

## THE IMAGE OF THE COLD WAR IN CARICATURES

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The caricatures (form the Italian *caricare*)<sup>1</sup> are based on the symbolic power of images. The images make visible what could not be expressed in another ways. The Cold War or the opposition between the USA and its allies on one side and the USSR and its satellites on the other continued from the Second World War (1947) to the disintegration of the USSR in 1991 (in some researches to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989). As a war of two rival ideologies without direct military clash between the two enemies USA and USSR the Cold War used all available means of propaganda, diplomatic and economic pressure, military and industrial espionage, disinformation about the enemy, press, films, theatre, books and radio broadcasting abroad<sup>2</sup>. Caricature has a special place in the propaganda arsenal. *“The political caricature usually deals with the funny things and with the enthronement and exposition of persons, groups and organizations engaged in the power struggle in society. Caricatures are especially important in the times of wars (cold or warm) when we witness rival propaganda or advertisements. In this sense caricature could be considers as “reference book” for the enemy”*.<sup>3</sup>

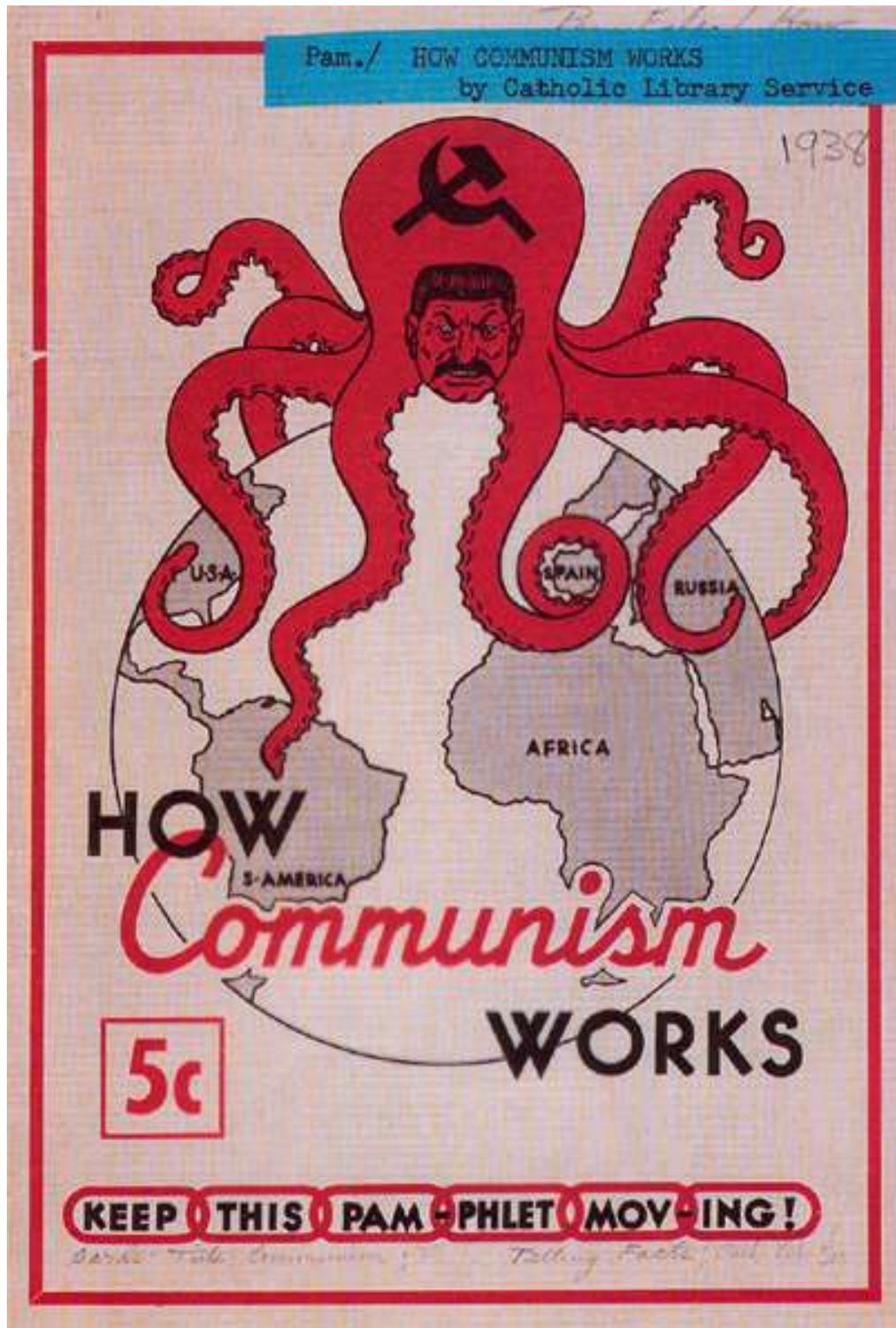
As a rule during the Cold War each of the parties demonizes the other in the caricatures.

