

Biographical Note on Mr. Lange

Halvard Lange was born in Oslo in 1902 and studied at the Universities of Oslo and Geneva, and at the London School of Economics. While earning his living as a high school teacher, he played an important role in the development of the Norwegian Socialist Movement both by his writing and his frequent lectures.

When Norway was invaded in 1940, Mr. Lange went to Stockholm to organize the passage northward of volunteers and to keep in touch with resistance movements in Norway. Following the collapse of organized resistance in the North in June 1940, he returned to Oslo and was imprisoned by the Gestapo for one year. In 1942 he was arrested again and deported to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp in Germany. He was released in April 1945 through the intervention of the Swedish Red Cross.

When Mr. Trygve Lie was appointed Secretary General of the United Nations in 1946, Mr. Lange succeeded him as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Lange has held the post to this day with the exception of one month in 1963 when Norway had a temporary change of government. He has participated in a great number of international conferences including most of the General Assemblies of the United Nations, the Ministerial meetings of NATO, CEEC and OECD, the European Council, and the regular meetings of the Nordic Foreign Ministers. In 1956 he participated with Mr. Pearson and Mr. Martino of Italy in the NATO Committee of the "Three Wise Men".