

Capital Journal

Weather

Fair tonight and Friday, but fog and increasing cloudiness Friday. Little change in temperature, northerly wind.
Wednesday: Max. 54, min. 35. Rain .02 in. Riv. 5.4 ft. Southwest wind, cloudy.

First in News Photos

With the Associated Press Tele-Mat service the Capital Journal is enabled to present photos of world events within a few hours of their occurrence.

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Soviet Fliers Raid Helsinki! Hospital Area



Columbus Survivors Greet New York—Survivors of the sunken German liner Columbus are shown lining the rail of the rescuing U. S. cruiser Tualoosa as the warship steamed up New York harbor. The 579 Germans, with the status of "castaways" were expected to be allowed the freedom of the United States for 60 days. — Associated Press Photo.

Quiz Survivors Of Columbus

New York, Dec. 21 (AP)—Behind closed doors in a building on Ellis Island six inspectors today began questioning the survivors of the sunken German liner Columbus to determine their status under the immigration laws.

The examination of the seamen was expected to require at least two days. Byron H. Uhl, New York district director of immigration, said the task was rendered more difficult because the usual crew list was not available, it presumably having gone down with the Columbus.

Agents of the federal bureau of investigation were sitting in on the inquiry to determine whether any of the survivors were members of the German naval or military intelligence service.

Uhl explained that "while we want to make things as pleasant as possible for the survivors they will not be permitted to receive mail or other communications or to have visitors until their status is determined."

A representative of the German consulate and officials of the Hamburg-American North German Lloyd Line were at Ellis Island conferring with the master of the Columbus and other officers.

Woll Appeals For Finnish Aid

New York, Dec. 21 (AP)—Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, believes Soviet Russia's attack on Finland "reaches a new high in international affairs for sheer mendacity, for cynical contempt of the good opinion of mankind."

"To help Finland today is to help America tomorrow," he asserted in an address at a "Let's Help Finland" mass meeting in Madison Square Garden last night.

The meeting was led by former president Herbert Hoover, national chairman of the Finnish relief fund, who declared "every decent person in the world is praying to God that these brave people shall yet be saved."

Appealing to Americans to "open hearts and hands" to Finland with contributions to the fund, Hoover said, "At the moment, there is no actual shortage of food in Finland. But the thousands of destitute need funds to buy it. They need shelter. They need bedding. The sea blockade and the destruction of their commerce will bring famine later on."

Among others who spoke were Senator Robert F. Wagner (D-N.Y.), Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D-Mont.), and Hjalmar Procopé, Finnish minister to the United States.

2 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT



Warship Fleet Off Everglades

Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Dec. 21 (AP)—Three submarines and at least four warships were reported clustered today in the Atlantic near Port Everglades, where a German freighter sought refuge after escaping a British cruiser Tuesday. The three submarines were visible from shore. M. J. Kennedy, Amherst college swimming coach, and a group of other observers sighted the undersize craft from the tower of the municipal bathing casino. Nationality of the submarines could not be determined.

21 Nations to Protect Zone

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—The American republics prepared a strong statement to Europe's belligerents today, to tell them in effect that further violations of the neutrality belt will bring a stronger reaction than words diplomatic protests.

The statement, which may be issued tomorrow, is to be a general declaration of the 21 nations, including the United States, which laid down the zone at the Pan-American conference in Panama last summer.

Among the events occurring within the zone and thus disturbing neutral nations which want to keep the war off their doorsteps are:

The German-British naval battle off Uruguay, the pursuit of the German freighter Araxua by a British warship into Port Everglades, the scuttling of the German liner Columbus within gunshot of a British destroyer, and the halting of the American liner Santa Rosa by the French cruiser Jeanne D'Arc.

In London, it was said the British navy felt free to fight anywhere on the high seas but believed at the same time that if aims of the zone could be made to work it would be to the advantage of the allies.

The American republics intend to consult after Christmas on how to determine and enforce a common policy in handling belligerent warships which come into their harbors.

This point was emphasized in the case of the Graf Spee, scuttled on the order of Adolf Hitler after Uruguay ordered the German ship to leave Montevideo or be interned.

Interior Clamors For End of Strike

San Francisco, Dec. 21 (AP)—With widely divergent interests throughout northern and central California clamoring for a settlement of San Francisco's waterfront tie-up, another move got under way today to break the stalemate which began last Nov. 10.