*“Iron curtain over Europe!!! Russian threat!! Bolshevik danger!!! Let’s unite with Germany to give rebuff to the Russians!” Boris Efimov, 1947.*<sup>4</sup>



*"Freedom in American way", Boris Efimov*





## SOVIET CARICATURE

The Soviet caricature about the Cold war could be best presented in the satirist journal “Crocodile” which was published since 1922 till 1992 and after 1934 it became part of the official of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) “Pravda” in 6.5 million issues. As a controlled by the CPSU journal it was used in all Soviet political campaigns. It did not consider everyday topics but focused on the “key questions of the internal and foreign policy”, it exposes “the enemies of people”, “West German revanchism”, “American imperialism and its satellites”, colonialism, NATO, etc. On one part the journal presents “the horrible western aggressors” who sharpen their swords, on the other it presents the scaring conditions in the West – unemployment, hunger, coldness...

*The army of peace – Your efforts are in vain, Masters! We will not permit you to insult it!*<sup>6</sup>



During the Cold War the topics who dominated in the Soviet caricatures were: the Korean War – the two parties accused each other in mass extermination of the local population and destruction of nonmilitary objects.

*Korea „Children, the last hour we studied the history of America, today we will get knowledge about the manners and habits of the Americans”!*<sup>7</sup>



-Ну, вот, дети, на прошлом уроке мы с вами знакомились с историей Америки,  
а теперь познакомимся с нравами и обычаями американцев!

United Nations (OON) which to the Soviets are manipulated by USA and in such way from international organization turned into organization of the American aggressors.

*OON „In fact UN is not an international organization but organization of the Americans which supports the American aggressors” – from the interview of comrade Stalin with correspondent of newspaper “Pravda”.*

