PACKAGES IN HARD TIMES: 'AMERIKAPAKKER' AND REMITTANCES IN A SHOEBOX OF NORWEGIAN LETTERS, 1945-1948

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HTTP://MUNINN.NET/

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1. **Packages:** Amerikapakker for the Stjørdal Holm family

2. The Shoebox of Letters: A digital archive of Norgesbrev

(SOME OF THE) SWEDISH AID TO NORWAY 1942-1945

Item	Total tons		
Grain and flour	63,000		
Sugar	17,000		
Butter and fatty raw materials	5,000		
Seeds and sowing grain	10,000		
Cattle Cake	10,000		

Source: The American Swedish Monthly v. 39 n. 8 (1945.8), 14.

Compare: 1960 wheat production Norway = 23,000 tons

Unknown: how much of this amount were purchases made by American Relief for Norway?

MARSHALL PLAN

Around 3 billion kroner in aid 1949-1952

Compare: 1951-2 Norwegian National budget = 2.9 billion kroner

Source: Sverre Mørkhagen *Farvel Norge*, 549. In turn cites: Ole Kristian Grimnes *Den todelte verden*, 35-40.

RELIEF EFFORTS IN THE US

(As estimated by American Relief for Norway)

Over \$30 million in *total* aid to Norway 1940-1947 (around 156 million kroner)

\$6 million in money remittances sent

\$3.8 million American Relief for Norway funds

\$1 = 4.5 kroner (Jan 15, 1947)

AMERIKAPAKKER

Package weight limit (from 1946): 44 lbs (20kg)

American Relief for Norway estimates of packages sent:

1,300,684 packages from US to Norway (1945.7-1947) \$9,104,788 in estimated value \$1,300,684 in postal charges

Andreas Nilsen Rygg A Survey of American Relief Work For Norway During and After The Second World War (1947), 133

AMERIKAPAKKER

"And when the boxes began to come, there was the joyous task of unpacking and handing out shoes and suits, underwear, dresses, capes, stockings, coats, indeed the whole family's wardrobe from head to foot, from hat to shoes.

Great, mighty America comes in with a glamour of the fairy tale, and those who had sent the articles became so wonderfully alive and close to those present in the room. Those who were home—wife, father, mother, brother, and sister, knew well that those over there accompanied them during the years of the war in their thoughts and prayers."

Andreas Nilsen Rygg *A Survey of American Relief Work For Norway During and After The Second World War* (1947), 132 - Citing Farsunds Avis article from December, 1945.

OUR SHOEBOX OF LETTERS

- 248 items in the collection (1911-1956)
- 183 from the 1940s (only 7 from 1940-1944)
- 102 of these refer to packages (However, this number includes many Christmas gifts)

"Mother did get two or three dresses and a jacket which father brought home, but who they were from he didn't say, we understood they were from America."

#162 Evelyn Holm to John Holm 1947.6.10 Here it's difficult to buy a pair of shoes because you see, during this 1 year, they've become 4 shoe tokens worth - and to buy a pair of leather shoes you need 5 tokens. Nice arrangement! I was lucky enough to get a pair of street shoes from Sweden last fall. – Father is so proud now because he has both leather slippers and felt slippers – he had none before – as soon as he gets something he takes it up to show mother. Yes I've received leather slippers from you – 1 pair light silk stockings, 2 pair strong, good linen stockings (I haven't been wearing stockings for over 2 months in a row but now it's starting to get too cool at night) 3 small spring knives, which you've made yourself, I've gotten and 1 small, cute hammer + various other things.

