

Concluding remark on 'Barbarossa'

Circumstances of the churning of the Baltic waters and devastating arctic conditions on the Russian territory prove without any doubt the interconnection between these two events. Insofar, it is easy to establish that Adolf Hitler shot himself in the feet. His "Blitzkrieg" failed, extreme deviations from statistical weather forecasts hindered his plans. Had German war machinery not touched the Baltic and the North Seas, the weather would not have experienced such major modifications. The harsh weather conditions prevented his army from reaching Moscow. Not having reached Moscow before the end of the year was the beginning of the end for Hitler's ruthless activities. And in so far, we were fortunate that meteorologists were not aware of such a connection back in the 1940's and thus could not advise Hitler and his army that they would endanger military goals against Russia by simultaneously conducting extensive naval warfare in the nearby seas. Arctic winter conditions quickly stopped his "Blitzkrieg" in the East in December 1941.

When Field Marshal Herman Göring had proclaimed in February 1940: "Nature is still more powerful than man. I can fight man but I cannot fight nature when I lack the means to carry out such battle. We did not ask for ice, snow and cold – A higher power sent it to us"ⁱ, the winter of 1941/42 proves him wrong. This winter was man-made, more precisely, caused by Hitler, his Government and his Army. Hitler, Göring and the ruling companions are responsible for the coldest winter in Northern Europe since data recording began, in the middle of the 18th century.

ⁱ See above: Chapter I, Introduction