

# Nazi shipwreck may hold Amber Room

Polish divers claim to have found the wreck of a German World War II ship that may solve a decades-old mystery – the whereabouts of the fabled Amber Room, dubbed the eighth wonder of the world

## DISAPPEARANCE OF AMBER ROOM

■ **1716:** Amber Room gifted by Prussia's King **Frederick Wilhelm I** to Russian Tsar **Peter the Great**, who installed it in Catherine Palace at Tsarskoye Selo, outside St Petersburg

■ **1941:** Palace looted by Nazis – contents of Amber Room dismantled and taken to German city of Königsberg (present-day Kaliningrad) where it is reconstructed in castle on Baltic coast

■ **1944-45:** Allied bombing raids destroy city – trail of room lost

Picture: Newscom



*Amber Room in 1917. Baroque chamber decorated with 5.5 tonnes of amber, gold and other semi-precious stones*

Wreck of  
SS Karlsruhe



## DISCOVERY OF SS KARLSRUHE

■ **Apr 11, 1945:** Steamer embarks from Königsberg with 1,083 people and hundreds of tonnes of cargo on board, as part of **Operation Hannibal** – evacuation of more than one million German troops fleeing advancing Red Army

■ **Apr 13:** Karlsruhe sunk by Soviet warplanes off coast of Poland with loss of 933 passengers

■ **Sep 2020:** Divers from Polish **Baltictech** team locate Karlsruhe wreck on seabed at depth of 88m. **Team awaiting official permission to raise crates to surface**