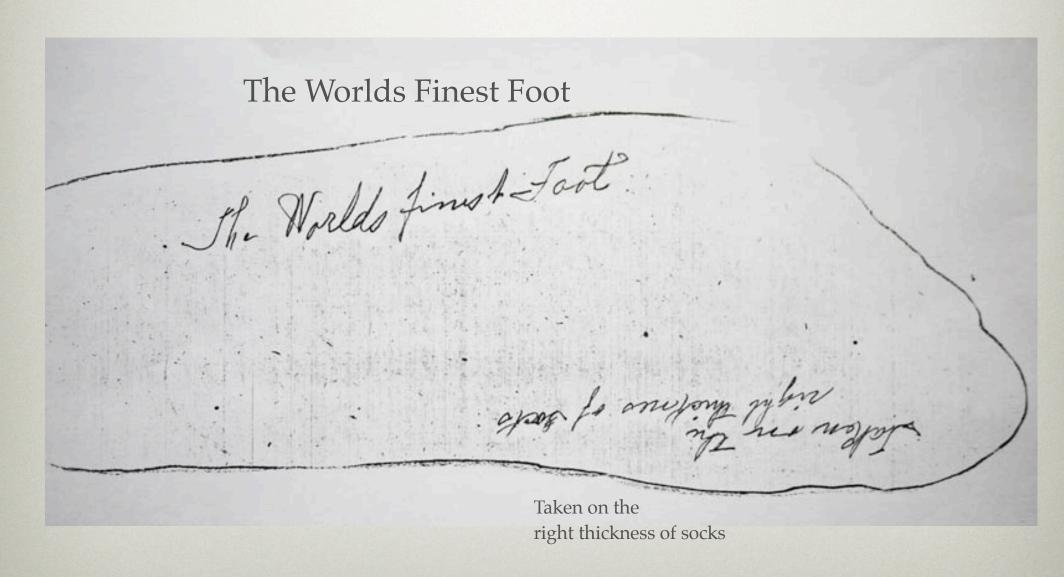
#134 Herborg Holm to John Holm 1946.9.5

I have earned nothing the past 2 months. Everything is very welcome. The Shirt Suspenders, the Axe and the Knife were very good things. Yes it's good of you to remember us here.

We're starting to get some goods now, but everything is so terribly expensive and it probably is there too. The world is bewitched you know, and it will probably get worse, here in Western Europe where Kapitalists and Military persons reign.

#148 Ola Holm to John Holm 1947.1.4

OLA HOLM'S FOOT THE "WORLD'S FINEST"



THE GOODS

stockings, slippers, socks, pens, pencils, knives, axes, raincoats, overalls, galoshes, underwear, suspenders, soap, girdle, shaving kits, razors, spools of thread, compass, shoe polish, towels, watches, rolls of fabric, wrenches, and a set of tools.

ENVY

"I'm in a good mood too, and that's when I receive "Packages" from you over there. Yes it's sure to be a whole fortune worth, in all the packages you have sent us. We have a big family afterall. I think I've received 5 from you, I know 2 have been lost according to Alma's writing. How many the others have received I don't know, nor do I dare ask, because it can quickly get misunderstood, There's something called envy here which you have no understanding of over there. However, I think everything we have received is so splendid, that I don't

#122 Ola Holm to John Holm 1946.6.17

know how I can thank you enough, for everything."

SOME ARTICLES ON NORGESBREV

- Gulliksen, Øyvind T. "Amerikabrev i Telemark,"
 Telemark Historie, 8: 7-23 (1987).
- Gulliksen, Øyvind T. "Letters to Immigrants in the Midwest from the Telemark Region of Norway" *Norwegian-American Studies* 32 (1989): 157-8.
- Alsvik, Ola: «Brev fra Norge til Amerika kilder til norsk lokalhistorie?» Heimen 3/1994
- Granrud, Bente: «Norgesbrev som kilde til kvinnehistorie og hverdagsliv» Heimen 2/1999

NORGESBREV 1840-1960 NORSK LOKALHISTORISK INSTITUTT

lokalhistorie.no

Du er her: Hovedsiden > Kilder og litteratur > Søk i databaser >

Aktuelt | Søk i databaser | Lenker | Nettstedsoversikt | Om lokalhistorie.no | Kontakt oss | English

Database: Norgesbrev 1840-1960

Kategori: Alle kategorier

Skiller ikke mellom store og små bokstaver!