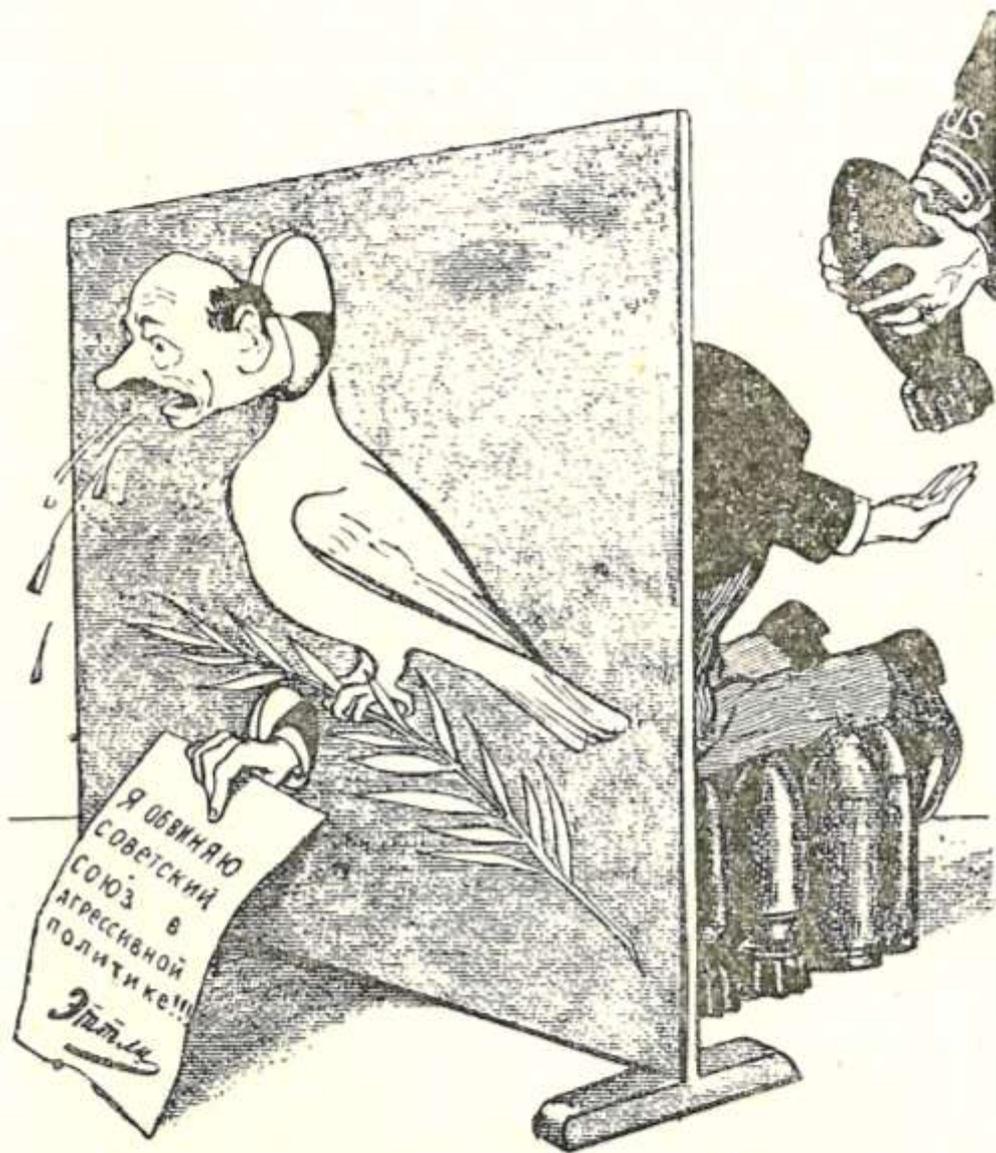
- *АкордеООН [AcordeOON]<sup>8</sup>*



*American world order<sup>9</sup>*



Unsuccessful masking of the instigators of new wars as peace keepers.



Несполучливата маскировка като миротворец на подпалвача на нова война — Атли

(Clement Atli, 1883-1967), British politician, prime-minister of Great Britain (1945-1951), minister of defense. (1945-1946)<sup>10</sup>

The Wall Street bankers dictate the conditions of the Cold War and the Congress of the USA is the most horrible and enemy institution.

*“Voracious appetite“, A. Orlov, V. Ayzen <sup>11</sup>*

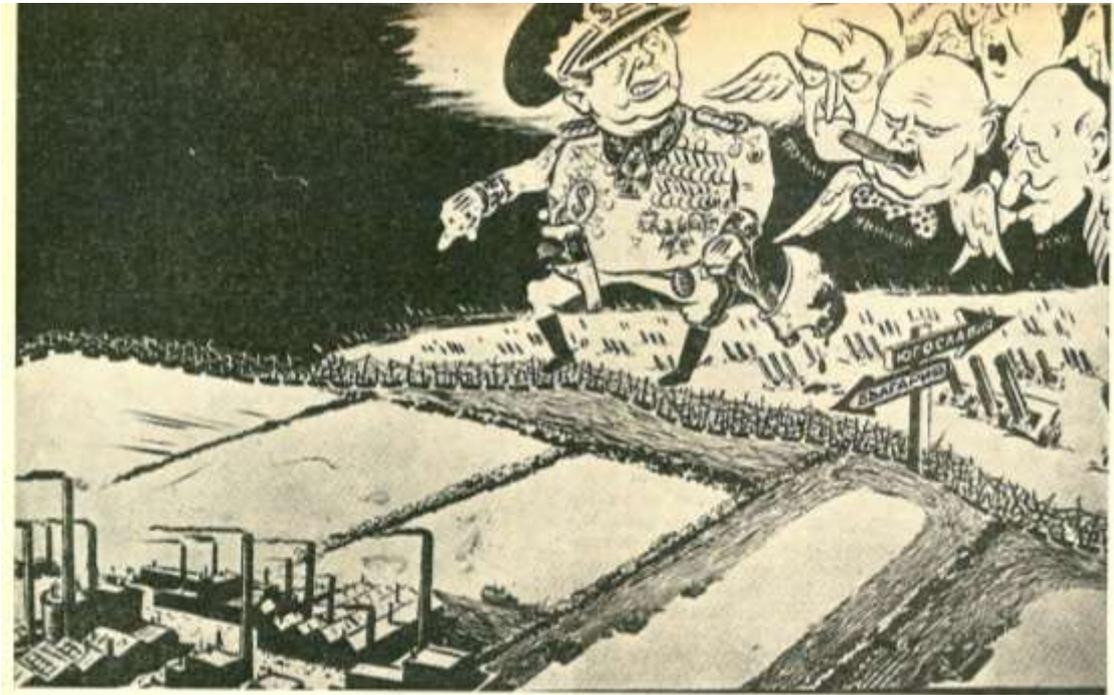


**Вълчи апетит**

**Рис. А. Орлов и В. Айзен**

Yugoslavia was also targeted. Tito was proclaimed as Belgrade Ober-bandit, a contender for the title "Führer".

*Tito: Hallo, alarm! Bulgaria is arming and preparing to attack Yugoslavia.<sup>12</sup>*



Тито: Hallo! Тревога! България усилено се въоръжава и готви нападение срещу Югославия . . .

*“A present” for the nations of the Yugoslavia, N. Dolgorukov<sup>13</sup>*



*The faithful dog of the Wall Street, N. Dolgopukov*



*As their "image and semblance", B. Efimov<sup>14</sup>*



Бор. Ефимов

По техния „образ и подобие“

- As a danger for the USSR was considered the enlargement of NATO with the Turkey and Greece in 1952.
- Targeted was the democracy in USA which was considered as a mask for aspiring after other goals.

*A dangerous trick, Kukriniksi<sup>15</sup>*



Опасен номер

Рис. Кукриникси

- A favorable topic for the caricaturists was the bacteriological weapon.