The San Francisco employers council, with a membership of 1400, called an emergency meeting today (3:30 p. m.) and all signs pointed to a thorough airing of confusing proposals to re-open the port and resume negotiations between 850 striking ship clerks and employers.

In addition, a Stockton delegation was expected to protest vigorously a threatened "boycott" of its port by intercoastal steamship companies.

Oregon Finns Send Money

Astoria, Dec. 21 (AP)—G. A. Hellberg, Astoria Finnish relief campaign director, said today \$4450 had been cabled direct to Helsinki, Finland.

Skirmishes on Saar Sector

Paris, Dec. 21 (AP)—French military authorities reported today a renewal of scouting skirmishes in the Saar river sector of the western front. There was a 45-minute air raid alarm in western France last night, with anti-aircraft guns in action.

An official announcement said seizure by France of 74,000 tons of shipping last week brought to 362,000 the total tonnage seized since the war began.

The French said British seizures of 26,300 tons in the week raised the British total to 509,800.

(Giving similar figures, the British ministry of economic warfare said that since the start of the war the British had examined the cargoes of 303 British and 1228 neutral ships, had seized 68 and released 1039 entire cargoes.)

This morning's communiqué of the allied high command said: "Patrol activity on both sides along the Saar river."

Dutch Planes In Air Battle

Amsterdam, Dec. 21 (AP)—Netherlands planes fought an air battle with aircraft of unidentified foreign nationality today in full view of hundreds of residents of Utrecht.

The engagement started about noon (3:40 a. m. PST).

The invaders were reported to have come from the east where the Netherlands borders Germany.

A smoke curtain was dropped by the foreign fighters, who escaped under this protection.

Heavy firing was heard from anti-aircraft guns and plumes of smoke from shells were seen.

An official of a nearby village reported sighting eight or nine planes, but other reports told of only two or three.

A short time earlier three foreign military planes had been sighted over Velluwe in the border province of Gelderland, which is north of Ede, Germany. Netherlands anti-aircraft batteries fired on the planes and they were chased by Netherlands air patrols.

Contents of Skipper's Letter Not Divulged

Buenos Aires, Dec. 21 (AP)—The secrets of Capt. Hans Langsdorff's thoughts in the hours of darkness before he died by his own hand will go with him to the grave today. The commander, who obeyed orders of Adolf Hitler in destroying the German raider Admiral Graf Spee Sunday rather than renew a battle with British cruisers outside Montevideo, wrote a farewell letter to the German embassy just before committing suicide Tuesday night.

An Argentine naval commission investigating his death recommended the letter be impounded and withheld from the public. It said its report would show Langsdorff shot himself in his room at the naval arsenal here as reported by the embassy.

The slight body of the 45-year-old commander lay in state at the arsenal today in a casket no larger than his cabin aboard the Admiral Graf Spee, which the British chased into Montevideo after a 14-hour battle December 13.

Britain Acts to Curb Attacks on Fishing Vessels

35 Unarmed Vessels Sunk In 3 Days—Hunt for U-Boats Intensified

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—Great Britain assembled ships and fighting planes today to protect her unarmed North sea fishing fleet as a result of German aerial attacks in which 35 vessels have been bombed, torpedoed or machine-gunned in three days.

Defensive arming also was considered for the fishermen, on whom insular Britain depends for an important supplement to her meat supply.

The crews of trawlers engaged in minesweeping and anti-submarine activities will be given a "hard-lying" bonus, retroactive to the outbreak of the war, it was disclosed by Geoffrey Shakespeare, parliamentary secretary of the admiralty. Such bonuses are paid for exceptionally difficult, dangerous and uncomfortable work.

The admiralty called the enlistment of telegraph and wireless operators "until the end of the period of the present emergency."

Flares Utilized

The Evening News said it was understood mysterious flares which lit the sky for miles off the coast and attracted crowds of watchers were dropped by British planes to aid in a night search for submarines.

Strict secrecy surrounded a meeting yesterday between Admiral Jean Darlan, supreme commander of French naval forces, and Winston Churchill, Britain's first lord of the admiralty.

But with anxiety growing over the safety of the British fishing industry and allied naval operation increasingly vigorous, their discussion was linked with the forays on fishing trawlers.

The admiralty assailed the attacks as an act of "senseless inhumanity" and said only three, all unsuccessful, were on naval vessels. Two others, it said were on neutrals. (The German high command said Nazi planes had destroyed 23 British "vanguard" vessels.)

