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Ahtisaari EastWest-instituutin johtoon

Presidentti Martti Ahtisaari jatkaa kansainvälistä työtään presidentin tehtävien jälkeenkin. Ahtisaari nimitetään virkakautensa päätyttyä kansainvälisen itä-länsi-suhteita tutkivan EastWest-instituutin johtokunnan puheenjohtajaksi. Instituutin johtaja on vahvistanut tiedon New Yorkista *Helsingin Sanomille*.

Asiasta on sovittu jo viime marraskuussa, mutta siitä ei ole tiedotettu julkisuuteen.

Ahtisaari asui edelleen Helsingissä, mutta hän matkustaisi verraten paljon instituutin asioissa. Instituutti on jatkuvassa yhteydessä muun muassa Venäjän ja Balkanin johtajien kanssa, josta Ahtisaarella on laajaa kokemusta. (MTV3)

Suomalaisille kolmoisvoitto kumparelaskussa

Suomalaiset kumparelaskijat Janne Lahtela, Lauri Lassila ja Sami Mustonen saivat kolmoisvoiton 22. Tammikuuta Kalifornian Lake Tahossa pidetyssä kumparelaskun maailmancupin finaaliassa. Vastaavaa voittoa ei laji tunne. Sama kolmikko saavutti kolmoisvoiton samassa järjestyksessä myös viime keväänä MM-kilpailuissa.

Linus Torvalds on nyt supertähti

Maailmalla ei säästellä ylisanoja, kun tulee puhe helsinkiläisestä Linus Torvaldsista. Linus Torvaldsin työnantaja, kalifornialainen Transmeta julkaisi äskettäin uuden tuotteen, kevyen, virtaa säästävän ja halvan tietokoneiden mikroprosessorin.

Laajaa huomiota maailmalla saanut Crusoe-prosessori henkilöityy Torvaldsiin, vaikka sitä koskevat patentit on rekisteröity jo ennen hänen palkkaamistaan Transmetaan. Torvaldsin hahmo elää tietokonemaailmassa aivan omaa elämäänsä. Transmeta tarvitsee lyödäkseen läpi paitsi Torvaldsin taitoja, myös hänen nimensä. Torvalds on tietokone-maailman sankari, koska Linux-käyttöjärjestelmä haastaa Microsoftin sekä vihatun ja ihaillun Bill Gatesin. (IS)

Helsinki kasvaa voimakkaasti

Helsinki ja sen lähikunnat kuuluvat Euroopan unionin voimakkaimmin kasvaviin kaupunkialueisiin. Tämä käy ilmi Helsingin seutu tilastona -kirjasta.

Helsingissä ja sen lähialueella tuotetaan jopa 30 prosenttia Suomen bruttokansantuotteesta. Seudun työllisyystilanne on Suomen paras ja työpaikkojen määrä on nyt lähellä lamaa edeltävää tasoa. Helsingin seudulla ansaitaan keskimäärin 22 000 markkaa vuodessa enemmän kuin muualla Suomessa.

Alueella on kuitenkin myös paljon syrjäytyneitä ja pitkäaikaistyöttömiä. Väkiluvun kasvu on kasvanut ja päihdeongelmat pahentuneet. Kirjan tiedot on koottu 12 alueen kunnasta. (SS)

Nokia kasvaa edelleen

Nokian voimakas kasvu jatkui viime vuonna, jolloin se saavutti lähes kolmanneksen osuuden maailman matkapuhelinmarkkinoista. Asiantuntijat arvioivat Nokian kaksinkertaistaneen tuotantonsa yli 80 miljoonaan puhelimeen. Markkinaosuuksissa kakkosena on amerikkalainen Motorola ja ruotsalainen Ericsson. Nokian menestyksen sanotaan olevan tehokkaan tuotannon ja nopean tuotekehityksen ansiota. (SS)



Wireless connection

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The European Institute and the Embassy of Finland conducted a special seminar on "Information Society and the Wireless World" in December at the Embassy. Above, Ambassador Jaakko Laajava and Nokia's Chairman and CEO Jorma Ollila, a speaker at the seminar. Turn to page 7 to learn more.

Suomen musiikille suitsutusta USA:ssa

"Kuinka pieni Skandinavian maa valloitti klassisen musiikin maailman", kysyy Geoffrey Wheatcroft kirjoituksessaan *Finlands Forte* tammikuun 9. päivän *New York Times Magazine* -lehdessä.

Wheatcroft aloittaa muistelemalla Sibeliuksen Kullervon hienoa esitystä Johanneksen kirkossa Helsingin juhlatilaisuuksilla 1999, mutta etenee nopeasti eläviin säveltäjiin: "Jokainen, joka on vähänkään kiinnostunut klassisesta musiikista tänään tuntee nimet (vaikka ne ovatkin mahdollottomia lausua) Aulis Sallinen, Einojuhani Rautavaara, Joonas Kokkonen, Magnus Lindberg, Jouni Kaipainen ja Kaija Saariaho. Nämä ovat vain muutamia tähtiä suomalaisen nyky-musiikin yhä laajenevalla linnunradalla."

Kaikki tämä viiden miljoonan kansakunnasta, Wheatcroft hämmästelee, ja muistuttaa sen vastaavan Missourin tai Indianan väkilukua. Toista yhtä suhteetonta kulttuuri-ilmiötä tänään ei ole. Vertauskohtia hän löytää historiasta: Italian renessanssin maalaustaide tai Englannin

Elisabethin aikainen näytelmäkirjallisuus.

Vastauksia Wheatcroft hakee mm. suomen kielestä: kieli, jota muut eivät ymmärrä, on ehkä houkuttellut kommunikoimaan musiikin kielellä, joka ei vaadi kääntäjiä eikä tunne rajoja. Suomen historiasta Wheatcroft löytää kaksi merkkipaaluuta: Kalevalan ilmestyminen 1835 ja Sibeliuksen syntymä 1865. (HS)

Suomen tuottavuus huippuluokkaa

Tuottavuuden kehitys on ollut viime vuosina Suomessa ripeää. Kansainvälisissä tuottavuusvertailuissa Suomi onkin noussut kärkimaiden joukkoon.

"Tuottavuudessa tapahtui selvä hyppäys ylöspäin 90-luvun alussa. Sen jälkeen tuottavuus on kasvanut hyvää vauhtia", valtiotieteen lisensiaatti Mika Maliranta Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitoksesta toteaa.

Tuottavuuslukuja on tapana verrata Yhdysvaltain tilanteeseen. jatkuu sivulla 5

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Suomen uutisia

Halonen selvässä johdossa

Ylen, MTV3:n ja Helsingin Sanomien viime viikolla teettämien mielipidetiedustelujen mukaan sosialidemokraattisen puolueen presidenttiehdokas Tarja Halonen on lisännyt etumatkaansa keskustan ehdokkaaseen Esko Ahoon.

Torstaina 20. tammikuuta tehdyn ja lauantaina 22. tammikuuta julkaistun Yleisradion tv-uutisten teettämän kyselyn mukaan Tarja Halosen kannatus on 57 ja Esko Ahon 43 prosenttia. MTV3:n 17. tammikuuta teettämän kyselyn mukaan Halosta kannattaa 55 prosenttia äänestysikäisistä suomalaisista ja Ahoa 45 prosenttia. Ero on kasvanut ensimmäisen kierroksen kuudesta prosentista kymmeneen.

Research Internationalin tekemässä tutkimuksessa karstiutuneiden ehdokaiden kannattajien äänet jakautuivat tasaisesti Ahon ja Halosen kesken. Epävarmoja äänestäjiä oli 22 prosenttia. Helsingin Sanomien teettämän ja 19. tammikuuta julkistetun kyselyn mukaan 53 prosenttia äänestäjistä kannattaa Halosta ja 47 prosenttia Ahoa.

Elisabeth Rehnin ja Riitta Uosukaisen kannattajien äänet menisivät lähes tasan Halosen ja Ahon kesken. Vihreiden ehdokkaan Heidi Hautalan äänestäjistä enemmistö kannattaa Halosta. Miesten äänet näyttäivät kyselyjen perusteella menevän tasan ehdokaiden kesken. Naisista Halosta kannattaa 62 prosenttia. (SS)

Ilmavoimat hakee kiivaasti nuoria koulutukseen

Ilmavoimat yrittää tehostetusti houkuttaa nuoria lentäjäkoulutukseen. Tavoitteena on saada tässä kuussa 1500 hakemusta eli 500 enemmän kuin viime vuonna. Viikonloppuun mennessä ilmavoimat on saanut 460 hakemusta, mikä on viitisenkymmentä viime vuotista enemmän.

Ilmavoimat odottaa kuitenkin hakemisen vilkastuvan huomattavasti, sillä tällä kertaa ilmavoimat on tehnyt itseään tykö nuorison keskuudessa aiempaa enemmän. Lentäjän ammattia on markkinoitu lehti- ja radiomainoksilla sekä messuilla ja parissa sadassa koulussa. Ilmavoimilla on tällä hetkellä noin sadan lentäjän vajuus. (STT)

Muistolaatta Ahtisaaren lapsuudenkotiin

Kuopion sotilasläänin esikunnan ulkoseinässä paljastettiin 23. tammikuuta muistolaatta, jossa kerrotaan presidentti Martti Ahtisaaren asuneen rakennuksessa vuosina 1942-52. Toinen laatta rakennuksen toisessa kerroksessa osoittaa asunnon sijainnin. Ahtisaari vieraili sunnuntaina Kuopion entisellä kasarmialueella, jossa hänen lapsuudenkotinsa sijaitsi. (SS)

Lyhyt isyysloma yhä suosituampi

Parin viikon mittainen isyysloma on entistä suosituampi, mutta aiempaa harvempi isä jää pidemmälle vanhempainlomalle. Kelan tilastollisen vuosikirjan mukaan viime vuonna 59 prosenttia kaikista vastasyntyneiden isistä käytti oikeuttaan isyys- tai vanhempainrahaan. Edellisvuonna osuus oli 56 prosenttia.

Isyysrahaa saaneiden isien määrä kasvoi lähes 800:lla, mutta vanhempainpäivärahaa saaneiden isien määrä laski vajaalla 200:lla. Keskimäärin isille maksettiin isyysrahaa 12 päivältä ja vanhempainrahaa 64 päivältä. (SS)

Sauvakävely levinnyt nopeasti

Sauvakävely on nopeimmin levinnyt uutuuslaji Suomessa. Tuoreen haastattelututkimuksen mukaan seitsemän prosenttia suomalaisista harrastaa säännöllisesti sauvakävelyä. Tämä merkitsee 280 000 lajin harrastajaa. Lisäksi melkein neljäsosa väestöstä ilmoitti kokeilleensa vuoden aikana sauvakävelyä ainakin kerran.

Suomen Gallup selvitti Suomen Ladulle väestön kokemuksiä ja suhtautumista sauvakävelyyn. Sauvakävely on yleisempää naisten kuin miesten keskuudessa. (STT)

Liikennekuolemat lisääntyneet

Liikennekuolemien määrä nousi viime vuonna. Liikennevakuutuskeskuksen ennakkotietojen mukaan tammimarraskuussa liikenteessä kuoli 375 henkeä. Vuotta aiemmin vastaava luku oli 11 henkeä pienempi. (STT)

Exchange rate

January 24, 2000
1 Finnish mark = US \$.1696
1 US \$ = 5.8959 FIM
1 Euro = US \$1.00270
1 US \$ = .9973 Euros

Foreign exchange, New York prices.
Rates for trades of \$1 million minimum.

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Suomen uutisia

Kekkosen juhlavuosi alkoi

Presidentti Urho Kekkosen syntymän 100-vuotisjuhla vuosi aloitettiin 23. tammikuuta Kekkosen syntymäkunnassa Pielavedellä ja Kuopiossa. Pielavedellä avattiin UKK ja Itä-Suomi -näyttely. Se esittelee valokuvien, esineiden ja äänitteiden Urho Kekkosen pääministeri- ja presidenttikaudia. Avajaisissa oli läsnä presidentti Martti Ahtisaari, joka vieraili myös Kekkosen synnyinkodissa Lepikon torpassa. Torpassa vieraillee noin 10 000 ihmistä vuosittain.