Katalog over Norgesbrev 1840-1960

Søkestrengen 'holm' ga 146 treff:

- År: 18450701 Fra: Peder Jensen (far), Kirkeholmen, Kragerø, Telemark Til: Halvor Pedersen Næssund, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA Eier: "Gulliksensamlinga", DH, Bø i Telemark Stikkord: Familieforhold, Alderdom, kår, Emigrasjon,
- Ár: 18830507 Fra: Oliva Ellevsdatter Holmen (forlovede), Verdal, Nord-Trøndelag Til: Lorents Næss, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA Eier: Hagny Teigen, Heggesåsen 2, 7700 Steinkjer Stikkord: Emigrasjon, drøm, Værforhold Årsvekst og avling, våronn, Nærmiljø,
- År: 18840819 Fra: Botolf Gjeldaker, Holmestrand, Vestfold Til: Schanhard, USA Eier: NAHA, Stikkord: Religiøsitet, Helse og sykdom, Værforhold, presteembete, statsråd, presteunderstøttelse, Amerikanske forhold,
- År: 189101 Fra: Marie (mor) Olsen, Oslo Til: Olsen, USA Eier: NAHA, Stikkord: Helg og høytid, kirkegård, begravelse, Familieforhold, barnedødsfall, hjernebetennelse, kveling, Værforhold, Amerikanske forhold, Religiøsitet, alkoholmisbruk, Kultur, nasjonalgalleriet, samfunnsfest, Emigrasjon,
- År: 18920131 Fra: Marie (søster) Olsen, Oslo Til: Olaf Olsen, USA Eier: NAHA, Stikkord: Arbeidsliv, Økonomiske kår, sypikelønn, Amerikanske forhold, skirenn, Nærmiljø,

http://www.lokalhistorie.no/kilder_litteratur/baser/sok4.php

DIGITIZING IMMIGRANT LETTERS



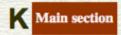
http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/research/dil/index.html

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WARSAILORS.COM SHIPS





Browse the page Ships starting with K or go directly to a ship by clicking on a name:

K.G. Meldahl • K. J. Knudsen • Kai • Kaia Knudsen • Kaiapol • Kaldfonn • Kaptein Worsøe • Kari • Karlander • Karmt •

Karsten Wang • Katrine Stenersen • Kattegat • Katy • Keret • Ketty Brøvig • Kirkenes • Kirsten B • Klo • Knoll • Knut Bakke
• Koll • Kollbjørg • Kollgrim • Kollskegg • Kolsdal • Komet • Kong Haakon VII • Kong Magnus • Kongsdal • Kongsgaard •

Kongshaug • Kongshavn • Kongsstein • Kongsten • Kong Sverre • Korsfjord • Kos I & II • Kos IV and up • Kos XXIV &

XXIX & misc. • Kosmos | Kosmos II • Kristianiafjord • Kronprinsen • Kronprinsessen • Kronviken • Krossfonn • Kul •

Kvernaas

Individual pages:

(these individual pages generally have more information than the above, often a picture and/or crew lists):

D/S K. G. Meldahl • M/T Kaia Knudsen • M/T Kaldfonn • T/T Kaptein Worsøe • D/S Kari • D/S Karlander • M/S Karmt • T/T Karsten Wang • M/S Kattegat • M/T Katy • D/S Keret • T/T Kirkenes • D/S Kirsten B • D/S Knoll • M/T Koll • M/T Kollbjørg • M/T Kollskegg • D/S Kolsdal • D/S Komet • M/S Kong Haakon VII • D/S Kong Magnus • M/T Kongsdal • M/T Kongsgaard • D/S Kongshaug • D/S Kongshavn • M/S Kong Sverre • D/S Korsfjord • Kos whale catchers • Kosmos II • D/S Kristianiafjord • M/S Kronprinsen • M/S Kronprinsessen • D/S Kronviken • M/T Krossfonn • D/S Kul • D/S Kvernaas •



See all the K ships in this section on Ships starting with K or go directly to a specific ship:

Kaprino Karen Karma Karmsund Karmøy Kaupanger Kem Kilstraum King Kinsarvik Kis Kløveren Knute Nelson Kommandøren Kong Alf Kong Bjørn Kong Dag Kong Erik Kong Haakon Kong Halfdan Kong Harald Kong Olaf Kong Oscar Kong Oscar II Kong Ring Kongsfjord Kong Sigurd Kong Sverre (Kong Haakon) Kong Trygve Kora Korsnes Korsvik Kristiansand Kronprinsesse Märtha Kronprins Olav (Ramfoss) Kronprins Olav (Sjøstrand) Krosdøl Kunna Kvalø Kvamsøy Kvarven Kveite Kvikk IV Kvitsøy Kysten

Some individual pages for Homefleet Ships starting with K:

M/S Knute Nelson
 D/S Kommandøren
 D/S Kong Haakon
 D/S Kong Harald
 D/S Kronprinsesse Märtha / Ryfylke

WARSAILORS.COM CONVOYS

HX & HXF Convoys – 1939-1945 (Halifax–U.K., later New York City–U.K.)