*The Geneva convention about the prohibition of the bacteriological weapon and respecting the rights of the prisoners of war, Kukrinski<sup>16</sup>*



*„Having in mind that Crocodile often picture Uncle Sam, we decided to take part in a competition about new emblem of the USA. We offer our project as a symbol which reflects in better way the present life in America. B. Efimov<sup>17</sup>*

**Из работ, поступивших на конкурс**

В нынешнем году исполняется столетие общеизвестной символической фигуры дяди Сама. По сообщению газеты "Манчестер гардиан". в Соединенных Штатах фигуру козлородого, джентльмена считают устаревшей, и по этому сейчас объявлен конкурс на создание новой эмблемы США.

Рис. Бор. Ефимова



Ввиду того, что Крокодилу часто приходится иметь дело с образом дяди Сама, мы решили включиться в этот конкурс. Предлагаем свой проект символической фигуры, которая более всего отвечает современному американскому образу жизни.

## War Mongers

**John Foster Dulles, (1888-1959), Secretary of state under the presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower**



*Карикатура: Дулос. Америка, 1950, 1950.*

**Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill (1874-1965), Prime minister of Great Britain whose speech about the Soviet threat about democratic Europe from 1946 marked the beginning of the Cold War.**



*Карикатура: Черчилль. Англия, 1940, 1940.*

**George Marshall, (1880-1959 г.), Secretary of state, Minister of defense, one of the initiators of NATO, Nobel Prize winner for peace in 1953.**



*Курьезный Маршалл. Грин, 1950.*

**William Averell Harriman (1891-1986), American diplomat, ambassador in USSR. According to Stalin he was responsible for the worsening of the relations between USA and USSR after the death of Roosevelt.**



*Курьезный Харриман. Андерс, 1950.*

Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964), American general, who took part in the two world wars, in 1950 he commanded the UN army in the Korean War.<sup>18</sup>



*Кукрыниксы. Макартур. Акварель, тушь, уголь. 1950.*

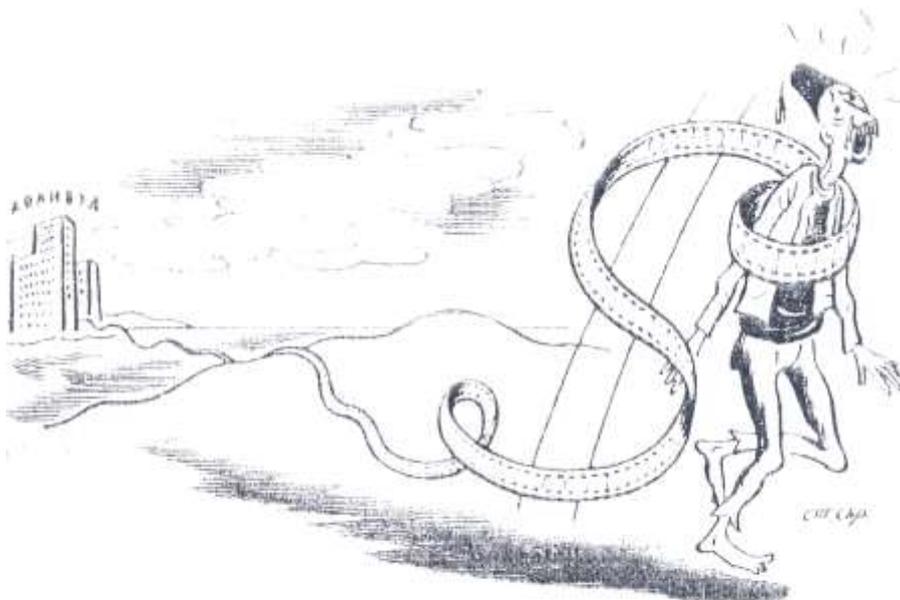
## BULGARIAN CARICATURE

On the pages of the Bulgarian journals Soviet caricatures were often published.

Meeting with the heroes. In a Broadway cinema: "Bravo, Bravo!" and after the performance: "Help!"<sup>19</sup>



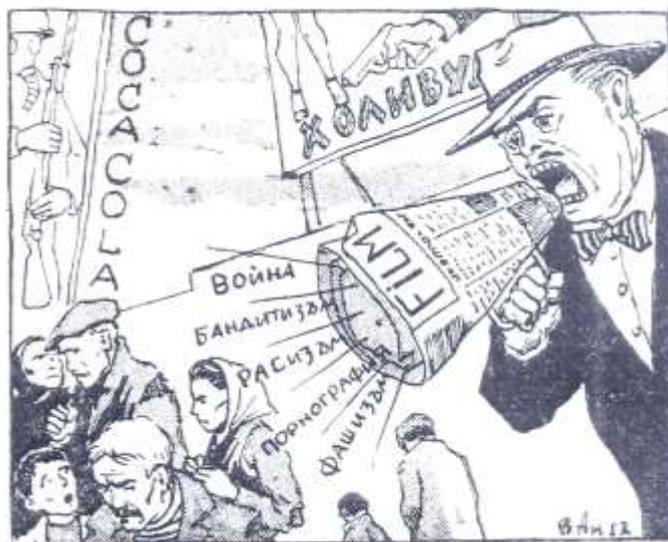
In the snake capture of Hollywood<sup>20</sup>