Kuopiossa juhluvuden avajaiset pidettiin Kuopion Musiikkikeskuksessa. Presidentti Ahtisaari piti tilaisuudessa juhlapuheen. Juhlavuoden mittaan pidetään useita tilaisuuksia eri puolilla Suomea. Juhlavuoden päätteeksi järjestetään seminaari Helsingissä 3. syyskuuta. (SS)

EU-rekisterikilvet autoihin 2001

Liikenneministeriön asetusluonnoksen mukaan Suomi siirtyy kansallistunnuksilla varustettujen EU-rekisterikilpien käyttöön ensi vuoden aikana. EU:n tähtikuvion ja kansallistunnuksen sisältävät kilvet asetettaisiin uusiin autoihin, moottoripyöriin ja perävaunuihin.

EU-rekisterikilven vasemmassa laidassa on 12 tähteä ja niiden alla rekisteröintivaltion tunnus. Kilvet saisi hakea muksesta asentaa myös jo rekisterissä oleviin autoihin. EU-kilvistä ei tule pakollisia, eli autoilija voi asentaa autoonsa nykyisenlaiset kilvet EU-kilpien sijaan. EU-kilvin varustettu auto ei tarvitse erillistä kansallistunnusta ulkomaan alueella. (SS)

Uusien varusmiesten yleiskunto heikentynyt

Varusmiesten terveydelliset ongelmat ovat lisääntyneet viime vuosina huomattavasti. Kaksi vuotta sitten palveluksesta vapautettiin terveydellisistä syistä jo lähes seitsemän prosenttia alokkaista, ja määrä on edelleen kasvussa.

Yleisin syy alokkaiden kotiuttamiseen ovat mielenterveyshäiriöt, joiden taustalla on usein myös huumeongelmia. Fyysisistä ongelmista yleisimpiä ovat astma sekä erilaiset ihottumat.

Helsingin Sanomien mukaan esimerkiksi Hyrylän varuskunta Tuusulassa on vapauttanut tämän kuun aikana jo 42 varusmiestä psyykkisten tai fyysisten ongelmien vuoksi. Myös alokkaiden laiskuus liikunnan suhteen huolestuttaa puolustusvoimia. Yhä harvemmat alokkaat ovat harrastaneet säännöllistä liikuntaa ennen palvelukseen astumista. (MTV3)

EU:n elintarvikevirastoa yritetään saada Suomeen

Hallitus ajaa tosimelellä EU:n elintarvikevirastoa Suomeen. Operaation kärjessä on neljä ministeriä. Viraston sijoittamisella Suomeen on ulkomaankauppaministeri Kimmo Sasin (kok) mukaan yhteys myös Helsingin yliopiston eläinlääketieteellisen tiedekunnan tirtohankkeeseen.

"Niiden ei välttämättä tarvitse olla samalla palkkakunnalla, mutta ei se olisi haitaksiakaan. Kyllä niiden välillä on tiettyä synergiaa", Sasi sanoo tiedotustilaisuudessa kaupapolitiikasta ja EU-asioista.

Pääministeri Paavo Lipponen (sd), maatalousministeri Kalevi Hemilä (sit), peruspalveluministeri Eva Blaudet (r) ja Sasi itse on nimetty johtamaan elintarvikeviraston lobbauksoperaatiota, jota käytännössä hoitavat valtioneuvoston kanslian alaisuudessa toimiva EU-sihteeristö ja Suomen Brysselin-edustusto.

Lobbyamisessa on Sasin mukaan kolme pääteemaa: Suomessa on korkeatasoista alan osaamista, maan oma elintarviketurvallisuus on hyvällä tasolla eikä täällä ole toistaiseksi yhtään EU:n virastoa. (HS)

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Hertta Odellin muistolle

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Aho ja Halonen poliittisessa tarkastelussa



Esko Aho



Tarja Halonen

Ahosta tulisi kunnianhimoinen presidentti

Kun Esko Ahosta kesäkuussa 1990 tuli keskustan puheenjohtaja, suuri yleisö kyseli: kuka Esko Aho? Vuoden kuluttua tätä moista kysymystä ei enää kuulunut. Suomi oli saanut keskustan puheenjohtajasta näkyvän ja Suomen kaikkien aikojen nuorimman pääministerin.

Aholla oli kymmenen vuotta sitten kuitenkin takanaan jo pitkä poliittinen ura, vaikkei suuri yleisö häntä tuntenutkaan. Hän oli jo nuorisopoliittikkona päässyt mukaan keskustan korkeimpiin päättäviin elimiin. Puolueessa hän oli Paavo Värysen tukimies.

Värynen luopui puolueen puheenjohtajuudesta vapaaehtoisesti. Hänen ajatuksenaan lienee ollut ryhtyä "vanhanaisäntänä" ohjaamaan puoluetta taustalta. Toisin kuitenkin kävi. Uusi puheenjohtaja otti ohjaketset heti käsiinsä. Sittemmin Värynen on katunut päätöstään. Aho joutui pian varsinaiseen tulikokeeseen. Maa piti johtaa pois syvän laman kurmuksesta.

Pääministerin tehtävistä hän selvisi vähintäänkin tyydyttävästi. Työtä helpotti se, että kansan sylkykupiksi joutui valtiovarainministeri Iiro Viinanen (kok). Keväällä 1995 Aho joutui jälleen opposition penkille keskustan hävittyä eduskuntavaalit. Toimintatarmoaan hän pyrki purkamaan mm. ryhtymällä Hiihtoliiton johtoon.

Runsas vuosi sitten julkaisemassaan kirjassa Pääministeri Aho ei jättänyt aikeitaan piiloon. Tavoitteena oli nousta jälleen vaalien jälkeen hallituksen johtoon.

Aho kirjoitti kirjassaan, että jos pyrkii tosissaan pääministeriksi, ei pidä samaan aikaan tavoitella valtionpäämiehen tehtäviä. Yhtä lailla, jos pyrkii vakavissaan presidentiksi, pitää suosiolla luopua pääministeriuden havittelusta.

Vaaleissa ei tullut keskustan murskavoittoa, joten uusi pääministeriys jäi Aholle vain haaveeksi. Mieli muuttui, ja tavoitteeksi tulivat valtionpäämiehen tehtävät.

jatkuu sivulla 4

Halonen kokenut sosiaalipoliitikko

Jos äänestäjien enemmistö päätyy toisen kierroksen valinnas- saan ulkoministeri Tarja Halosen, saa Suomi historiansa ensimmäisen naispresidentin. Edellinen yrittäjä Elisabeth Rehn jäi kuusi vuotta sitten 250 000 äänen päähän tästä tavoitteesta.

Halonen ei ole ainakaan tähän mennessä millään tavoin korostanut sukupuoltaan vaalikamp- pailussa. Sellainen strategia ei olisi purrut, koska ensimmäisellä kierroksella oli tällä kertaa mukana kolme muutakin naisedhokasta.

56-vuotias Halonen on pikem- minkin tuonut esiin kokemustaan ja monipuolisuuttaan. Keskittyminen julkisen kuvan laajentamiseen on ollut luonnollista, sillä Halosen huolestuneen oloiset lausunnot maailman kriiseistä ja kiistoista ovat tunkeutuneet EU-Suomen olohuoneisiin lähes joka iltä uutisten välityksellä.

Lipposen molempien hallitus- ten ulkoministerin ulkopoliittista osaamista ei kukaan ole pyrkinyt kiistämään. Halosella on lisäksi kokemusta toisen sosiaali- ja terveysministerin, pohjoismaisen yhteistyöministerin ja oikeusmi- nisterin tehtävistä Holkerin hallituksessa.

Kansanedustajana SDP:n ehdokas on istunut vuodesta 1979. Hän on koulutukseltaan oikeus- tieteen kandidaatti ja kotoisin Helsingin Kalliosta.

Haloselle kertyi työtodistuksia ennen eduskuntauraa Suomen ylioppilaskuntien liiton sosiaali- sihteerin, SAK:n lakimiehen ja pääministeri Kalevi Sorsan (sd) eduskuntasihteerin tehtävistä. Hän on lisäksi vaikuttanut useis- sa kansalaisjärjestöissä.

Monet Halosta tuntevat luon- nehtivat häntä tunnolliseksi puurtajaksi, joka on entisenä sosiaalipoliitikkona ja ammattiyh- distysaktiivina kiinnostunut laa- jasti myös arkisista yhteiskun- nallisista kysymyksistä.

Hänen vaalitulaisuuksissaan vi- lahtelevat taajaan käsitteet oi- keudenmukaisuus, hyvinvointi- yhteiskunta, syrjäytyminen ja työllisyys. Presidentin mahdol- lisuuksia edistää kaikkea hyvää

jatkuu sivulla 4

Hertta Odellin muistotilaisuus Suomi Talolla

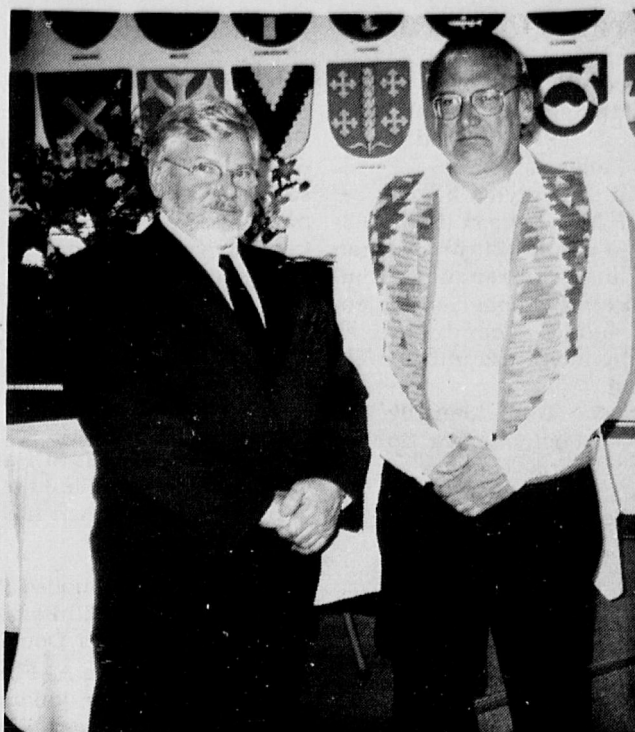
ANJA LAURILA
HYPOLUXO, FL

Tammikuun 1 pv. edesmen- neen Hertta Maija Odellin omaiset, ystävät ja naapurit kokoontuivat Suomi Talolle 17. tammikuuta muiste- maan poismenneen elämän vaihetta.

Floridan Karjalaseura ja omaiset järjestivät ohjelmal- lisen kahvitarjoilun, jossa esi- tettiin myös tervehdyksiä. Pastori Eino Salo puhui Saar- naajan kirjan 3. luvusta: "Kaikella on määräaika". Tä- mä raamatun kohta puhui paljon Hertta Odellinkin elä- mäst.

Airi Niskanen lausui edes- menneen valitseman Suomen Kuvalehdessä v. 1941 olleen runon Muisto, jossa käsitel- tiin syviä elämän syntyjä. Si- sarenpoika Ilkka Kalliomaa New Yorkista lauloi tätinsä muistolle kaksi karjalaista laulua Merja Poutiaisen säes- täessä.

Floridan Karjalaseuran pu- heenjohtaja Eero Suni tervehti läsnäolleet seuransa puo- lesta ja ojensi adressin Seppo Odellille. Kalle Nikula puhui ystävänsä muistolle. Hän sa- noi tunteneensa Hertan vuo- desta 1941 lähtien ja kosket-



Edesmenneen polka Seppo Odell (olk.) ja muistotilaisuudessa laulanut serkkunsa Ilkka Kalliomaa.

Kuva: Anja Laurila

teli hänen työtään ja elä- määnsä New Yorkissa.

Lea Pitkänen Floridan Karja- laseurasta puhui sydämällisil- lä sanoillaan ja luki edesmen- neen lähettämän tervehdyk- sen Karjalaseuralle.

Polka Seppo Odell kiitti läs- näolleet osanotosta tilaisuus-

teen sanoen, että hän ei tule koskaan unohtamaan suoma- laisia juuriaan ja SISU on se sana, joka on vienyt häntä eteenpäin elämässään.

Lopuksi laulettiin yhteisesti Maa on niin kaunis, ja siirryttiin nauttimaan karjalaisesta kahvitarjoilusta.

American Finnish Tourist Clubin vuosikokous

ANJA LAURILA
HYPOLUXO, FL

Lantan Turistiklubin vuo- sikokous pidettiin tammiku- un 15 pv. Suomi Talolla. Juhlasaliin oli kokoontunut 170 jäsentä päättämään seuran asioista. Puheenjohtaja Seppo Vilkkilä avasi kokouk- sen pyytäen kaikkia noudat- tamaan asiallista käytöstä.