Mine Sinkings Fewer

Mine sinkings decreased, meanwhile, only one victim in British waters being reported in 24 hours. It was the 1,448-ton Swedish steamer Mars, sunk off the northeast coast yesterday with seven persons missing and six rescued.

The German liner Cap Norte, a 13,615-ton vessel and one of the fastest in the South American trade, was brought to a British port yesterday as a prize. The liner was captured October 12 in the Atlantic.

British newspapers praised the scuttled Graf Spee's commander, Captain Hans Langsdorff, who took his life yesterday.

"It is a tragedy," said the London Times "for such men today that they cannot serve their country save in the liverly of a maeter whom in their hearts they must despise."

U. S. Health Experts Sent to Finland

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—President Roosevelt today ordered two United States health service experts to Finland to direct and aid in a fight against typhus there.

White House Secretary Stephen T. Early announced that Mr. Roosevelt had directed Senior Surgeon H. A. Spencer, now stationed in Paris, and Senior Surgeon Van B. Murray, now in Berlin, to proceed to Finland, to work with the American Red Cross.

Both are expert in prevention and treatment of typhus, Early said.

McKenzie Pass Road Remains Open

Boyd, Dec. 21 (AP)—The high McKenzie river pass, short route between Eugene and central Oregon, remained open today with about a foot of snow along the Lava Bed divide.

The road is normally under deep snow by mid-December. The highway department said the pass would close as soon as push plows were unable to break through. No rotarys will be moved to the summit.

Christmas Cheer Time Grows Short

Over 300 Needy Children Taken Care of But Several Hundred Are Still to be Provided for Before Christmas Eve—Families Yet to be Taken

The Christmas cheer campaign of the Capital Journal is rapidly coming to a close and the Journal staff hopes that by Christmas eve every needy lad and lassie will be remembered with some toy or doll and the prospect of a hearty Christmas dinner. Over 300 children had been taken care of by the Journal family, with the assistance of kind-hearted Salem folk, at noon today and the Santa Claus editor and her assistants still have several hundred more children to provide for before Christmas eve.

If you'll take a family or just a child to make happy this Yuletide just call the Santa Claus department at the Journal, 3373, and one will be provided for you from the copious list of needy families. If you are too busy to shop send your contribution to the Christmas Cheer department at the Capital Journal.

Needy folk are calling at the Elks' temple each day this week and receiving clothing from the long racks arranged there. Clothing will be distributed at the temple until Saturday evening and those calling for apparel are asked to use the east entrance.

The Capital Journal, Catholic charities, Salvation Army, Red Cross and Elks are actively co-operating and assisting in the Christmas cheer project, as are the churches, service organizations, clubs and many individuals. (Concluded on page 15, column 6)

Finland Seeks American Loan

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Finland was reported today to be seeking a \$50,000,000 loan from the United States government to buy war materials for use against invading Russian armies.

Representatives of the Finnish government were said to have sounded out congressional leaders on the proposal after they were unsuccessful in obtaining Wall Street financing for such a sum.

Although these representatives were described as restrained in their discussions, one member of congress who was approached said he gained the distinct impression the Finns felt they could not long hold out against Russia's overpowering forces unless they were given more than moral support.

The reconstruction finance corporation recently lent Finland \$10,000,000 for the purchase in this country of non-war materials such as agricultural supplies. This money went to the Finnish-American Trading corporation, organized by Hjalmar Procopé, Finnish minister to the United States.

Nazis Protest Internment

Berlin, Dec. 21 (AP)—Germany protested today to the Argentine government against internment of officers and crew of the scuttled pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee.

A communiqué by DNB, official German news agency, said Germany called Argentina's attention to the fact shipwrecked crews of belligerent states customarily are released after reaching neutral ports.

It cited as a precedent that the Netherlands government released survivors of the Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue, British ships which were torpedoed in one day in 1914 with loss of more than 1200 lives.

Germany contends the Admiral Graf Spee's men similarly should be classed as "shipwrecked."

The high command today reported "somehow livelier artillery activity" on the western front and the shooting down of a French scouting plane near Primarsens.

DNB said when the British prime minister, Neville Chamberlain, visited France last week, German fliers crossed the front to drop him an umbrella with a note.

