s. 687. [Ur Sven Grafströms dagbok, 1945-07-17.]

publishing successes, good name, reputation & how she was forgiven by Carl Johan's father for her dastardly deeds. As the rumour had it: a chikan wench seducing an innocent.

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Gunilla Wachtmeister (1923-2016)

Countess Gunilla Märta Louise Wachteister af Johannishus was born May 12, 1923, in Stockholm, as the daughter of the equerry count Nils Wachtmeister af Johannishus (1891-1960) and his wife Countess Märta de Geer af Leufsta (1896-1976). She had two brothers. She was married twice: 1st time with director Carl-Herman Bussler (1918-1981). 2nd time with Carl Johan (1988-2012). She had three children in the 1st marriage: Louise, Madeleine & Carl-Fredrik. The marriage to Carl Johan was concluded September 29, 1988. She died September 12, 2016, in Båstad.

Gunilla is mentioned in the chronicles (Skott 1996: s. 390; Sundberg 2004: s. 265; Lindqvist 2010: s. 127; Norlin 2015: s. 268). She was the sister of one of Carl Johan's friends at Lundsberg. It has not been possible to find a description of her person, but they married in the Swedish Church in Copenhagen, and she was well received by the family.

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