*В змииската примка на Холивуд.*

*Hollywood: War, Bandits, Racism, Pornography, Fascism: The Tito Bandits began film propaganda<sup>21</sup>*

Карикатура В.АНДРЕЕВ



*Напрасно титовата банда и с „Филм“ започна пропаганда . . .*

*Hollywood in Venice, E. Zimin<sup>22</sup>*

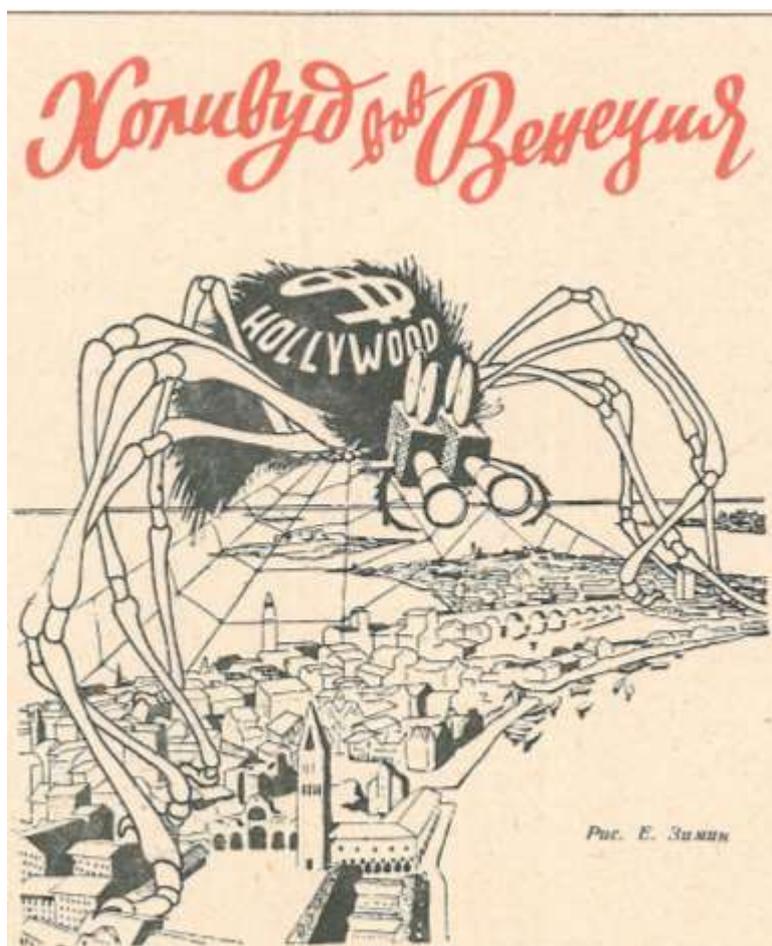


Рис. Е. Зими

*The oversea film producer Dean Acheson and the heroes of the Bulgarian version of his production.*<sup>23</sup>



The founder of the Bulgarian art of caricature is considered Alexander Bozhinov.<sup>24</sup> In the period before 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1944 he was famous with his caricatures against the regime of Tsar Ferdinand, after 1944 his caricatures were devoted to the fight for peace. Different was the destiny of the painter Ivan Slavov. In January 1907 who was beaten for his caricatures against Ferdinand published in "Balkan Tribune".<sup>25</sup> More unfortunate was Rayko Alexiev who was arrested one month after 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1944 and beaten to death for two old caricatures of Stalin<sup>26</sup> published in his journal "Cricket"<sup>27</sup>. After his death in March 1945 he was sentenced to death for his 'anti-Soviet' and "pro-German" propaganda from the so called People's Court.<sup>28</sup>

The official satirist edition of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party was the newspaper "Hornet" which started from 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1946. Till the end of 1980s this newspaper defined the shape and tendencies of the caricature genre in Bulgaria. The edition was issued in 500 000 copies. After 9<sup>th</sup> of September 1944 many of the caricaturists reflected their positive attitude to the changes in Bulgaria – they illustrated the defeat of fascism, considered the new society as progressive, took the side of the People's court, demonstrated their new attitude to the former Western allies from the Second World War – USA and Great Britain.<sup>29</sup>

The first issue of the newspaper "Hornet", satirist weekly, 15<sup>th</sup> of February, 1946  
 "What else should I do to make people forget about me?", Boris Angelushev



