

- Dec. 13, German 'pocket' battleship *Admiral Graf Spee*, while attacking a British convoy off the South American Coast, damaged by British cruisers *Exeter*, *Ajax*, and *Achilles*, and forced to take refuge in Montevideo Harbour.
- Dec. 14, Russia expelled from the League of Nations.
- Dec. 16, Russians claimed to have occupied town of Salmijaervi, the centre of the Finnish nickel-mining area. Uruguay ordered the *Admiral Graf Spee* to sail by Dec. 17 or be interned.
- Dec. 17, First Canadian troops landed in United Kingdom. Empire air-training plan signed in Ottawa by United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. First British casualties in France announced. *Admiral Graf Spee* blown up by her captain in the mouth of the River Plate.
- Dec. 19, Meeting of the Allied Supreme War Council in Paris and recognition of the Czechoslovak National Committee.
- Dec. 20, New trade agreement between Germany and Roumania doubling oil exports to Germany.
- Dec. 21, Russians retreated in northern sectors of Finnish war area.
- Dec. 22, The Minister of Finance announced the setting up of the National War Loan Committee.
- Dec. 25, Finnish troops drove Russians across the border in the Karelian Isthmus. The 21 American republics protested to United Kingdom, France, and Germany against naval engagements in the American 'neutrality zone'. Pope Pius presented a 5-point peace program.
- Dec. 26, Canadian Shipping Board assumed duties of former Ships Licensing Board.
- Dec. 27, Finns announced that Russians had been forced to retreat over 50 miles in northern Finland, with losses of 4,000 in 3 days. Laying of coast-wise mine belt from Scapa Flow to the Thames announced by British Admiralty. British Indian troops landed in France.
- Dec. 29-30, Finnish troops defeated Russians on the northeastern frontier.
- Dec. 31, Second part of the First Canadian Division landed in the United Kingdom.

(For events in the War Chronology from the beginning of 1940, see Appendix I.)