"The German air force regrets that Mr. Chamberlain was forced to go around in such bad weather without an umbrella, and dedicated to him this useful instrument of protection."

Exeter Reaches Port

Buenos Aires, Dec. 21 (AP)—The British embassy confirmed today that the cruiser Exeter, damaged in a battle December 13 with the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee, had arrived safely at Port Stanley, British base in the Falkland islands.

Score of Cities Bombed, Trains Machine Gunned

In Land Fighting Finns Capture Two Battalions Of Red Troops

Helsinki, Dec. 21 (AP)—Russian fliers today bombed a hospital area of Helsinki, attacked towns and villages for 25 miles around and machine-gunned two trains in a day in which Finnish land forces were officially reported to have wiped out two battalions of Russians.

In the land fighting, an army communique said, the Finns either threw back the invaders with heavy losses or continued their own advances and captured or destroyed 20 tanks and a wide variety of arms, ammunition and equipment.

In the day's aerial operations, two Russian planes were reported shot down over Helsinki, where the invaders bombed a hospital dormitory, heavily damaged a school for the blind and struck seven out of 10 other hospital buildings.

Only Two Injured

Only two persons were injured and none was killed in the Helsinki hospital area, though more than 30 bombs rained upon it, but there were deaths in the attacks outside the capital.

Two persons, officials said, were killed aboard the Turbo-Helsinki Express, one of two trains machine-gunned, while several died in one city where ten bombs were dropped.

Summarizing the war on land in a communique tonight on yesterday's operations, the army said:

On the Karelian Isthmus—the Russians suffered heavy losses and were stopped in their tracks in a day-long battle.

On the eastern front—an "enemy battalion was destroyed completely" between Lekska and Repala. Lekska is about 125 miles north of Lake Ladoga and 20 miles from the border with Russia.

Two Defeats for Reds

On the upper eastern front—Russians were defeated in two different places; a battalion being "annihilated" in one and "a great loss" being sustained in the other. In the one, the communique said, "the enemy lost 600 killed on the battlefield."

In the Arctic — Finnish troops reached Hoyhenjarvi, across the Jordan river, a place near the Norwegian frontier about 60 miles south of Finland's Arctic coast.

(A London dispatch from Moscow said the Russian war communique for the second day in succession made no claims of gains in Finland and Norwegians reported seeing Russians moving northward in the far north from lines they had been pushing south.)

The air raid on Helsinki, coming on the 60th birthday of Joseph Stalin, the Russian leader, started four minutes before noon after attacks on towns in the vicinity.

Fifteen bombs fell in the five-block hospital area.

On three war fronts, Finnish defenders held their snow-sheathed lines, aided by blizzards and bitter cold, against the red army's massed warplanes and tanks.

Reds Retreat In Far North

Kirkenes, Norway, (at the Finnish Frontier), Dec. 21 (AP)—Russian troops were seen moving northward in the Arctic Petsamo sector today, giving rise to reports that their southward drive in Finland's corridor facing the Arctic ocean had been thrown into reverse.

The blizzard which yesterday buffeted the invading red forces and practically immobilized their motorized equipment abated during the night. This morning watchers on the Norwegian side of the frontier could see red soldiers marching on the Arctic highway traversing the corridor.

This was near Nautil, about 73 miles from the Arctic ocean, where the Norwegian border turns back sharply to the northwest.

Puzzling to the watchers, however, was the fact that the Russians were marching to the north.

Some observers recalled Napoleon's retreat from Moscow and insisted they could see pursuing Finnish troops through their binoculars.

Britain May Place Large Lumber Orders

Seattle, Dec. 21 (AP)—Representatives of British interests have been in the Pacific northwest studying the possibility of placing large lumber orders, Col. W. B. Greeley, secretary-manager of the West Coast Lumbermen's association said today, but any such deal may still be "a long way off."

"We hope very much the deal will be consummated," Colonel Greeley said. "Britain needs the lumber badly, especially since its Baltic supply has been cut off and Canadian mills can't keep up with orders."

"West coast lumbermen would be very glad to sell the lumber, but we still have our fingers crossed about that jolly old man with white whiskers. The proposition sounds like Santa Claus."

The association's leader said the sale had been rumored since last May, when Great Britain began making war preparations.

At Washington, official sources disclosed Great Britain had offered to buy between \$15,000,000 and \$30,000,000 worth of lumber in this country if at the same time she can purchase ships in which to transport it.