Рис. БОРИС АНГЕЛУШЕВ

Урагъйската дещегаша е поставила пред ООН въпроса да не се издават смъртни присъди по Нюрнберския процес). Пресата

ЛОНДОН. Водичът на хладнокръвната дещегаша при ООН заяви, че в Нюрнберга няма война, а обменени мнения, при които за 9-годишна убедителност се стради и бойт и мушкетри. На въпроса, дали това е оправдание, фон Клафелс отговори утвърдително, защото и изключително вършещи същото. Той изтъкна още, че Колективна държава не само съществуват, но изключително нямат това право, защото са на много културно ниво и не са заслужили националната си независимост. На въпроса за каква ли присъда в свои



Ilya Beshkov created caricatures influenced by the “iron curtain” – on the West there is no freedom but imperialism; the Marshall plan will take off the European independence; the face of imperialism is bandit and cold.<sup>30</sup>

*„Europe 1944. Churchill: „Mister Molotov, if you invest more efforts one year could be sufficient ...““*, Iliya Beshkov



*Европа (1944)*

Чърчил: „Мистър Молотов, при малко повече усилия една година може да се окаже достатъчна...“

„Europe“, Iliya Beshkov, 1941



The recently published diary of Iliya Beshkov reveals his hidden attitude to the communist regime. In September 1950 he wrote: “The “Orthodox” Russia undertook 11 “liberating wars” to invade Poland, Bulgaria, Turkey and when did not succeed this “true Orthodoxy” for 24 hours turned into bolshevism, into an atheistic Orthodoxy which initiated new “liberating” wars against Bulgaria, Poland, Turkey ... and the whole world. Christ was replaced by Stalin (quite successfully up to now...)”<sup>31</sup>

*„Ah, I just fixed the cast!“, Boris Angelushev, 1946*



*“The voice of America and the voice of People’s Republic of Bulgaria”, (Every vote for United Front is a vote for peace and socialism, the voice of America is – war, war, war !!!),  
Alexandar Zhendov, 1947<sup>32</sup>*



*“With the Strangers is very good!”, Nikola Mirchev*



*„The bitter lessons of history”, Nikola Mirchev, 1958*



*„The fallen hopes”, Nikola\_Mirchev, 1958 („The fallen hopes of turning back the wheel of Bulgaria”)*



*„Haints, during the last war you lost your legs, but these people have lost their mind right now! “, Nikola\_Mirchev, 1958<sup>33</sup>*



*“America counts its presidents”, Tsvetan Tsekov (Karandash), 1969.*



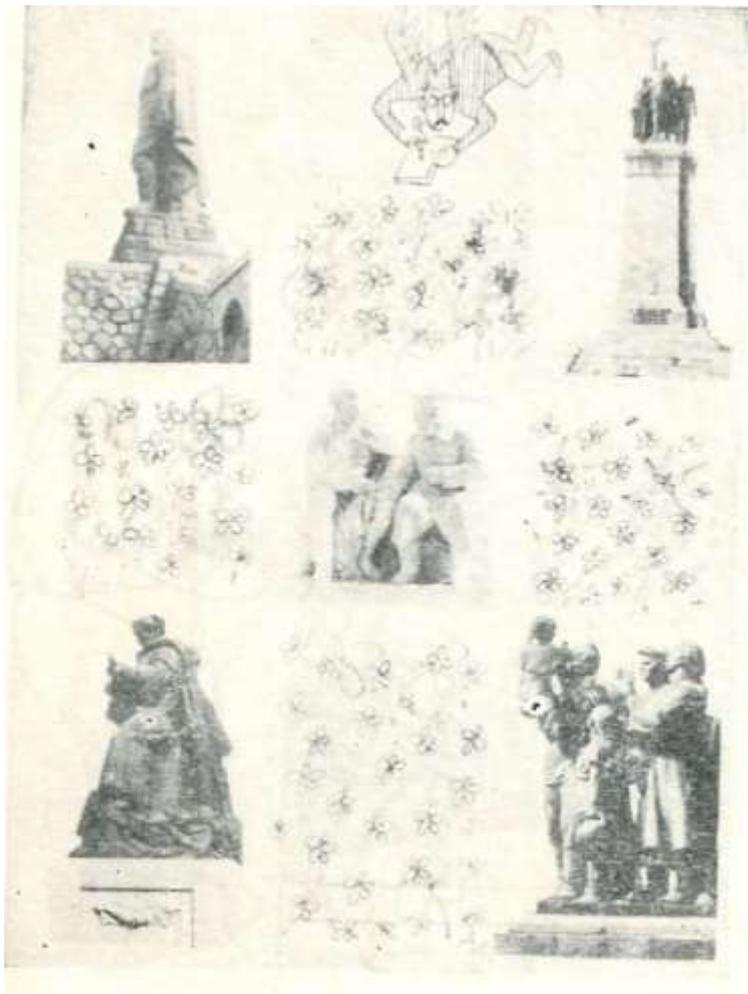
*„Cheek by jowl”, Tsvetan Tsekov (Karandash), 1959<sup>34</sup>*