Kokouksen puheenjohtajak- si valittiin Antti Niskanen. Hän johti viiden tunnin pi- tuaisen kokouksen tarkasti sääntöjen mukaisesti. Sihteerinä toimi Marjatta Nieminen. Monia puheenvuoroja käytettiin ja mielipiteet seuran asioista olivat monesti hyvinkin eriäviä. Viime vuon- na oli seuralle hyväksytty uu- det säännöt ja ne luettiin.

Henkilökohtaisten ristirito- jen seurauksena oli eräs seuran jäsen juuri erotettu jäse- nyydestä, mutta tämä toi- menpide kumottiin laitto- mana vuosikokouksen enem- mistön päätöksellä.

Uudeksi puheenjohtajaksi



Suomi Talon uusi puheenjohtaja Kari Konnos.

Kuva: Anja Laurila

valittiin Kari Konnos, joka asuu talvet Floridassa puoli- sonsa Maijan kanssa. Uusi puheenjohtaja vetosi kaikkien jäsenten suvaitsevaisuuteen

ja kehotti ristiritojen molem- minpuoliseen sovintoon.

Jäsenkirjuri Annikki Järvi kertoi seurassa olevan viral- lisesti 331 maksanutta jäsen- tä. Kunniajäseniä näistä on 8, ainaisjäseniä 139 ja vuo- tuisesti maksavia 184. Viime vuoden aikana seura sai 42 uutta jäsentä. Ainaisjäsenek- si pääsee 40:llä dollarilla. Jäsenmaksu on edelleen 5 dollaria vuodessa.

Uuden johtokunnan kokous pidettiin 19. tammikuuta. Siihen valittiin seuraavat jä- senet: puheenjohtaja Kari Konnos, varapuheenjohtaja Mauno Laurila, sihteeri Maija Liisa Ovas, rahastonhoitaja Pirkko Carlson, huoltomies Martti Saari, emäntä Helvi Tammi, vararahastonhoitaja Sirkka Lehtonen, varasihteeri Helvi Ampuja. Tilojen vuok- raajana toimii Nes Leisio.

Uusi johtokunta katsoo tule- vaisuuteen toivorikkain mie- lin, vaikka paljon haasteita on edessä. Mutta yhteistyöl- lähän se sujuu, kuten sano- taan Suomessa.

Mediakeskus Lume avattu Helsingissä

Taideteollisen korkeakoulun Helsingin Arabianrantaan val- mistunut mediakeskus Lume on koulun ensimmäinen uudisrakennus sitten Ateneu- min, ja ensi kertaa sitten 1950-luvun koko koulu pää- see nyt saman katon alle.

Koulu täyttää ensi vuonna 130 vuotta. Ateneum valmis-

tui 1887. Osuva nimi Lume koostuu oppilajien alkukir- jaimista. Lavastustaiteen, uuden median ja elokuvan opetus ovat keskeistä sisäl- töä, mutta keskus auditorio- neen kohentaa koko korkeakou- lua.

Lume on upotettu Arabian

vanhaan tehdaskortteliin, jonne osa opetuksen tiloista saneerattiin. Uudisraken- nuksen saivat teknisesti vaa- tivimmat toiminnot, elokuva- ja televisiosuodot, koeteatterit ja koulun yhteinen juhlasali, hyvin varustettu elokuvateat- teri-auditorio. (HS)

Kuolleita

Eino J. Ovaska Sr.

MEXIA, TX - Eino Johannes Ovaska, 88, kuoli tammik. 2, 2000 Fairfield Manor hoitokodissa.

Hän oli syntynyt helmik. 24, 1911 Newportissa (NH) William ja Annie (Tiirii) Ovaskan poikana ja oli asunut suurimman osan elämästään Lunenburgissa ja Leominsterissa (MA) ennen kuin muutti Texasiin.

Ovaska oli työskennellyt entisessä Foster Grant Co.:ssa Leominsterissa monia vuosia. Lisäksi hänellä oli farmi.

Edesmennyt oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani.

Kaipaamaan jäi poika Eino J. Ovaska, Ashburnham, MA; tytär Karen Sullivan, Teague; kaksi veljeä, John Ovaska, Florida ja Paavo Ovaska, Leicester, MA; kaksi siskoa, Irene Solovei, Lunenburg ja Sylvia Peeso, Sterling, MA; neljä lastenlasta; ja kolme lastenlasten lasta.

Puoliso Fannie S. (Isomäki) Ovaska kuoli 1995, ja sisko Lillian Adams 1960.

Bernard J. Wisuri

HUDSON, MA - Bernard J. Wisuri, 80, 6 Plant Ave., kuoli tammik. 8, 2000 kotonaan.

Hän oli syntynyt Maynardissa John ja Saimi Wisurin poikana.

Wisuri oli työskennellyt monia vuosia Fort Devensin DOI varastossa. Hän oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani.

Kaipaamaan jäi poika Bernard S. Wisuri, jonka luona edesmennyt asui; ja kaksi lapsenlasta, Kristen ja Regina Wisuri, kumpikin Hudson.

Hautaaminen Glenwood hautausmaahan Maynardissa.

Walter F. Flinkström

WINCHENDON, MA - Walter F. Flinkström, 74, 18 North Royalston Road, kuoli tammik. 19, 2000 Heywoodin sairaalassa Gardnerissa kotonaan saamansa sairauskoh-
tauksen seurauksena.

Hän oli syntynyt maalisk. 17, 1925 Ashbyssä John K. ja Hilma (Nattila) Flinkströmin poikana ja oli asunut viimeiset 30 vuotta Winchendonissa.

Flinkström oli muurari ammatiltaan. Eläkkeelle hän jäi 1987. Hän oli toisen maailmansodan veteraani.

Kaipaamaan jäi puoliso Patricia A. (Butler) Flinkström; kaksi poikaa, Walter Douglas, Kalifornia ja Allan A. Flinkström, Baldwinville; kaksi tyttärtä, Mary W. Bulger, Winchendon ja Sarah E. Flinkström, Lynn; kaksi siskoa, Edna M. Jamnback, Ashby ja Mildred Hardy, Lunenburg; kuusi lastenlasta; seitsemän lastenlasten lasta; ja sisarusten lapsia.

Veljet John W. ja Paul Flinkström sekä sisko Helena Flinkström olivat kuolleet aikaisemmin.

Hautaaminen tapahtui hiljaisuudessa.

Mark C. Albert

FITCHBURG, MA - Mark C. Albert, 41, 100 Ashburnham St., kuoli tammik. 18, 2000 Burbankin sairaalassa samanaikaisessa tulipalossa saamiinsa vammoihin.

Hän oli syntynyt heinäk. 20, 1958 Plattsburghissa (NY) Clifford Albertin ja Judith (Seney) Richardin poikana ja oli asunut suurimman osan elämästään Fitchburgissa.

Albert oli työskennellyt Rohm Tech Inc.:n palveluksessa ennen kuin jäi sairauden takia eläkkeelle 1996. Aikaisemmin hän oli ollut kuorma-auton kuljettajana E.R. Carpenter Co.:ssa Leominsterissa.

Edesmennyt nautti kalastamisesta.

Kaipaamaan jäi vanhempien lisäksi puoliso Dianne C. (Berube) Albert, Leominster; poika Andrew D. Albert, Leominster; veli Michael Albert; sisko Barbara Albert; isänpuoleinen isoäiti Evangeline Albert; ja äidinpuoleinen isoäiti Elna Seney, kaikki Fitchburg.

Sawyer-Miller-Masciarelli Funeral Homes, 129 Elm St., toimitti hautaamisen Forest Hill hautausmaahan.

ASEVELIPALSTA

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Miksi Suomi joutui talvisotaan?

Suomalaisille, eduskuntaa myöten, ryssien hyökkäys tuli yllätyksenä.

Luotettiin vuonna 1932 tehtyyn, ja jo kerran uusittuun vuoteen 1945 asti voimassa olevaan hyökkäämättömyyssopimukseen ja kansanliiton peruskirjan antamaan turvaan.

Taisteluvälineet saivat vanhaa ja ruostua. Tykistö oli loppuun kulunut, panssari ja panssarintorjunta-aseita ei ollut. Oli vain muutama vanha lentokone. Ryssien alueen luovutusvaatimuksia pidettiin vain poliittikkana.

"Siniisilmäinen" oli myös valtivarainministeri Väinö Tanner. Sosiaalidemokraattina hän luotti siihen, ettei sosialistinen Neuvostoliitto voinut olla imperialistinen ja siksi varmasti kunnioittaa pienten kansojen etuja ja oikeuksia. Puolustusvoimat ei siis saanut varoja. Vasta kun pommieja alkoi tippua Helsinkiin, hän heräsi.

Oli Suomessa selväjärkisiäkin, jotka tajusivat uhkavan vaaran ja tiesivät sopimusten tosi arvon. Viro, Latvia ja Liettua osoittivat miten käy, kun tehdään ystävyys- ja avunantosopimus, jota Neuvostoliitto vaati. Itsemäärämis-oikeus menee ja maa miehitetään.

Kesällä -39 aloitettiin vapaaehtoisin voimin linnoitustyöt Karjalan kannaksella ja asetettiin panssarivaunuesteitä.

Neuvostoliiton johto ei myöskään uskonut sitä tulevan sotaa. Luulivat Suomen antautuvan parissa viikossa parilla laukauksella.

Suomen sotilaat kuitenkin pysäyttivät ja suurelta osin tuhosivat maahantunkeutajat Karjalan metsiin. Ryssien miehen ja kalustomenetykset olivat valtavat. Sota tuli liian kalliiksi. Suomalaisilta alkoivat myös olla ammuksien loppu, kun oli sodittu yli kolme kuukautta. Tehtiin rauha.

Kannattiko Suomen sota? Stalinin salaisista papereista on löytynyt käsky: "Suomalaiset asetettava muualle." (Re. Edward Rodzinski) Niin sinä olisi käynyt.

Kyllä kannatti! Suomi säi-

lytti itsemäärämis-oikeuden taistellen.

Mitä opimme: "Ryssien kanssa tehdyt sopimukset pitää kirjoittaa pehmeiselle paperille, että niillä olisi jokin käyttöä!" (Re. John Kirk)

HALONEN . . .
jatkoa sivulta 3

näilläkin aloilla on tullut tavaksi perustella valtionpäämiehen roolilla kansakunnan henkisenä johtajana. Ay-tausta näkyy Halosen puheissa. Etujärjestöjen työ saa ymmärtämystä.

Ensimmäisen kierroksen kampanjassa on kaiveltu Halosen perhesuhteita ja uskonnollista järjestäytymistä. Hän ei ole silti joutunut lupautumaan avioon valtiokuntaneuvos Pentti Arajärven kanssa tai korvaamaan kiinnostustaan settlementityöhön kirkon jäsenyydellä.

Suomen ulkopoliittikaan Halonen on tuonut omat mausteensa. Hän on korostanut vahvasti ihmisoikeuksien huomioon ottamista ulkopoliittisessa päätöksenteossa. Tausta löytyy Halosen pitkäaikaisesta toiminnasta Euroopan neuvostossa parlamentaarikkona, ulkoministerinä ja asiantuntijana.

(STT-PERTTI NYMAN)

AHO . . .
jatkoa sivulta 3

Aho on äärettömän kunnianhimoinen, itsevarma ja itsepäinen. Hänen kannattajilleen nämä ominaisuudet ovat luonnollisesti myönteisiä ilmiöitä. Vastustajille ne taas edustavat kielteisiä arvoja.

Aho itse on sanonut, että hänen kunnianhimonensa ei rajoitu politiikkaan. Hän on korostanut, että hän olisi missä tahansa tehtävässä kunnianhimoinen ja pyrki tekemään parhaimpansa. Tämä kunnianhimo näkyisi varmasti myös presidentin tehtävissä.

Aho on myös intohimoinen peluri. Hän haluaa voittaa niin urheilussa, korttipelissä, tietokilpailuissa kuin politiikassakin. Ahon pääministerikautena moni oppi kantapään kautta huomamaan, ettei tietokilpailuissa kannata tietää ihan kaikkea.

