

- The Korean War (1950-1953)

Key-question : *Was the Korean war a success for containment ?*



Jack Knox's After Five O'clock Cartoons, 1950

Jack Knox served as the lead cartoonist for the Nashville Banner from 1946 to 1975. He published a collection of cartoons related to the Korean War commenting on "domino theory" Communist expansion, Soviet-US animosity, and the lack of materiel support for US soldiers in Korea



From 1947 began a period of tension in the world, the Cold War. It opposed the two superpowers: the USA and the USSR. Containment is the name given to the policy of Truman, Pdt of the USA, in order to stop the spread of the communism all over the world. The two documents deal with the Korean War (1950-1953), which was a non-neglected fight place during the Cold War, between USA and USSR. The first document is a cartoon drawn by Jack Knox in 1950, named "After five O'clock". It shows the impact of the USSR upon the world. The second document is a map showing the different phases of the Korean War. Now we take a look at the question: Was the Korean War as success for containment? Firstable we will see that this war was a success for this American policy, though USA interventions, but it could be considered as a failure because of the impact of USSR.

The first picture shows USSR as a threat for the free world (the head of the bird of Staline who's hidden behind). A vulture symbolizes the communism. It is a monster with four heads made of a sickle and a hammer which are the communist symbols. The monster is spreading its influence on the world with violence. Already, the bird has conquered Berlin (blockade from 1948 to 1949 and the separation of the two Germany).

The map shows that in 1950, when the government of North Korean decided to invade the South, the country is becoming a total communist country under the Soviet and Chinese influence. Moreover, North Korean soldiers were helped by hundreds of Chinese volunteers. USA were involved to help the South Korean government and to apply the containment against the spread of communism. They threatened the powers to use the nuclear weapon. But finally, they gave up. And Stalin died in 1953, which made possible an appeasement.

With the armistice, a line was drawn in 1953 between the two Korea. Its now a fortified fence. South Korea is saved from communism and under the American protection.

To conclude we can say that the Korean War was a success for containment because the USA had stopped the growth of the communism in Korea. However it is not a full success because this war hadn't completely stopped the spread of communism and the creation of the North Korea.