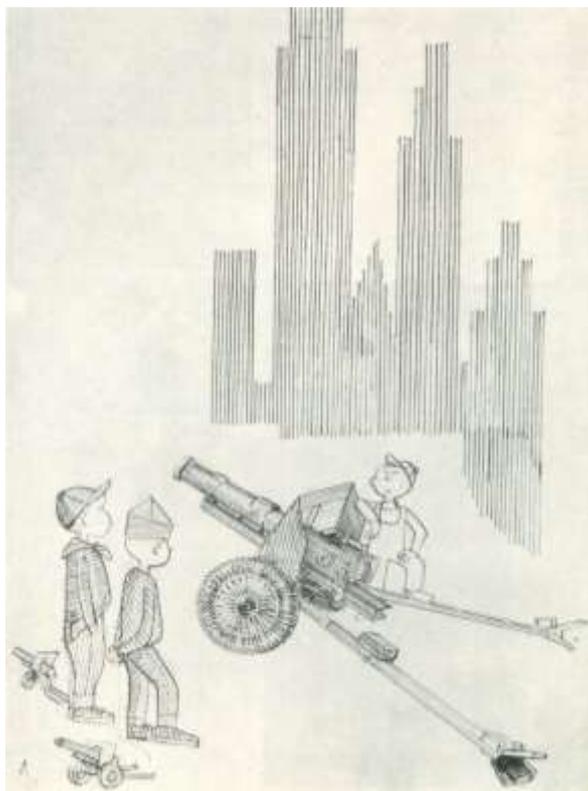
*„After the holiday - Children I am happy that you have forgotten everything old and nothing new have learned ...”, Boris\_Dimovski, 1968<sup>35</sup>*



*“The foreign correspondent: Bulgaria is full with Russian soldiers”, Georgi Atanasov, 1969.*



*„America is the country of unlimited possibilities: His father is rich, he has bought him a real one!”, Georgi Atanasov, 1969<sup>36</sup>*

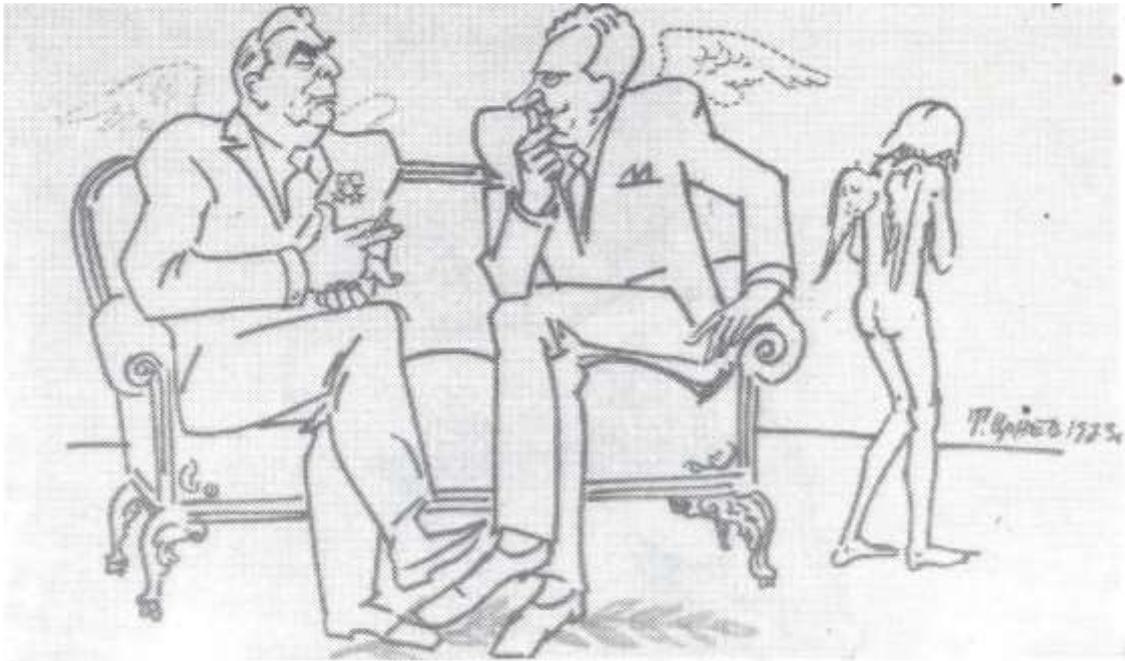


*“Metamorphosis of ideology”, Todor Tsonev, 1973*



Метаморфоза на идеологията... 1973

*„Peace keepers (Brezhnev – Nixon), Todor Tsonev, 1973*



Миролобци. (Брежнев – Никсън.) 1973

*„Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union TACC denies ...“, Todor Tsonev, 1978<sup>37</sup>*