Toisin kuin aiemmat keskustan johtajat, Aho ei ole tohtori. Maisterinpaperit hän hankki työn ohessa. Jos hänestä ei tule presidenttiä, mikään ei ole esteenä jatko-opiskeluille.

Yksi kitkerimmistä tappioista Ahon poliittisella uralla lienee se, että hänen näkyvästi ajamansa työreformi ei ottanut tulta.

Aho täyttää keuhkollaan 46 vuotta. Jos hänestä tulee tasavallan presidentti, hän olisi ensimmäisen kauden jälkeen edelleen nuorempi kuin mitä lähes kaikki hänen nykyiset vastaehdokkaansa ovat nyt.

(STT-RISTO JUSSILA)

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FORE
THOUGHT.



Maailmanperintöluetteloon uusi suomalaishohde

Unescon Maailmanperintöluetteloon on hyväksytty viides suomalaishohde, Sammallahdenmäen muinaisjäänosalue Ala-Satakunnassa.

Vajaan kilometrin mittainen kalliialue sijaitsee Lapin Kivikylässä Rauman itäpuolella. Kalliolle on 33 pronssikautista hautaröykkiötä: matalia, pyöreitä pikkuröykkiöitä, suuria kekomaisia hiidenkiukaita ja pyöreitä kehäröykkiöitä, kerrotaan Museo-
virastosta.

Tunnetuimmat niistä ovat kansan suussa saaneet nimettiin Huulun pitkä raunio ja Kirkonlaattia. Molemmat tutkittiin ensi kertaa jo vuonna 1891. Nelikulmainen Kirkonlaattia on muodoltaan poikkeuksellinen koko Skandinaviassa, ja kansantarinan mukaan sitä arveltiin hiidenkeskenjäänneeksi kirkoksi.

Sammallahdenmäen ympäristö on myös säilyttänyt saaristomaiset piirteensä ja käläkallioineen ja käkkyrämäntyineen. Läheinen Saarnijärvi oli vielä pronssikaudella (1500-500 eKr) merenlahti.

Uusi uskonto toi hautaröykkiöt

Länsi-Suomeen levisi pronssikaudella skandinaavinen kulttuuri, joka toi rannikolle tavan haudata vainajat kiveröykkiöihin. Tämän arvellaan

kertovan uudesta uskonnosta, johon liittyi mm. auringon palvontaa.

Sammallahdenmäen tutkimista haudoista on löydetty palaneita luita, mutta ei esineitä, eikä niiden ikää ole määritetty tarkasti. Sijaintinsa perusteella useimpien hautojen arvellaan kuitenkin olevan vanhemmalta pronssikaudelta.

YK:n kasvatusta, tiede- ja kulttuurijärjestön Maailmanperintölistalle on aiemmin tällä vuosikymmenellä liitetty Vanha Rauma, Suomenlinna, Petäjäveden puukirkko sekä Verlan tehdasalue.

Luettelossa on kaikkiaan 582 kulttuuri- ja luontokohdetta 114 maasta. Mukana ovat esimerkiksi Egyptin pyramidit, Taj Mahal, Kiinan muuri ja Grand Canyon.

(MTV3,STT)

Maahanmuuttajat kokevat syrjintää

Rasismi- ja syrjintätapausta Suomessa koskeva kansalaisjärjestön laatima selvitys antaa karun kuvan maahanmuuttaneiden kohtelusta. Tapauskuvauksia on vuodessa koottu pari sataa, mutta kansalaisjärjestö Neon arvioi piileviä tapauksia olevan kymmenkertaisesti. Lähes puolet raportoiduista syrjintäkokemuksista liittyi julkis-
palveluihin.

Rasisminvastainen kansalaisjärjestö on jalkautumalla kaduille ja toreille koonnut kuvauksia Suomeen muuttaneiden ulkomaalaisten kokemasta rotusyrjinnästä. Kokemusten kirjo on työsaannin vaikeuksista väkivaltaisuuksiin.

(MTV3)

Älyvaatteet myyntiin vuoden kuluttua

Ensimmäiset Suomessa teollisesti valmistettavat älyvaatteet tulevat myyntiin noin vuoden kuluttua, kertovat MTV3:n uutiset.

Lähinnä arktisiin oloihin tarkoitettuihin ulkokuvaatteissa on runsaasti elektronikkaa, mm. satelliittipaikannus, sähköinen kompassi ja gsm-puhelin. Puku tarkkailee käyttäjänsä terveydentilaa ja ympäristöä. Vaate myös hälyttää automaattisesti apua tarvittaessa.

Aluksi asuja valmistetaan muutamasta kymmenestä muutamaan sataan. Tuotannon alussa hinta on tuhansista kymmeniin tuhansiin markkoihin.

SUOMEN... jatkoa etusivulta

Malirannan mukaan Suomen tehdaesteollisuus onnistui 90-luvun mittaan kuromaan huomattavasti umpeen amerikkalaisten etumatkaa kokonaistuottavuudessa, jossa otetaan huomioon sekä työ että pääoma.

"Kiinnikurottavaa on jäljellä vielä noin kymmenen prosenttiyksikköä", Maliranta kertoo.

(STT)



Kotiharjun saunassa on saunottu vuodesta 1928 lähtien. Se on Helsingin ainoa puulämmittelyn yleinen sauna.

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Tiedusteluja seurakunnan toiminnasta voi tehdä soittamalla numeroon 343-9659. Myös niitä, jotka tarvitsevat kyytiä seurakunnan tilaisuuksiin, pyydetään ottamaan yhteys ylläolevan numeron avulla.

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Kuoro tiistaisin klo 6:45 ill. Hartaustilaisuus keskiviikkotaisin klo 2:00 i.p.

*The Finnish-American***RAIVAAJA****Blackout Under Northern Lights***Continues from
previous issue***Written by E.A. Pulli
Translated by Sävle Syrjäla**

At sea, the Red Army unofficially won victories, which were explained with great haste in detail to the Russian masses, and, to anyone else who would listen.

The Russian naval forces captured a number of island in the Gulf of Finland!

These islands withdrew their 3,000 inhabitants and several customs officials in plenty of time before the "conquest." There was not a living soul in sight on them, particularly Suursaari, when the Russian naval forces performed their heroic capture of them! (In accordance with the Tartu peace treaty, these islands had remained unfortified. Finland was willing to cede them to Russia already in the November conferences.)

The powerful Moscow wave lengths dramatically described the great military fat of the "capture" of Suursaari.

"In early morning our naval forces prepared to land and seize the island, after first having bombarded it. It was snowing. The ships were in open waters when the command was given: Ready for landing! Our motorboats reached the bay with Lt. Saik leading. The enemy is silent. The enemy has fled on hearing the first shot. Stepping ashore we note the ruins of fire. The Finns have burned their houses, poisoned their wells, slaughtered their cattle, destroyed their properties. Apparently in every house have lived people in the employ of the capitalists, for everywhere can be seen tin cans in which the inhabitants had smuggled spirits from Sweden.

"At first glance the people seem to have been well-off. On closer examination we notice that all the houses are flimsy portable plywood dwellings, brought over from Helsinki, ready to set up. These houses do not retain heat. It shows how the government betrays poor people by supplying them with materials of poor quality.

"Before leaving the Finns have evidently staged a blood-bath among the inhabitants, for everywhere we see blood spots, torn clothing and similar evidence. The schools showed clear evidence of the present low stage of Finnish culture such as playing cards, wine, rubber hose, handcuffs.

"Our fighters have taken over under most trying circumstances. They are very modest. They do not brag of their bravery. We must confess that advancing in wide, open spaces, with silent oppo-

sition, is much more dangerous than open battle. Despite everything, the Red flag flies on the highest promontory.

"The White Guardist Finns have shown their great cowardice for as they fled, they have thrown clothing, goods, English gas masks helter skelter. In one suitcase a picture of the fallen Finnish prime minister, Cajander, was found. The escape was made in great haste. Now order has been restored. Everywhere our songs echo, we hold kom-somol meetings, talk of our heroic deed."

A perfect tale for Baron von Munchausen!

The undefended islands in the Gulf of Finland were captured heroically and talked about. But no talk was permitted of the Russian warship *Kirov*, "dread of all capitalistic countries" as she had been named, and her fate! When the *Kirov* tried to force her way into Hango Peninsula, she immediately became the target of fierce fire from Finnish coastal batteries as she was approaching within sight of shore. The *Kirov* was badly damaged and nothing was said about it. The warship was quietly towed to the port of Tallina, capital of Estonia, where the dead and wounded were rushed ashore. They shipped the wounded men back to Leningrad by special train to the military hospital, and the dead to their graves.

At the Moscow negotiations the Finns had made known that through their own activities they had built a powerful, fortified zone along the shores of the Gulf of Finland, adapting the natural benefits of the coastal line to their advantage. They contended that no enemy third power would succeed in a surprise landing to threaten Leningrad or Russians. The Russians did not take this seriously until the *Kirov* experience.

The adventures of the Red naval forces were principally limited to this single effort.

.....

It is time to follow our friends, the young officer and the earnest Plasterer, whom we left communing with their thoughts on the troop train speeding toward the menacing-eastern border!

It was a drab, cloudy morning when they, among thousands of others, completed the last lap of their journey to the front from the railroad terminal in army trucks. Receiving instructions they

commenced their duties "somewhere at the front."

The army placed its best men in the defense stations of the narrow Isthmus. Through this Isthmus the main forces of the invader must travel. Here, the surging Asiatic forces will meet the first-line defenses of western civilization. Here, before long, the soil of the Karelian Isthmus, so many other times saturated with human blood, will feel the hellish thunder of modern war machines.

The work of our Plasterer was of a special nature.

He belonged to the forces whose duty it was to build roads under heavy gunfire, to destroy enemy roads, to mine abandoned areas, to mine roads along which the enemy's mechanized units must travel, to see that the enemy, wherever possible, was hindered.

"The enemy has not heard the noise created by our axes and spaces," the Unknown Plasterer relates in his account of the fighting.

"We had dug mine holes into the hard surface of the road. We were dangerously away from our own front lines, in No Man's Land, and had been working hard with great speed but, at the same time, as noiselessly as possible. The enemy was moving towards us on the hilly side of the forest only a few tens of meters away. We had seen the flames made by their matches and heard the babble of their voices. They did not observe a great deal of caution. From the hill facing us glowed two small sparks, possibly lighted cigarettes.

"Now the task is completed! In the morning, if the enemy's tanks approach the field, they will surely meet with destruction. We had tried hard to camouflage the mined field as carefully and cleverly as possible, sweeping with pine switches all loosened, frozen snow, and trampling plenty of snow along the roadside. Now, let them come!

"The men sighed with relief, the job was not without danger. The spot did not offer much protection from gunfire. We were several hundred meters away from our nearest advance guard. Between us lay an open field. Through it, an hour before, we had crossed singly, crawling and wading in deep snow as bullets whistled above us. The enemy continued firing right through the night, in fear of our patrols. Artillery shells shot over us. Endless blazes on the horizon and burning flames of houses behind, to

the right, reddened the clouds of the wintry night. Over there something was happening about which we knew nothing.

"The men wiped the sweat off their foreheads, while the group commander inspected us to see that all was well. Then, several of the men were sent a short way ahead, toward the enemy, with strict orders to keep their eyes open to avoid sounding an alarm until the last movement.

"Everywhere were fallen bodies of the enemy. One of them caught my attention. He was a youth, barely twenty. He had sunk awkwardly on his knees, still clasping a rifle tightly in his right hand. Strands of black hair had slipped down over his forehead. His last outcry had become paralyzed on his lips, which were still open. His head was thrown backward revealing the staring, wide-open, dark pupils of his eyes and sinewy neck. I stopped a moment before the body. Our group commander awakened me from my reverie. Following him, we dodged from tree to tree toward the wide, open field.

"Just then behind us, quick, fierce flashes started up. In the glare of the flashes we saw our men running through the opening, throwing themselves into the snow, then again rushing forward. The shots stopped, the silence seemed menacing.

"Now, the first bomb fell into the opening, only a few meters away from our men. We threw ourselves quickly to the ground and felt that hell itself had broken loose. The protecting darkness of the night which had hidden us quickly changed to day. The air seemed to be crackling with ear-splitting explosions. Snow, dirt and fragments flew around us whining nastily, and the frozen earth trembled with exploding shells.

