

Chapter A. How to change Climate

Do you want to have a freezing winter? Start a war at sea!

Do you want to change global climate? Start a global naval war!

One cold wave after the other took hold of Northern Europe in what was called an arctic climate, since mid-December 1939. Nothing similar has happened in more than 100 years. Only three months earlier, more than 1000 naval vessels went out on sea and turned the waters of the North- and Baltic Sea upside-down. Day and night, week after week, many thousands of ships criss-crossed these seas, millions of "sea fountains" sprang up, being caused by shells, bombs, depth charges, sea mines, torpedoes. Ships and airplanes sank to the sea bottom with hundreds.

By mid-February 1940, The New York Times (NYT, the 14th of February 1940) reported another arctic cold wave:

"Europe suffered tonight in the paralysing grip of the bitterest cold in more than 100 years".

"At least 56 people died from Scandinavia to the Danube".

"The cold wave extended from the Arctic fringes of Norway and Finland to the Netherlands and Hungary".

"The Netherlands Weather Bureau recorded the lowest temperature ever recorded in this country, 11.2 degrees below zero Fahrenheit" (-11.2 F corresponds to -24°C).

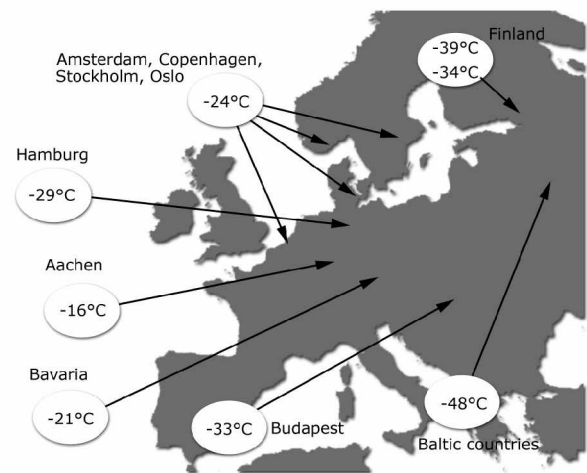
"Water transportation in the Netherlands is completely paralysed. The canals have been covered with thick ice for more than six weeks. Hundreds of persons abandoned their homes in the face of crushing ice packs boiling up from ice-blocked canals, rivers and seas".

"In Copenhagen the temperature has dropped to 13 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (-25°C)".

"The Baltic Sea was frozen over for the first time in many years. Islands along the coast of the Netherlands and the Baltic were isolated. All day they sent out SOS calls for coal and foodstuff".

"In Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, more than 10,000 persons suffered severe cases of frost-bite. At least five persons froze to death in the three Baltic countries where

Reported temperature, February 14th-17th 1940



temperatures reached -54 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (-47°C) for the first time in 150 years”.

The unusually pronounced cold winter in Northern Europe went on for many weeks. In Sweden, all cold records were broken during the 19th/20th of February, with 32 degrees below zero F (-35.5°C), the coldest temperature since 1805 (NYT, the 23rd of February 1940).