According to Arnold Hague's "The Allied Convoy System" the 377 HX convoys lost a total of 206 ships.

Of these, 110 were lost in convoy, 60 were stragglers and 36 were losses out of convoy.

(The HXF convoys were run to accommodate ships whose speed was sufficiently high to require special convoys, but not high enough to justify inclusion in the independent category. A total of 17 were run - this number is included in the 377 above)

Unlinked convoys will be added. It will be noticed that quite a few of these convoys are incomplete and/or may also have some incorrect information, specifically the ones that are based on a diary. These will be updated with more information and/or corrected if necessary. Escorts for all these convoys will also be added.

HX 1 • HXF 1 • HX 2 • HXF 2 • HX 3 & HXS 3 • HX 4 • HX 5 • HXF 6 • HX 6 • HXF 7 • HX 7 • HXF 8 • HX 8 • HXF 9 • HX 9 • HXF 10 • HX 10 • HXF 11 • HX 11 • HXF 12 • HX 12 • HXF 13 • HX 13 • HXF 14 • HX 14 • HXF 15 • HX 15 • HXF 16 • HX 16 • HXF 17 • HX 17 • HXF 18 • HX 18 • HXF 19 • HX 19 • HXF 20 • HX 20 • HX 21 • HX 22 • HX 23 • HX 24 • HX 25 • HX 26 • HX 27 • HX 28 • HX 29 • HX 30 • HX 31 • HX 32 • HX 33 • HX 34 • HX 35 • HX 36 • HX 37 • HX 38 • HX 39 • HX 40 • HX 41 • HX 42 • HX 43 • HX 44 • HX 45 • HX 46 • HX 47 • HX 48 • HX 49 • HX 50 • HX 51 • HX 52 • HX 53 • HX 54 • HX 55 • HX 56 • HX 57 • HX 58 • HX 59 • HX 60 • HX 61 • HX 62 • HX 63 • HX 64 • HX 65 • HX 66 • HX 67 • HX 68 • HX 69 • HX 70 • HX 71 ** • HX 72 • HX 73 • HX 74 • HX 75 • HX 76 • HX 77 • HX 78 • HX 79 • HX 80 • HX 81 • HX 82 • HX 83 • HX 84 • HX 85 • HX 86 • HX 87 • HX 88 • HX 89 • HX 90 • HX 91 • HX 92 • HX 93 • HX 94 • HX 95 • HX 96 • HX 97 • HX 98 • HX 99 • HX 100 • HX 101 • HX 102 • HX 103 • HX 104 & BHX 104 • HX 105 • HX 106 • HX 107 • BHX 108 * & HX 108 • BHX 109 * & HX 109 • BHX 110 * & HX 111 • HX 112 • HX 113 • HX 114 • HX 115 • HX 116 • HX 117 • HX 118 • HX 119 • HX 120 • HX 121 • HX 122 • HX 123 • HX 124 • HX 125 A & B • HX 126 • HX 127 • HX 128 • HX 129 • HX 130 • HX 131 • HX 132 • HX 133 • HX 134 • HX 135 • HX 136 • HX 137 • HX 138 • HX 139 • HX 140 • HX 141 • HX 142 • HX 143 • HX 144 • HX 145 • HX 146 • HX 147 • HX 148 • HX 149 • HX 150 • HX 151 • HX 152 • HX 153 • HX 154 • HX 155 • HX 156 • HX 157 • HX 158 • HX 159 • HX 160 • HX 161 • HX 162 • HX 162 • HX 164 • HX 165 • HX 166 • HX 167 • HX 168 • HX 169 • HX 170 • HX 171 • HX 172 • HX 173 • HX 174 • HX 175 • HX 176 • HX 177 • HX 178 • HX 179 • HX 180 • HX 181 • HX 182 • HX 183 • HX 184 • HX 185 • HX 186 • HX 187 • HX 188 • HX 189 • HX 190 • HX 191 • HX 192 • HX 193 • HX 194 • HX 195 • HX 196 • HX 197 • HX 198 • HX 199 • HX 200 • HX 201 • HX 202 • HX 203 • HX 204 • HX 205 • HX 206 • HX 207 • HX 208 • HX 209 • HX 210 • HX 211 • HX 212 • HX 213 • HX 214 • HX 215 • HX 216 • HX 217 • HX 218 • HX 219 • HX 220 • HX 221 • HX 222 • HX 223 • HX 224 • HX 225 • HX 226 • HX 227 • HX 228 • HX 229 • HX 229 A • HX 230 • HX 231 • HX 232 • HX 233 • HX 234 • HX 235 • HX 236 • HX 237 • HX 238 • HX 239 • HX 240 • HX 241 • HX 242 • HX 243 • HX 244 • HX 245 • HX 246 • HX 247 • HX 248 • HX 249 • HX 250 • HX 251 • HX 252 • HX 253 • HX 254 • HX 255 • HX 256 • HX 257 through HX 272 • HX 273 • HX 274 • HX 275 • HX 276 • HX 277 • HX 278 • HX 279 • HX 280 • HX 281 • HX 282 • HX 283 • HX 284 • HX 285 • HX 286 • HX 287 • HX 288 • HX 289 • HX 290 • HX 291 • HX 292 • HX 293 • HX 294 • HX 295 • HX 296 • HX 297 • HX 298 • HX 299 • HX 300 • HX 301 • HX 302 • HX 303 • HX 304 • HX 305 • HX 306 • HX 307 • HX 308 • HX 309 • HX 310 • HX 311 • HX 312 • HX 313 • HX 314 • HX 315 • HX 316 • HX 317 • HX 318 • HX 319 • HX 320 • HX 321 • HX 322 • HX 323 • HX 324 • HX 325 • HX 326 • HX 327 • HX 328 • HX 329 • HX 330 • HX 331 • HX 332 • HX 333 • HX 334 • HX 335 • HX 336 • HX 337 • HX 338 • HX 339 • HX 340 through HX 358 •