"Our group plunged ahead toward the edge of the sheltering forest - the men plunging from pit to pit, throwing themselves into the snow or crawling along the road, hugging themselves to its surface, flat as boards. Our ears hummed and buzzed. We struggled ahead with one thought in mind: out of the danger zone into the shelter of the forest, where the rocks, valleys and ditches might offer protection!

"We had become the target of the firing. The enemy had discovered us. In the opening there were no dead ends which might have sheltered us; only the newly-made

bomb craters gave short, breathing spells. Luckily the Russians fired a bit above us as was customary with them. Thus we were able to continue our seemingly hopeless crawl.

"The group commander and I again lay side by side in the same bomb crater. We prepared to lunge forward. My friend plunged first. I followed a few meters behind. The road was hard and we continued sprinting along without throwing ourselves again.

"Just then I saw a dazzling bright flash and felt a sense of pressure enveloping me. The earth opened up with a great explosion, scattering dirt, snow, stones, fragments, in my face. Something cracked in my right hand, I felt myself stagger, fall flat on my back. I lay there a moment, confused, until I felt the blood coursing with a rush through my veins and my senses returned. I understood that I was still alive and when, slowly rising to my feet, felt of my body, knew that I was wholly unharmed. But of the rifle in my right hand only the barrel was there.

"How had my friend fared? I sprang into the next crater, and there, right on the edge of it, he lay, face downward, motionless. His rifle had been thrown from him, crimson spots were tinting his ripped snowsuit. He was dead, apparently instantly.

"Should I try to carry the body along with me? Several shots exploded nearby. Perhaps it would be better to obtain a sledge and return for him.

"Rising and dashing into the forest I made it without once throwing myself to the ground. There, our next-in-command gathered the men together, sending two men back with a sledge to bring our fallen commander which they were able to do without any casualty.

"There were no other casualties. Up on the horizon, against a background of dark clouds, flashes could be seen giving an illusion of autumn, as a sober group of men formed in single file. Leaving the protection of the forest we slowly marched northward pulling the sledge, in which lay our friend, head smashed, motionless, the body slowly freezing from the cold.

"But there behind us our newly completed work, a powerfully mined field, awaited its own turn..."

That was the work of our

turn to **BLACKOUT** page 6



Wireless communications focus of seminar at Finnish Embassy

WASHINGTON, D.C. - At the conclusion of the Finnish Presidency of the European Union, the European Institute and the Embassy of Finland conducted a special seminar on "Information Society and the Wireless World," on December 15th at the Embassy premises on the eve of the U.S./EU Summit.

A group of experts, representing industry and the Finnish and U.S. governments, explored the promise and the pitfalls of the information revolution and how rapid innovation is affecting society and global competition.

The seminar was opened with the welcoming marks of Ambassador Jaakko Laajava and Jacqueline Grapin, president of the European Institute. Ambassador Laajava stated that in a relatively short period of time Finland has become a superpower in the field of wireless communications.

"In a viable society everyone has information," Laajava said. We should be aiming for a global society in which all segments - business, government and citizens - should be given the needed tools to work together, Laajava continued.

Information and communication technologies are the driving forces in the growth of economics, globalization and competitiveness. In the information society, knowledge forms the foundation for education and culture and constitutes the single most important production factor.

Kimmo Sasi (Coalition), Finland's Minister of Foreign Trade, addressed the participants with special remarks. He focused on the European Union and its leadership role in the development of the information society. To reach its goal, the EU needs to invest in research and education and develop open and competitive telecommunication markets and the legislation to support electronic business.

In Finland, the government, research companies and universities have created a favorable climate by working together, Sasi said.

"We are changing the world as never before," commented the next speaker, Richard Jolly, who is a Special Advisor in the United Nations Development Program. For minorities, however, we are widening gaps instead of narrowing them, he continued.

Jolly said that he is not speaking against the new future, rather just underlining how to deal with the chal-



Jorma Ollila

lenge.

"We have the potential, but only if proper steps are taken," Jolly cautioned.

According to UN statistics, 35.9 million people are using the internet. The following are keys to having access to it: income buys access, education is a ticket, men and youth dominate, ethnicity counts and English speaks. However, Jolly sees these as challenges, not as obstacles.

Private and public partnership, education for all needs are of vital importance and quality secondary education could help to create globalization with a human face.

Professor Antti Kasvio, Director of the Information Society Research at the University of Tampere, also talked about the social implications of the new technology. He said that Finland and the other Nordic countries have embraced the new technology much more eagerly than most other Europeans. Thus he welcomes the e-Europe initiative of the European Commission aiming to create digitally operating Europe.

Finland is a socially harmonious, highly developed and cultural society. These are assets which have helped in creating the new technology society, Kasvio said.

"The challenge is how to deal with the success without eroding the existing society," he stated. It is also important to realize that "what works in the U.S. might not necessarily work elsewhere and vice versa."

The second seminar session focused on "the wireless world." In recent years Western Europe has managed to jump ahead of the U.S. in the use of mobile telephones. Nokia, of course, is a prime example of this development. So it was befitting to have

turn to WIRELESS page 10

News from Finland

Ahtisaari to head EastWest Institute after term ends

President Martti Ahtisaari, 62, will be returning to an international position after his six-year presidential term ends at the end of February. Ahtisaari is to take up the position as chairman of the board of the EastWest Institute. This is an independent non-profit research establishment founded in 1981 and focusing on defusing potentially dangerous tensions and conflicts in the transition economies of Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and other states of Eurasia while building democracy and free enterprise there. The Institute has centers in New York, Moscow, Kiev, and Prague and liaison offices in a number of other cities.

The Institute's Founder and President, John Edwin Mroz has confirmed that Ahtisaari is to be appointed but the matter will be officially announced later next week. Apparently the issue was decided already last autumn. President Ahtisaari will take up his new duties in the spring.

The new position will not require that Ahtisaari move away from Finland, but it will keep him rather busy. The President will have a good deal of foreign travel as in his earlier assignments with the United Nations. The Institute currently employs 80 persons full-time, but the organization has a loose network of more than 3,000 experts and officials in around 30 different countries. (HS)

UPM-Kymmene cuts ties with Indonesian pulp mill

Finland's forest industry giant UPM-Kymmene announced earlier this month that it would not be taking up the option that had been included in its earlier FIM 700 million (USD 120 million) bullet loan to APRIL (Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings Ltd) to convert the loan into a 15 percent stake in APRIL'S Riau pulp mill at net asset value.

APRIL has two years in which to pay back the loan, but the collateral - formerly a slice of the Indonesian pulp mill - has now changed, and APRIL has pledged its 49 percent share in a fine paper mill close to Shanghai in China as security for the loan. The mill in question is owned jointly by the two companies, and UPM-Kymmene would take over the plant completely in the event that APRIL is unable to pay back the loan.

The original loan itself is linked to the Changsu plant in China, as it was intended to help increase capacity at the Riau pulp mill in order to be able to supply the newer Chinese facility with adequate materials. There is also a clear indication that the changes announced this month reflect concerns over the still-troubled political climate in Indonesia. The Changsu wood-free fine paper mill started production in the spring of 1999 with a capacity of around 350,000 tons annually. (HS)

Mäkinen Wins Monte Carlo Rally

Tommi Mäkinen, seeking his fifth World Rally championship, began that quest Saturday by winning the Monte Carlo Rally for the second year in a row. The Finnish driver, in a Mitsubishi Lancer, finished 1 minute, 25 seconds ahead of Spain's Carlos Sainz, who drove a Ford Focus. Finland's Juha Kankkunen was third in a Subaru, 3:21 off the pace. (AP)

YLE Friday poll puts Halonen clearly ahead

The latest opinion polls, released Friday evening by YLE's TV-News, indicate that Tarja Halonen (Social Democrat) has stretched her lead over Esko Aho (Centre Party) to the point where margins of error no longer come into play. The figures indicated Halonen's having 57 percent of the total to Aho's 43 percent, with a 3 percent margin of error either way.

Halonen has been ahead in all three polls released since her win in the first round of voting (January 16), but the gap has been narrower. In the YLE sample 1000 people of voting age were polled. Only 14 percent - considerably fewer than in the other two studies - either could not or would not give an answer.

The poll carried out by Taloustutkimus for the Finnish Broadcasting Company confirmed the theory that the opinions of former supporters of Riitta Uosukainen (National Coalition Party) and Elisabeth Rehn (Swedish People's Party) were divided more or less evenly between the two remaining candidates. At the same time the gender gap indicates a straight split between Halonen and Aho among males, while 62 percent of women support Halonen.

Advance voting for the second and decisive round begins on this week, and the actual polling day will be February 6th. (HS)

New media center in Helsinki

The new Finnish Centre for Media Research and Development, said to be the biggest concentration of media technology in the Nordic countries, opened recently in Helsinki. In the words of Yrjö Sotamaa, rector of the University of Art and Design, Helsinki, the center offers exciting new facilities for the Media Lab and Departments of Film and TV and Stage Design of the University.

The complex is described as the most significant educational investment in this field in Finland. The center, dubbed "Lume," includes studios for film, television, video, multimedia and stage productions, and a broad-band fiber network supporting digital production.

"Lume" is an acronym composed from the initial letters of the Finnish words for stage production, new media and film making. With the new complex the university aims to secure Finland's presence in the vanguard of audiovisual communication in the information society by providing excellent opportunities for innovation, research, entrepreneurship and the training of experts. (Virtual Finland)

Bits and pieces

Conservative Party chairman Sauli Niinistö says Centrist presidential candidate Esko Aho will have to earn his conservative votes himself if he wants to become president and not wait for the Conservative Party to influence its members. (TS)

The Eurajoki municipal council has voted the town of Olkiluoto rock-mass as the next station for Finnish nuclear waste. Given the parliament will not oppose to the decision, the building project for the dump will start in 2010 at the earliest. (AL)

According to a study by Strategis Group, Finnish telecom equipment maker Nokia held 34.5 percent of the U.S. mobile phone market in 1999. Motorola was in second place with 23 percent of the market. (HS)

Finn Grand Fest 2000

will have something for everyone



Salolampi

family weekend

TORONTO - Finn Grand Fest 2000, scheduled for July 13-16, 2000 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, will be a grand celebration for Americans, Canadians, and native Finns.

There will be something to interest everyone, from art exhibits to videos, folk dancing & kantelä workshops to computer & genealogy labs, from a specially written play about a Finn building a ship in the heart of the Canadian dust bowl to Finnish foods, concerts, lectures, musical groups, a fashion show, a gala concert and a banquet. And there will be a Tori, a spectacular Tori, encompassing 5000 sq. ft. of space with as many as 50 vendors.

Exhibits? Of course: a Santaland Arctic exhibit, a military exhibit, Pehr Kalm exhibit and the art exhibition of works by artists of Finnish background. For the sight-seer, there will be tours locally and to Niagara Falls.

For those with children, a suitcase puppet theater from Rovaniemi, a children's camp, and a performance of a traditional Tiernapojat by Kokkolan Tiernapojat and a special visit by Joulupukki-Santa Clause directly from the Arctic Circle in Finland.

For sports enthusiasts, a golf tournament, a chance to meet Lasse Viren, Finnish Olympic Gold Medalist in Track, and a sailing competition among U.S., Canadian, and Finnish sailors using sail boats imported from Finland for this event.

For the serious student of Finnish culture and history: lectures, workshops, films and videos - more probably than one person could attend during the four-day meeting - plus simultaneous Finnish

events - the Ostrobothnian World Conference, the Karelian Clan Festival, Suomi Lions gathering, and the religious Suomi Conference - are taking place in Toronto at the same time.

Music

Musical groups: The Singing Strings, The Discantus Female Choir from Helsinki, Male Singers of North America, Northern Lights Ensemble, Tampere Seuran Orchestra (with soloists Katja Sinisalo and Reijo Lahtinen), Kokkola Youth Choir and Youth Orchestra, Finnish American Singers of Michigan, Rauma Male Choir, Järvenpää Singers, the Kuhmo Chamber Orchestra, the 40-member Karstula Male Choir from Ostrobothnia; the Rientolan Kaksiriviset group of 8 light accordionists, some of whom are musical champions; and the Karelia Wind Orchestra, a well-recognized Finnish brass band and many others.

Folk Dancers/Singers: Mylärin group from the republic of Karelia, Folk Dancers from Saarijärvi, Faarti Folk Dancers, Nordic Heritage Folk Dancers, Helsinki City Folklore Group, Folk Dancers of Toronto, The Alahärmän Alaspään youth group from Finland, the Jepokryddona folk music group from Finland, and the 30-member folk dancing group Perinneyhdistys and the SVOLLI, a girls rhythmic gymnastic group.

