







Centers of record winters

It is interesting to observe that certain regions reported record climatic events, on one hand, and that there have been intensive military activities, on the other hand.

1939/40: Germany reported a record cold winter. In fact, heavy mining operations, battles (e.g. Gdansk), military surveillance, transport and exercises took place in the coastal waters of the Baltic Sea during the pre-winter months.

| | Sept-Dec 1939 | Apr-Dec 1940 | Jun-Dec 1941 |
|---|--|---|--|
| Major naval activities in Northern European waters |  |  |  |
| Record cold areas during the war winters 1939 to 1942 |  1939/40 |  1940/41 |  1941/42 |

1940/41: Norway claimed to have recorded low temperatures never measured before in a number of stations in its southern regions, in the summer, immediately after the Germans had invaded Norway. Mine warfare and battles continued along its coast and heavy ship movements took place between Germany and Norway thereafter.

1941/42: Middle Sweden, Denmark and The Netherlands claimed the coldest winter in more than 130 years; after the German invasion of Russia, the so-called 'Barbarossa' meant heavy fighting in the Baltic countries from June until December. All mentioned locations claimed the winter of 1941/42 as the coldest, giving the first war winter of 1939/40 'only' a second place during a time period of 100 years or more.

The centre of the cold was 'in the middle of the Baltic and the North Seas', somewhere between Hamburg and Skagen/Denmark.

Summary

There is no change without a cause. The three arctic war winters of 1939-1942 are no exception to the rule. At a global level, people, air and sea are bound to law of physics. The mechanism is simple. Any stirred hot soup lets steam off and cools down. Any warm lake, sea or ocean that is churned and stirred during winter season lets off steam and cools down quickly.

The result is obvious. The three war winters of 1939-1942 were by far the coldest ever recorded during the last two centuries, and may be the coldest series even since the last ice age. One can only wonder why science pays no interest to this matter and remains silent on the issue of the WWII winter. Only four months after WWII commenced, North Europe's winter went back to icy conditions previously experienced more than 100 years ago, during the 'Cold Epoch'. Two extreme winters followed during the naval warfare that was fought in North European waters and in other waters adjacent to them. Nothing is completely explained yet. Conducting a war has devastating consequences, but not such chaotic ones. Three cold winters were the logical consequence of war at sea in sensitive waters. Ending a series of three arctic winters (1939-1942) was only "natural" after Japan had dragged the United States into the war, on the 7th of December 1941, and naval warfare went global on an unprecedented scale. A temporary regional cooling impact became a worldwide phenomenon for four decades.

Before turning attention to four decades global cooling from 1940 to 1980, we will discuss that already World War One (WWI) did already an intensive modification of Northern Hemisphere climate from 1918 to winter 1939/40.