Bermuda sections only are currently available for the convoys denoted *. Main sections will be added.

** Reports and Bermuda portion only available for HX 71; main portion will be added.

WARSAILORS.COM VOYAGES

Voyage Record From March-1940 to Nov.-1944:

(Received from Don Kindell - His source: The late Arnold Hague's database).

Follow the convoy links provided for more information on them.

Erros may exist (this could also mean that she may not have sailed in all the convoys mentioned here), and several voyages are missing.

	Departure	From	To	Arrival	Convoy	Remarks
1940	March 27	Norwegian waters	Methil	March 30	HN 22	Missing voyages, Page 1
	May 23	Tyne	Southend	May 25	FS 178	Compare w/Page 1 (also, more missing voyages). Convoy available at FS 178 (external link)
	July 14	Southend	Southampton	July 15	CW 5	Convoy available at CW 5 (external link) See also Balder
	July 20	St. Helens Roads	Southend	July 22	CE 6	Compare w/Page 1. Convoy available at CE 6 (external link)
	July 22	Southend	Tyne	July 24	FN 229	Convoy available at FN 229 (external link) To Seaham July 27 (Page 1).
	Aug. 3	Sunderland	Southend	Aug. 5	FS-241	Did not sail, reason not known
	Aug. 4	Sunderland	Southend	Aug. 6	FS 242	Again, see also Page 1. Convoy available at FS 242 (external link)
	Aug. 11	Southend	Seaham	Aug. 13	FN 249	Convoy available at FN 249 (external link) Missing movements, Page 1.

http://huginn.net/shoebox/

A Shoebox of Norwegian Letters

Welcome to our online archive of over two hundred letters, cards, songs, poems, and other documents. Kept for many years in a large shoebox, transcribed and then translated, this site brings its contents to the world of historians, researchers, students, and interested visitors who wish to explore the lives and society surrounding a family of Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans from 1911-1956.

Enter the Shoebox >

Items Added: 248

Updates:

2011.5.28 - We have been able to contact surviving relatives of the letter writers and secure their permission to make this letter collection public. It will no longer be password protected. 2010.1.1 - Added 'Places' index and Google Maps interface; geocoded frequently mentioned locations.

2010.12.31 - Completed the addition of letters. Added sortable index for all items in the collection. Added 'Corrections and Suggestions' script interface for all items.