Individual Performers: Jukka Kuoppamäki (the famous and very popular Finnish musical entertainer), Minna Raskinen (well-known Kantele player and arranger), Piritta Venho (the Finnish Tango Princess), Merja Soria, Diane Jarvi and Maaningan Runoverat who will present Finn-

ish poetry in a humorous and dramatic manner.

The Play

The specially written play is "The Shipbuilder," by Canadian playwright Ken Mitchell. It's the true story of Tom Sukenen who in the 1920's built a steel-clad steamboat in the middle of Saskatchewan in which he planned to sail back to Finland.

Lectures

A pre Finn Grand Fest 2000 literary symposium entitled "Connecting Souls - Finnish Voices in North America" will be held on Wednesday July 12. This all-day affair will offer presentations, panels and round tables by Finnish-American and Finnish-Canadian poets and writers.

Finn Grand Fest 2000 will feature a series of three-nation town meetings on various historical and contemporary topics. Canada, the United States, and Finland: the different histories and cultures invite three-way comparisons of how each has experienced the past, under-

stands the present and is shaping the future. After short presentations from representatives of each country, the microphones will be open for comments and questions from all who wish to speak. We expect some lively and informative sessions.

Approximately 6,000 guests and performers are expected at Finn Grand Fest 2000 which will be held at the North York Civic Centre and Mel Lastman Square. Please join us to make this the Grandest North American Finnish ethnic festival of the Century and a wonderful opportunity to welcome in the year 2000.

For more information on Finn Grand Fest 2000, please check our website at www.finngrandfest.org or contact: Ray Lescelius, 412 Huntington Lane, Elmhurst, IL 60126, e-mail Lescelius@aol.com or John Kiltinen, 806 College Ave., Marquette, MI 49855, e-mail Kiltinen@nmu.edu

Finn Grand Fest 2000

BEMIDJI, MN - A long weekend of family activities is planned at Salolampi, the Finnish Language Village at Concordia Language Villages, Bemidji, for Presidents' Day Weekend. The program, offered to any combination of parents, grandparents and children of all ages, begins Friday evening, February 18, and continues through noon, Monday, February 21, 2000.

Presentations on Finnish language and life in Finland will be part of the program, enhanced by crafts, indoor and outdoor games and sports, singing and dancing, music and films, and meals featuring Finnish cuisine.

Participants are encouraged to bring cross-country skis or snowshoes to enjoy the Minnesota winter.

Plenty of time is scheduled to choose from several activities, enjoy some quiet time in the library, try out some Finnish board games, listen to a variety of Finnish music, learn some basic Finnish or use existing language skills to participate in Finnish-only

turn to SALOLAMPInext page

Mayme Sevander's books on FINNISH AMERICAN EMIGRATION TO RUSSIA

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Mayme Sevander tells the story of Finnish idealists from the United States and Canada who left their American lives to pursue a dream of socialism in the young Soviet Union. The fates of these immigrants included purges, exiles, wars and labor camps.

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Bedford, MA

Finnish courses at Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College will be offering non-credit Finnish courses starting February 8. The classes will meet Monday and Wednesday afternoons 1-3 and Tuesday evenings 5-9.

For more information, call 800-818-3434.

Canterbury, CT

Kaarresalo-Kasari to speak at Finnish Hall

Eila Kaarresalo-Kasari, of Helsinki, Finland, will be the speaker at the upcoming meeting of the Finnish American Heritage Society (FAHS) on Sunday, February 6, at the Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd. (Rt. 169). Her theme will be "Current Issues of Interest in Finland."

Coffee will be ready at 12:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 1:30.

Kalevala Day

The epic Kalevala will be celebrated at the Finnish Hall with music and stories after the March FAHS membership meeting on Sunday, March 5, starting at 3 p.m.

Genealogy workshop

A workshop has been scheduled in the spring for those interested in searching for their roots. The Finnish American Heritage Society has recently purchased a software package for that purpose.

The date for the workshop is Saturday, March 25, at 10 a.m. at the Finnish Hall. FAHS member Paul Harmon of Greene (RI) will be conducting the workshop.

Because of the nature of the workshop, the size is limited to 10 people. If you are interested in participating, contact Anita Smiley, FAHS president, at 860-889-7820 or e-mail at smileys.place@juno.com. Harmon can be contacted by e-mail at paul888@aol.com

Reservations will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SALOLAMPI

from previous page

conversations. There will be opportunities for choral singing, drama and folk dance. Some of the crafts planned are loom weaving, birchbark and wood boxes, and traditional cloth printing.

The Finnish Family Fun Weekend is sponsored by Salolampi Foundation and Concordia Language Villages. Further information is available from the Language Villages at 1-800-450-2214.

Salolampi Language Village

Finnish Center at Saima Park Fitchburg, MA

Glacier ice block inhabits Saima Park

The mammoth ice block is a wonderful sight to behold if you're a Finnish figure skater. In fact, it is hilariously wonderful, when only a week ago it seemed as if we would never see winter. It seems as if mother nature had to apologize and demonstrate that she still had a cold wintry blast in her arsenal.

Usually it takes weeks to build up the ice, but this year, more incredible than anything we have ever seen, in one week we attained the thickest, best ever, ice block

measuring 9" thick topping the perimeter boards.

It is very impressive to behold. There is a certain awe in its domineering presence. It does truly seem like an indestructible ice block. Of course, we know that the thaws will come, warm weather will return. Ultimately it's strength will dissipate and it will become fragile and weak, no longer able to support the laughter and joy of children.

But now it is gloriously strong inviting figure skates to ride the edge with grace and beauty.

Tervetuloa - come, join us,

be a part of the winter wonder, winter magic at Saima Park.

Skating Committee publicity
Pauli

'Traditions of Culture'

"Traditions of Culture," a two-hour video, will be shown on the Fitchburg cable channel program "An Uncommon View" on the following dates:

Feb. 18th (7 a.m.), Feb. 19th (2 p.m.), Feb. 20th (6 p.m.), Feb. 21st (8 p.m.), Feb. 23rd (2 p.m.) and Feb. 27th (3 p.m.).

The Finnish Center at Saima Park

ZZ Productions

www.FATV.org/UV

An Uncommon View Program Guide
CH 36/Fitchburg CH 56/Leom + Lun

February Weekends

F 9p, S 12p & 6p, Su 8a & 2p

4-6 Black Tie & Tails Cat Show

11-13 Greyhound Special

18-20 The Rynborn Blues Club

25-27 The Blu FO's Band

January weekdays

5p M, T, Th, F • 5 p W

Jan 31-4 Marion Rice Legacy

7-11 "Bus Stop" FSC Rerun

14-18 Sanjay Dances Bharata Natyam

21-25 "Directing Thornwood" FSC Rerun

23-3/3 "12th Night" FSC Rerun

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Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

Feb. 6 - Finnish film *Neitoperho/The Collector*, 2:30 pm, Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. In Finnish with English subtitles. For more info: 510-524-6217 or irmatj@aol.com

Feb. 13 - Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation Year 2000 Awards Luncheon, 12 noon-4 pm, Regency Room, Sportmen's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd, Studio City. Honoring Paul O. Halme, immediate past president Finlandia Foundation National; musical program by Diane Jarvi, Finlandia Foundation 'Performer of the Year.' For more info, reservations: 949-559-5934.

Feb. 19 - Finnish history & culture workshop, Seaver 100, Loyola Marymount University, 7900 Loyola Blvd, Los Angeles. Presentations include 'The Recovery of Finland's Cultural Identity' by Dr K Börje Vähämäki and 'The History of Finnish Women and Finnish Women Immigrants in North America' by Dr Varpu Lindström. To register, contact Finnish American Chamber of Commerce, c/o Ava Anttila, P. O. Box 491730, Los Angeles CA 90049.

Mar. 5 - Finnish film *Kuningasjätkä/A Summer by the River*, 2:30 pm, Brotherhood Hall, Berkeley. In Finnish, no subtitles.

COLORADO

Feb. 26 - Kalevala Dinner & Celebration, 6 pm, Doubletree Inn, Denver. Children's menu available. Special guest Consul General Maria Serenius of Los Angeles. Entertainment by Mikko Koski. For more info: 303-697-4825. Sponsored by Finlandia Foundation of Colorado.

Mar. 16 - St Urho's Day, 6 pm, Clancy's Bar, Lakewood. Buffet & cash bar. For more info: 303-697-4825. Sponsored by Finlandia Foundation of Colorado.

CONNECTICUT

Jan. 28 - Scandinavian Cultural Society of Greater Hartford meeting, 7:30 pm, West Hartford United Methodist Church, 1358 New Britain Ave, West Hartford. Finland & Jean Sibelius will be featured: brief biography of Sibelius by Mrs. Edith Sebelius; brief history of Finland by Mrs. Mia McMahon. Tapes of Sibelius music. Refreshments.

Feb. 6 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 1:30 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 N Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury. Coffee 12:30 pm. Program: Eila Kaarresalo-Kasari of Helsinki will speak on 'Current Issues of Interest in Finland.'

Feb. 19 - Finnish culinary delights, 2 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. Demonstrations of Finnish cooking.

FLORIDA

Feb. 2 - Membership meeting & coffee, 1 pm, Finnish American Club, 6010 Delaware Ave, New Port Richey.

Feb. 12 - Laskiainen Pea Soup Dinner, Program & Dance, 5 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

Mar. 1 - Membership meeting & coffee, 1 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

MAINE

Feb. 20 - Finnish-American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris. Program to be announced.

MARYLAND

Feb. 5 - Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter Ice Skating Party, 7-9 pm, Cabin John Ice Rink, 10610 Westlake Dr, Rockville. Tentative date. Please leave message with Fern Malila at 703-359-6509 to register and to confirm the date.

MASSACHUSETTS

Jan. 29 - New England Suomi-koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, 739 Mass Ave, Lexington.

Feb. 1 - Finnish Golden Age Club meeting, 2 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Scott Rd, Fitchburg.

Feb. 5 - Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Feb. 4 - Valentine Dinner & Dance, 6:30-11 pm, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Music by Nils Lundin.

Feb. 6 - Citizen's Cross Country Ski Races, 11 am, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Registration 10. Weather permitting. For more info: 978-386-7040, 978-582-4201 or 508-829-5181.

- Valentine Brunch, 11:30 am-1 pm, Viking Club, Braintree. Dancing to music of Nils Lundin until 3:30. Reservations: 781-848-3576.

Feb. 12 - Cross country ski 'open house,' 9 am-9 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

- New England Suomi-koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington.

- Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Feb. 20 - Citizen's Cross Country Ski Races, 11 am Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

- Dinner Dance, 2-6 pm, Viking Club, Braintree. Music by Nils Lundin. Tickets: 781-848-3576.

Feb. 26 - New England Suomi-koulu, 10 am-12 noon, Waldorf School, Lexington.

- Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg. Music by Dori Wells Duo.

Feb. 27 - Kalevala Day program, 1 pm, Finnish Center at Saima Park, Fitchburg.

MINNESOTA

Feb. 17 - 'Visions from the North,' St Olaf College Norsemen Band in concert, 3:30 pm, Main Ballroom, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis. Paul Niemisto, conductor. Featuring Kari Sundstrom, solo trombone; Esko Heikkinen, lead trumpet. Complimentary guest passes available from Paul Niemisto, Music Dept, St Olaf College, Northfield MN 55057.

Feb. 18-21 - Finnish Family Fun Weekend, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Bemidji. For more info: 800-450-2214 or www.finnsonline.org

NEW YORK

Feb. 1 - Mika Pohjola Trio, Cleopatra's Needle, 2485 Broadway (between 92nd-93rd St), Upper West Side, New York. Sets at 9 pm, 10:30 & 12 midnight.

Feb. 9 - MikaSonik Akustik, 9:30 pm, Detour, East 13th St & 1st Ave, New York.

Feb. 11 - Finlandia Foundation New York Metro Chapter program evening, 8-10 pm, Central Presbyterian Church, New York. Program: 'Changes in the President-Institution in Finland' by Eila Kaarresalo-Kasari.

Feb. 16-20 - *The Reindeer Biters*, directed by Glyn O'Malley, a black comedy in two acts written by Jussi Wahlgren, 8 pm, Grove Street Playhouse, 39 Grove St, New York. Presented by The Luminous Group and Finlandia Theatre. Reservations: 917-721-3079.

