



Memories of Hussar Niklos

Hussar Niklos also known as Vetter Niklos was an old veteran of WWI who lived in Molidorf. He had been a POW in Russia after WWI and managed to return home alive which in itself was an amazing feat as so many others of his generation were lost. Vetter Niklos had also traveled to Detroit Michigan & worked there for some time but returned home to Molidorf & his family.

Often times on Sunday afternoons when people gathered to socialize the discussion came around to the tense political situation and the possibility of another war on the horizon.

On these occasions the elder farmer who had been a world traveler in his lifetime would be honored to share his experiences and express his opinions. Vetter Niklos

would bring out his treasured book - a world atlas - to show to the youngsters who gathered around him...he would place his large work worn hands gently on the pages of the world map.... to demonstrate his point he would use his thumb to cover the area of Germany and then use his whole hand to cover the landmass of Russia and again use his whole palm to cover the map of America across the ocean...then he would proceed to give his recollections of his experiences in mighty Russia and the ever growing power of America.

His opinion as to the possibility of Germany getting drawn into another war.... well he was quite certain that should another war come there was no hope of Germany surviving such a disaster.

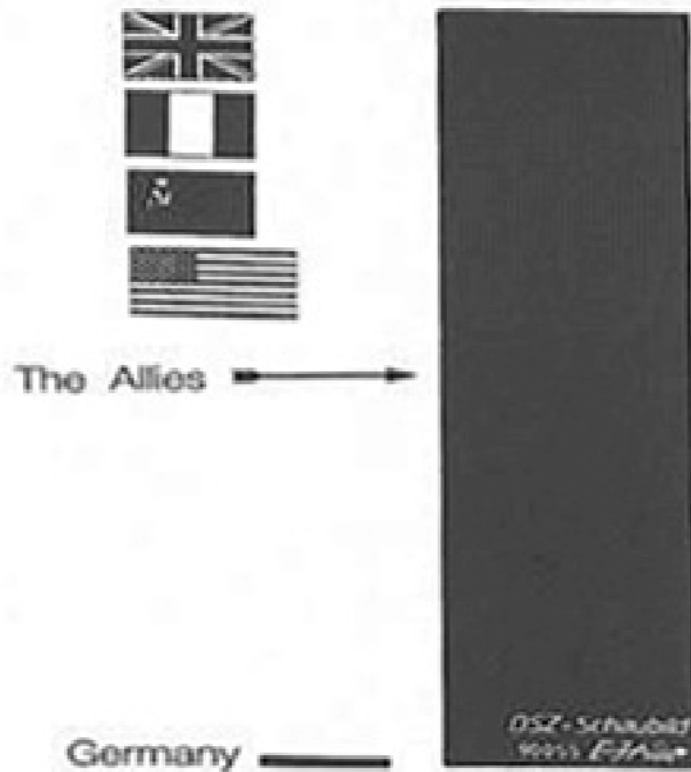
My dad was one of these youngsters who in his youth had never traveled far beyond Molidorf and knew little of the world and were thus quite sheltered and naive but my dad fondly remembered Vetter Niklos and his stories from his Molidorf youth.

This little Molidorf story was told to me by my father Nikolaus Geml.

Anita's notes: The name: Hussar Niklos was probably a nickname for a soldier that served in the Hussar regiments during WWI. The name: Vetter is likely a term of respect as in 'Father or Sir' when a youngster is addressing an elder.

Many years later I came across this chart and was immediately reminded of the Hussar Niklos story ...well it seems his 'peasant logic' was quite on the mark!!!

Comparative strengths of major opponents in World War II



World War II comparison of Greater Germany's land area, natural resources and population with that of Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the USA. Source DSZ-Verlag