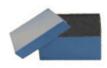
2010.12.29 - Replaced navigation bar with variety of sorting options for better discovery.

2010.12.26 - All letters up to 1945 have been added and tagged. Created site logo.

Our deepest thanks to Terry Wilson and Cathy Walker. Transcriptions and translations by <u>Siri Holm Lawson</u> Site by <u>Konrad M. Lawson</u>. Archive powered by <u>Omeka</u>



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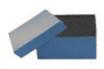
Shoebox Index

Sort the table by clicking the appropriate column in the header.

Title ▼	Date	Author
A. H. Voler to Karonline Holm 1916.4.4	1916.04.04	A. H. Voler
Aase Holm to John Holm 1948.1.23	1948.01.12	Aase Holm
Agnes Tangvik to John Holm 1947.12.30	1947.12.30	Agnes Tangvik
Agnes Tangvik to John Holm 1947.9.27	1947.09.26	Agnes Tangvik
Alma C. Wilson to Axel Holm 1948.4.19	1948.04.19	Alma C. Wilson
Alma C. Wilson to Axel Holm 1948.4.28	1948.04.28	Alma C. Wilson
Alma C. Wilson to Axel and Laura Holm 1948.1.20	1948.01.20	Alma C. Wilson
Alma C. Wilson to Edvard and Hanna Eidum 1948.3.16	1948.03.16	Alma C. Wilson
Alma C. Wilson to Edvard and Hanna Eidum 1948.9.26	1948.09.26	Alma C. Wilson
Alma C. Wilson to Hegre Sparebank 1948.3.16	1948.03.16	Alma C. Wilson

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TAG CLOUD



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Trondheim Axel Holm Ola Holm Narvik sickness Christmas God

Hegra war Laura Karlson death clothes Herborg Holm shoes photos Edvard Eidum Hanna Eidum

prices prewar Jesus Klara Krogstad Florence Winters Bible passage New Year request Sweden

Germans snow church Dell Rapids money stockings Grace Vilson hospital 1930s coffee finances

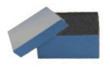
Olava Holm bakery Evelyn Holm funeral inheritance newspapers WWII bank food leg pain Odd

Conrad Holm Sluppen arthritis soap Stjørdalens Sparebank US to Norway Karoline Holm Levanger

military railroad socks 1910s accident bicycle coat poverty suit doctor Gusta Eidum nursing

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2 Next Last

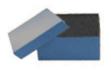
Herborg Holm to Alma C. Wilson 1948.4.2

Stjørdal 2den april 1948 Kjære Alma! Du må undskylde at jeg ikke har skrevet til dig for lenge siden, men nu skal det endelig bli gjort. Far har syklet til kirkegården og skal begynne å stelle litt med mors grav. Her...

Tags: 1940s, Alma C. Wilson, bicycle, butcher, Christmas, coffee, coffin, death, dresses, Einar Holm, fabric, Florence Winters, funeral, gift, God, graveyard, Hanna Eidum, Herborg Holm, John Holm, Karoline Holm, Kin Haakon, Laura Karlson, Norway to US, Ola Holm, photos, postwar, Ruth Irene, shoes, Stjørdal, Stjørdalens Sparebank, stockings, Trondheim

Aval Halm to Alma C TArilaan 4040 4 00

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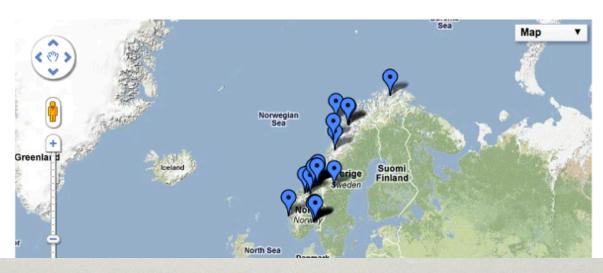
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Places Mentioned in the Shoebox Letters

Below are places mentioned on more than one occasion in the letters. Double-click to zoom in on an area. Click and drage to move the map.



PACKAGES IN HARD TIMES: 'AMERIKAPAKKER' AND REMITTANCES IN A SHOEBOX OF NORWEGIAN LETTERS, 1945-1948

KONRAD M. LAWSON

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