Feb. 23-27 - *The Reindeer Biters*, 8 pm, Grove Street Playhouse, New York.

TEXAS

Feb. 24 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Ft Worth meeting, 7:30 pm, Walnut Hill Lutheran Church, southwest corner of Royal Lane & Webb Chapel, Northwest Dallas.

WASHINGTON, DC

Jan. 31 - Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter 'Finnish Movie Night,' Embassy of Finland. Featured film *Rukajärven tie* by Olli Saarela based on the Antti Tuuri novel. In Finnish with no subtitles. For more info, reservations: 703-978-3562 or barrinja@erols.com

CANADA

July 13-16 - Finn Grand Fest 2000, Toronto, Ontario. For registration, more info: Finn Grand Fest 2000, 795 Eglinton Ave East, Box 2, Toronto, ON M4G 4E4, Canada; fax 416-651-0236; www.finngrandfest.org; Canada toll free 1-888-ISO-FINN; calls from outside Canada, 416-651-6465.

Events subject to change without notice

Sointula Seminar in May

SOINTULA, BC, Canada - Visitors interested in Finnish history in Canada will be able to attend a week-long series of lectures and cultural activities, housed in the historic public buildings of Sointula, on Malcolm Island, in British Columbia's beautiful Inside Passage.

The conference, May 22 through May 26, 2000, will celebrate the founding and development of Sointula, the site of a Finnish utopian dream. Founded in 1901 by political philosopher Matti Kurikka and a band of far-sighted Finns, this unique colony struggled toward its utopian goals for five years, before being disbanded in 1905.

However, many of the original Finnish settlers remained. Their influence is still evident today in this picturesque fishing village. Many residents still speak Finn, the houses and public buildings echo the colony's history, and the pride

and achievement of those settlers is still paramount.

Visitors will hear a variety of talks from nationally known experts on Sointula's founding and development, enjoy guided historic walks, explore the Sointula Museum and Finnish archives, and take part in dances, singalongs, and crafts.

Food will be catered for the convention, and will emphasize original Finnish dishes as well as the seafood of the local area.

This is a special opportunity to help celebrate and explore an important occasion in the history of Finns in North America.

For more information or to make a reservation, log onto: <http://www.island.net/~sointula/seminar.html> or call 250-973-6412 or write Sointula Seminar, Box 277, Sointula, B. C., Canada V0N 3E0.

Sointula Seminar Committee

Lukijan kynästä

The LUKIJAN KYNÄSTÄ (From a Reader's Pen) Section invites readers to discuss current issues of the Finnish American community. Everyone is welcome to contribute.

Debate, observe, question, suggest - express your opinion! If possible, keep your letter to the length of one typewritten page or two handwritten pages. Letters selected for publication may be shortened for space reasons.

Letters published in this section do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the RAIVAAJA staff, Raivaaaja Publishing Company Board of Directors or Shareholders.

You may request to use a pseudonym for publication with your letter, but your letter must include your real name and address. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Send your letter to: LUKIJAN KYNÄSTÄ, RAIVAAJA, P.O. Box 600, Fitchburg, MA 01420-0600.

Time to register for Finn Grand Fest 2000

Dear Members and Friends of FinnFest USA:

This year our festival will be a combined event with the Canadian Finns to help celebrate the year 2000. Please let your members and friends know that Finn Grand Fest 2000 will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada from July 13-16.

The registration and accommodation information will be mailed in January to those who have attended FinnFest USA festivals in Portland (ME) and Seattle (WA) and to those who have requested that their names be added to the mailing list for Finn Grand Fest 2000.

If you do not receive registration information by February 15, 2000, you can request this information by calling (toll free) 1-888-476-3466 in

Toronto, or by writing to Finn Grand Fest 2000 at 67 Pennala Street, Sudbury ON, Canada P3G 1K2. The cutoff date for the early registration discount is April 30, 2000. Your registration includes, among many other items, a 30 percent discount to "ticketed events."

If you have access to the Internet you can register online at www.finngrandfest.org or finngrandfest2000@sudburytravel.com (Harold Huhtanen).

With your support and help to get the word out, we can make this festival, truly, a grand Finn Grand Fest 2000.

Sincerely yours,
Ray Lescellus
Board Member FinnFest USA
Elmhurst, IL

BLACKOUT

from page 6

Plasterer, the Unknown Soldier of this narrative. It was the dangerous work of picked groups of Arctic men.

The young officer proved to be a man who very soon was to make a name for himself. Almost immediately on

WIRELESS from page 7

Jorma Ollila, Chairman and CEO of Nokia, address the participants.

Just in the last five years or so we have become a society where connecting to the Internet is a daily occurrence both in our workplace and at home. At the same time we have become more and more mobile and are spending less and less time at our desks.

"For instance, at the Nokia corporation only 40-45 percent of the office seats are being filled on daily bases," Ollila stated. The other 55-60 percent spend their time in meetings, out of the office, commuting, travelling to meet customers or colleagues. Work is no longer clearly a place, it is several places and stop-overs, he added.

"Today one cannot any longer expect to be totally unproductive when one is on the move," Ollila commented. Enabling a mobile professional to maximize productivity when away from his or her desk will result in a more competitive work force.

In 1991 there were 10 million people using mobile phones. At that time, Nokia predicted that by the end of 1999 the figure would grow to 40 million. As it turned out, the prediction was way off, the number is 250 million. Today's forecast predicts that by the end of 2002 the number will be one billion.

Nokia also predicts that by the end of 2003 mobile telephones will surpass PCs when connecting to the Internet.

"The future will not be PC centered, rather mobile device centered," Ollila said. PCs will not disappear even though more and more business will be conducted via mobile phones.

When we enter the mobile information society many things will change, Ollila said. We will be able to conduct most of our daily business with a mobile phone, everything from travel information to shopping and banking. This new technology will enable us work anywhere.

Other seminar speakers included Ambassador David Aaron, Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade at the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Mark Bregman, General Manager of Pervasive Computing at the IBM Corporation.

arrival at the front, he received a letter in the army mail which revealed that his young bride and aged mother had been victims of a Russian air raid. For several days he spoke hardly a word.

After that, the most dangerous patrol and volunteer duties became his special field. One time he would return from an assignment bringing a pack of seized arms, another time returning with several prisoners. The men in his patrol were wounded or fell, but he, alone, as if protected by magic, seemed to escape the bullets of the enemy. Soon he was promoted to Lieutenant. All over the sector, from pillbox to pillbox, stories were told of the feats of this small-framed hothead.

But from one trip he never returned.

He had remained stationed behind with an automatic pistol, holding an entire company of the enemy at bay, while providing an open road for his men. He waved his hand to them in the simple gesture of a farewell, then, tensely ordered his men to take full advantage of their opportunity...

The Red forces tried to 105 bitter days to crash through the Karelian Isthmus.

Tanks were sent all along the Finnish front, artillery fire pounded ceaselessly at the defense positions of the Finns. With its endless lines of infantry, the Russians tried an hysterical frenzy of advancement. Their tanks were shot to shreds, blown up by mines, disabled through daring acts of individual Finnish soldiers.

The artillery was unable to wipe out the stubborn defenders inside the smashed-to-pieces pillboxes. The attacking waves of Russian infantry met, at intervals, sweeping, merciless automatic fire, which left mammoth piles of dead in front of the Finnish posts. The attackers retreated in pitiful shreds, in disorder, back to their cursing and shooting commissars...

Through twenty-four long hours of the day the sleep-starved, unrelieved, unwashed, unshaven, shell-smoked, outnumbered Finns defended. The freshened, frenzied, death-driven, gigantic masses of Russians attacked.

The Mannerheim Line held right up to the breakthrough at Summa, cracking only at the southwestern wing of the Line.

The Red Army did not cross the Mannerheim Line until after the 13th of March, 1940. That is, and will always remain, the historic fact.

Were the Finns heroes in

their own estimation? Did they announce the deeds performed by their soldiers in distant Lapland, or at the Mannerheim Line, or along the shores of Lake Ladoga?

The Finns are not spinners of heroic tales.

Foreign correspondents tried to interview wounded Finnish soldiers who had been in the thick of fire at the front but received only brief answers.

One correspondent, for instance, who has seen a great deal of the world and met people of all types, expressed his amazement to a young Finnish officer serving as interpreter.

The officer replied, with a laugh:

"In their own mind they have merely performed their duty, the same as the rest of the men who saw service."

Only after passage of time can personal experience be gathered for coming generations to read of the 105-day defensive struggle.

The Finnish High Command soon became well known for their deep regard for accuracy, which was simply founded on good psychology. Comparisons made after the war, as well as records of certain Russian sources, have proven that during the entire period of invasion, the daily communiqués from headquarters of the Finnish High Command were based on absolute truth and not "base lies from beginning to end" as the Communist press had insisted they were.

Daily communiqués from the Finnish High Command covering some of the most important developments along the Mannerheim Line, on the Karelian Isthmus, told of the battles in the following manner:

"December 3: The Russians began war activities on November 30. In the dawn they crossed our frontier in a number of places... Our advance line fell back according to instructions.

"The Russians continued their attacks on December 1... On the evening of the same day our troops were on the Isthmus on the front line at Vammelsuu-Kivennapalipola-Rautu-Metsäpirtti. Terijoki given up.

"On the morning of December 2, the Russians began an attack with considerable forces. With strong tank divisions the enemy tried to crash through at Rautu, Ahijärvi and Vammelsuujoki but were thrown back, suffering heavy losses. Many armored tanks destroyed... After the battle our own forces withdrawn from the Ahijärvi and Vammelsuu areas.

"December 5: We have left Uudenkirkko, Valkjärvi and

turn to BLACKOUT page 12

Finland Society Seminar Finland 2000

27th Annual Seminar on Finnish Language and Culture
July 17 - August 4, 2000, in Kiljava, Finland

Finland Society (Suomi-Seura) will again arrange a traditional three week Summer Seminar for descendants of Finnish emigrants. The educational part of the seminar is threefold:

1. Finnish classes. Finnish will be taught in small groups, ranging from elementary to advanced on three levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. For the beginners group, no advance knowledge of Finnish is necessary. The advanced class, on the other hand, will use only Finnish. Language learning will take up about half of the time allotted for lessons and lectures.

2. Lectures on Finland. As the Finland Society Seminar is not only - or even primarily - a language course, a wide variety of subjects will be dealt with (mainly in English), giving the participants information on the following aspects of Finland today: "History, foreign policy and international relations", "Political and governmental system", "Mass media", "Social structure and social policy", "Industry, economy and foreign trade", "Educational system", "Finnish and related languages", "The roots of Finnish culture", "Literature, theater and music", "Art, architecture and design", "Nature and environment".

3. Excursions and tours. Visits will be made to points of interest in the Nurmijärvi area. One weekend will be spent away from Nurmijärvi. The other weekend may be spent with a Finnish family or on one's own. Apart from academic and travel programs, there may be opportunities to learn Finnish songs, folk dances or Finnish cooking, according to the wishes of the participants. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

Where

The course is held in Kiljava, a Trade Union Institute in Kiljava. The school has good facilities, a library, saunas by the lake and tennis courts. The Institute lies by the clean lake Sääksjärvi known for its sandy shores. The Seminar fee includes accommodation in a double room, breakfast, lunch, afternoon coffee and supper at the school.

The Institute is located in Kiljava in the municipality of Nurmijärvi, where the famous Finnish writer, Aleksis Kivi, was born. The nearest town, Rajamäki, with 5300 inhabitants, lies approximately 6 kilometers (3.5 miles) away. Hyvinkää is 22 kilometers, Helsinki 48 kilometers and the Helsinki-Vantaa airport about 35 kilometers away. Buses to Helsinki run almost hourly.

When

The Seminar will start on Monday morning, July 17, 2000. The course will wind up Friday afternoon, August 4, 2000. The participants are expected to arrive on Sunday evening, July 16. Detailed instructions on transportation etc., will be sent to participants after admission.

Who

The seminar is primarily meant for college and university students of Finnish descent. Students should preferably be between 18 and 30 years of age. A few applicants over 30 will be admitted each year. Knowledge of Finnish is not required.

The language of instruction is English. Consequently, a sufficient knowledge of English is necessary.

How

Application forms for the Seminar are available from the Finland Society.

Deadline: If you also apply for a grant or a travel grant, your apply must reach us by April 1, 2000. If after that there is still room, students may be admitted to the Seminar, without grants.

How much

The Seminar fee is FIM 4100 (approx. USD 800), which covers tuition, room (double occupancy) and board, study materials and tours during the three-week period. Grants (up to max. FIM 2000 per person) will be available for persons between 18 and 30 years of age, who are admitted to the Seminar.

Fares covering travel to and from Kiljava before and after the Seminar are not included. Neither are trips for personal purposes during the seminar.

A few single rooms for an extra charge of FIM 60/day will be available. Apart from grants, a few travel grants (up to max. FIM 2000) will also be available. Young people - under 30 - of Finnish descent coming to the Seminar from outside Europe are eligible to apply.

Forms for this specific purpose, as well as further information, are available from the Finland Society. Deadline: April 1, 2000. Applications for grants and travel grants must reach the Finland Society office in Helsinki by that date.

Director of the Seminar is Olli Kultalahti, Professor at University of Tampere

Program administrator is Mikko Harjulehto, Parliament Secretary.

Contact: Suomi-Seura, Marjankatu 8, 00170 Helsinki, Finland. Tel. (+358-9) 684 1210; Fax: (+358-9) 684 121 40
email: suomis@suomi-seura.fi

Sports Roundup

by Harri Siitonen

World Cup Skiing

World Cup Ski Jump Standings after 13 events (Jan. 9) 1/Martin Schmitt/Germany/1024 points, 2/Andreas Wodhoelzel/Austria/835, 3/Janne Ahonen/Finland/666, 6/Risto Jussilainen/407, 8/Jani Soininen/349.

World Cup Free Style Moguls after 2 events (Jan. 8) 1/Janne Lahtela/196, 2/Evan Dybvig/USA/183, 3/Sami Mustonen/168, 4/Lauri Lassila/164, 5/Mikko Ronkanen/425.

ATP Tennis

Gold Flake Tournament, Madras, India, Jan. 7. Men's Semifinals: Singles: 1/Markus Hantsch/Germany d. Tuomas Ketola/Finland/5-7, 7-5, 6-2. Doubles: Saurav Panja & Srinath Prahlad/India d. Ketola & Oleg Ogorodov/Uzbekistan, 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (7-4).

Running

IAAF Women's Cross-country 10km, Seville, Spain, Jan. 16: 1/Grete Warml/Ethiopia/21:15, 8/Annemari Sandell/Finland/2:39.

US Women's

Collegiate Basketball January 13.

Michaela Moua, from Vantaa, Finland, scored her only field goal of the game, a lay-up at the buzzer, to give Ohio State a 53-51 victory over 18th-ranked Purdue in Columbus, Ohio.

Swimming

Short Course World Cup, Sydney, Australia, Jan. 18. 200 Individual Medley: 1/Matthew Dunn/Causralia/1:57.89, 2/Jani Sievinen (Finland)/1:58.13.

Finnish wireless firm & GTE unit team up

BOSTON - A Needham-based unit of telecommunications giant GTE Corp. will announce today it is teaming up with a Finnish wireless company to develop systems to allow people to do secure banking, brokerage, and ticket-buying transactions over cellular phones connected to the Internet.

GTE's CyberTrust unit and Helsinki-based Sonera Smart Trust said Finland's second-largest bank, Leonia Bank, is buying their Mobile E-Commerce Solution to allow customers to pay bills, move money among accounts, and perform other tasks through cell phones with the same level of "encryption" security available on computer-based Net systems.

Terms of the Leonia pact are not being disclosed, but around the world the potential market for secure wireless e-commerce systems is seen as immense.

CyberTrust president Peter J. Hussey said the company hopes to "raise the convenience and accessibility of business-to-business transactions to a whole new level."

CyberTrust, headquartered at the Needham Heights industrial park next to Route 128, has 350 employees around the world. It specializes in hacker-proof digital certificates, activated by entering a personal identification number, that can serve as the legal equivalent of a signature on a host of transactions including credit-card purchases, and has licensed 10 million certificates in Finland, Hong Kong, and other countries.

Jeremy Wyant, senior technologist with CyberTrust, said using specially designed phones that have the system people could do everything from paying bills and trading stocks to buying airplane, movie, and concert tickets over the phone. Officials also see the system being used by physicians to write and transmit secure prescriptions to pharmacies.

Finland is among the leading nations in wireless phone use, with more than 70 percent of its population - and by some estimates, close to every teenager - owning a cell phone.

Wyant said the service is currently available only on GSM wireless systems, which are dominant in Europe and are used by some US carriers including Omnipoint in New England. It also requires specially designed telephoen handsets with larger screens and more memory than standard wireless units.

CyberTrust is working to develop secure wireless e-commerce systems for the CDMA and TDMA cellular operating systems that are far more common in the United States, and hopes to have them available in the next two years, Wyant said.

"Banking is a very hot topic for us," Wyant said, but added that the basic technology can be used to virtually any transaction that requires making a contractually binding payment.

The Boston Globe

Exotic Lapland for travellers

NEW YORK CITY - From east to west, exotic Finnish Lapland spreads out a menu of travel options as colorful as the Aurora Borealis itself. Highlights of the region's October through April attractions appear in the pages of the four-color tabloid, *Finland's Lively Season*, published by the Finnish Tourist Board and available, free of charge by calling 1-800-FIN-INFO.

As portrayed in the new guide to Finland's Fall through Spring travel options, Lapland is the place to go for those seeking the magical and the memorable; the invigorating and the enchanting. This is the place to go to find Santa, the one and only as well as Santa Claus Village and SantaPark, the ideal family activity centers for children (in age or in spirit.)

These are just a few of the attractions of the Rovaniemi area. The city, designed by the legendary Alvar Aalto, houses both the award-winning Arktikum Science Museum and the Lapland Provincial Museum's collection portraying the Sami culture from prehistory to the present. The Ounasvaara winter sports center counts on artificial snow to insure that fans of cross country skiing, dog sled safaris and snowshoe tours can begin indulging

their enthusiasms as early as October.

"One of a kind" and "only" are two phrases needed to describe the attractions of Finland's Kemi. There travelers visiting in *The Lively Season* can join the crew of the Sampo aboard the world's only working icebreaker open to visitors. Another unique experience awaits visitors to the world's largest Snow Castle, a setting that includes amenities from a restaurant and theater to a chapel and a Snow Hotel where 20 rooms decorated in authentic southern Lapland style include what may be the country's most unusual honeymoon suite.

In northern Lapland the options *Lively Season* travelers can savor a unique combination of 21st Century technology and 9000-year old history at the Inari Sami Museum and Northern Lapland Nature Center, where indoor and outdoor installations depict the interaction of Finland's indigenous Sami peoples with their environment.

For those who want to live in an igloo, there are 15 to be booked at Kakslautanen's "Igloo Village." And for those who prefer the pleasures of the spa or the intimate, small

turn to LAPLAND page 12

Rockville, MD

Nordic Dancers children's group

The Nordic Dancers are establishing a children's dance group on an experimental basis. The purpose is to share with the children of the community the music and dance traditions of the Nordic countries and the fun of participating in group dancing.

Sessions are anticipated to occur once a month and will likely be held on Saturday afternoons in Maryland. A permanent location is yet to be determined.

The first meeting will be February 12 at 2 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 11200 Old Georgetown Rd., Rockville.

If you have children who would be interested, call Maryline Faaland at 301-340-8480 or send a message to her at mangalor@bellatlantic.net

Tango workshop

Have you always wanted to

learn the Finnish tango? Or have you always wanted someone else to learn the Finnish tango so that you could have a partner?

If there is sufficient interest, the Nordic Dancers will offer a "basic Finnish tango" workshop in February or March. If you are interested, call Chris Kalke at 301-864-1596 or send a message to her at ckalke@erols.com

FFNCC

LAPLAND from page 11

hotel there is the winter resort of Levi in Kittilä, where a wide mixture of hotels and chalets wait to welcome those returning from the ski lifts or cross country trails.

For copies of the free brochure telephone 1-800-FIN-INFO or e-mail mek.usa@mek.fi (Be certain to include your mailing address.) To preview a Finland visit, take a trip to its web page www.mek.fi

Finnish Tourist Board

BLACKOUT

from page 10

Rautu... Salmi and Suojärvi withdrawn.

"December 6: On the Isthmus alone, up to the evening of December 5, 80 enemy tanks have been destroyed.

"December 7: Enemy troops attempted today to cross the Taipale River which is the outlet from Lake Vuoksi into Lake Ladoga and is 25 miles wide at this point. Finnish troops are making a strong counterattack with artillery there at present.

"December 8: The enemy continued its attack on the Taipale River but were repulsed.

"December 11: On December 10 the enemy attacked twice at Taipale River but was repulsed. Seven tanks destroyed. Repeated attempts to cross the Vuoksi River at Kiviniemi were defeated in their infancy. Elsewhere on the Isthmus every attack of a reconnoitering nature was repulsed. Fighting continued along the eastern frontier. In the Ladoga sector we have withdrawn from Pitkäranta. At Tolvajärvi enemy attacks were repulsed with heavy enemy casualties. In the Ilomantsi sector three enemy companies were annihilated by surprise attacks in two different places.

"December 12: The enemy launched a powerful attack today along several sectors of the Karelian Isthmus... Almost a constant series of attacks were repulsed. The enemy suffering tremendous losses... Severe fighting occurred also at the Eastern Front, particularly at Tolvajärvi, and cost the Russians a severe defeat. Three enemy battalions were destroyed.

"December 14: At Tolvajärvi our own attack was carried to a successful conclusion, and on the evening of December 13 it was possible to estimate that in the course of three days of severe fighting, two Russian regiments were almost entirely destroyed. The Tolvajärvi area is now in our possession and our troops are following the retreating ene-

my.

"December 17: On the Karelian Isthmus the enemy attacked many times at the Taipale River, supported by extremely heavy artillery fire. All attacks were repulsed. In the course of battle December 15 and 16, 30 enemy tanks were destroyed. Every attempt to cross Suvanto Lake also repulsed.

"December 18: On the Isthmus the enemy attacked the 17th, after an artillery battle between Lakes Muolajärvi and Kaukjärvi with support from heavy forces of tanks. The attack was repulsed and 26 tanks destroyed. At Lake Taipale the enemy tried twice to concentrate in force for an attack but was dispersed by artillery fire. Five tanks were destroyed."

We can see that the Russians, despite large losses of men, tried persistently from the very beginning to cross the River in front of the three miles of Taipale sector which was a strategic eastern defensive position on the Mannerheim Line, on the Isthmus. Taipale stood throughout and the Russians ascended its bluffs only after the war, without a battle, despite reports to the contrary in the Communist press in America.

"December 19: On the Karelian Isthmus the enemy launched attacks in great force on December 18. In the morning they fired the heaviest artillery preparation to date, followed by feverish attacks which continued throughout the day, but by evening all attempts to gain a foothold on our positions were repulsed. The enemy attack occurred at Muola and Valkjärvi Lakes. The enemy suffered severe losses in men and many tanks were destroyed.

"December 20: On the Karelian Isthmus the enemy continued to attack. On the 19th after prolonged artillery preparation, there was an infantry attack supported by several hundred tanks of different types. The attack was

repulsed everywhere and by evening our positions remained entirely in our hands. Enemy losses of tanks were considerable."

After this, they tell of the battles in the Taipale, Muola and Kaukjärvi Lake regions, where the Russians, suffering heavy losses, failed in all efforts to pierce the Finnish defenses. Those Muola battles formed the so-called "wonder of Summa."

"December 26: The main attack was launched against Lake Suvanto which they attempted to cross at Halterman, Sakkola, Kelja and Valosula. All attacks were repulsed. The enemy losing large numbers of men. On the Suvanto ice the enemy left 700 dead."

The Russians persistently attempted to cross Lake Suvanto, but failed, as we shall see:

"December 28: Enemy troops that succeeded in forcing Lake Suvanto were driven back by a counterattack in the forenoon of December 27. The battle was fierce. In hand-to-hand fighting our troops wiped out two enemy companies.

"December 30: An enemy attempt to cross Lake Suvanto again was defeated.

"December 31: In the fighting at Valosula (on the north-east shore of Lake Suvanto) and Kelja (near Valosula), we have so far collected 450 rifles, 81 machine guns, 57 quick firing rifles, 50 automatic rifles, 16 rifles with telescopic sights, nine anti-tank guns, and ammunition for these, wireless sets, telephones, etc.

to be continued

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