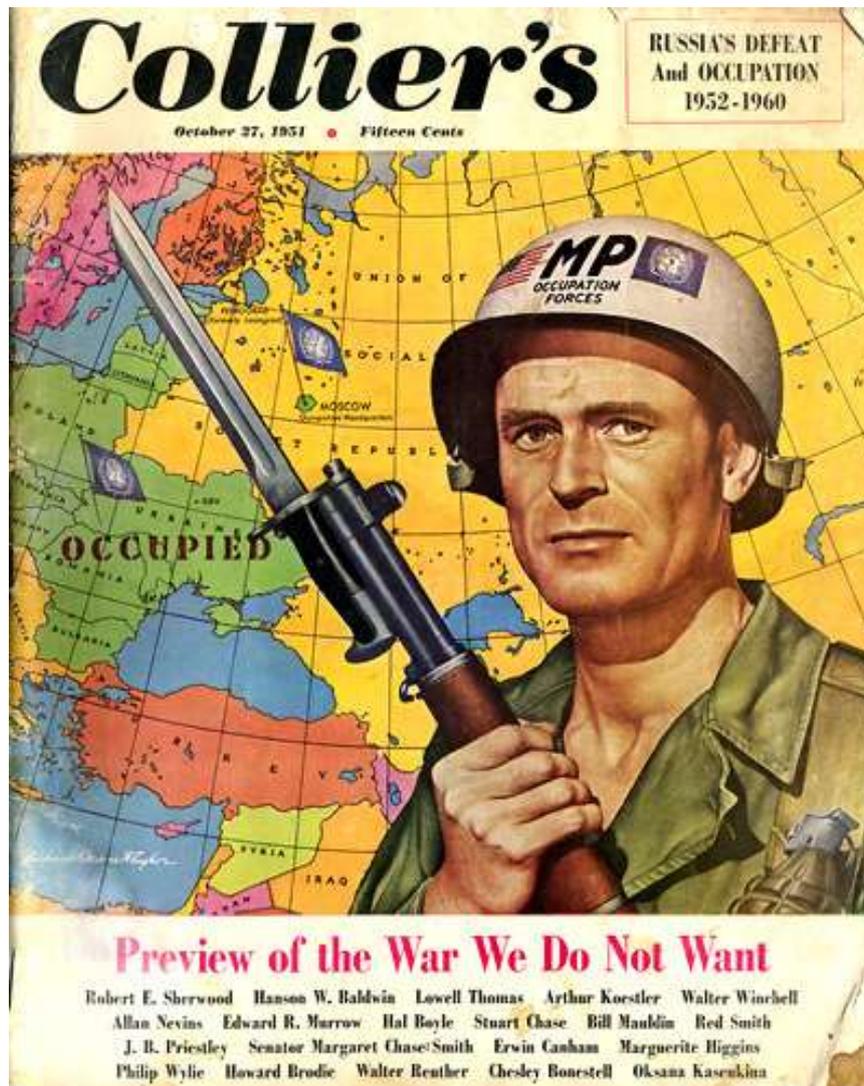


ТАСС опровергава... 1978

## CARICATURE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE “IRON CURTAIN”

The image of the enemy as seen by the USA could be illustrated by one special edition of the journal „COLLIER'S: Preview of the War We Do Not Want“ from 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1951 devoted to the Cold War.<sup>38</sup> On 130 pages texts and illustrations the history of the future Third World War is related. The war was provoked in 1952 by the Soviet Union and headed by Stalin. The war was initiated by the satellites of the USSR – Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary who attacked Yugoslavia. The caricatures were done by the famous painter from the time of the Second World War Bill Moldin. The Third World War finished in 1955 with the disintegration of the Soviet Union and occupation of Moscow by UN forces.

*Colliers, 27th of October, 1951*



On the last place in the exhibition of the Cold War in caricatures we should mention the collection of the head of the NATO office in Moscow Robert Pshel. The collection includes more than hundred caricatures about NATO from the time of the Cold War when the Atlantic Pact was considered as a bloody beast. But according to Pshel central place in the collection is preserved for a poster presenting three swords with the flags of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and USA which tear off the chains from the hands of Europe. It is from the time when Russia and the West were united by a common goal – to defeat Nazism.

*„Europe will be free!”! “ Viktor Koretskii and K. Erinova, 1944<sup>39</sup>*



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<sup>1</sup> *Caricare means to exaggerate. The beginning of caricature is 16<sup>th</sup> century.*

<sup>2</sup> Калов, Мартин, Студената война - 60 г. по-късно [Cold War – 60 years later],

[http://frognews.bg/news\\_7528/Studenata\\_voina\\_-\\_60\\_g\\_po-kasno/](http://frognews.bg/news_7528/Studenata_voina_-_60_g_po-kasno/)

<sup>3</sup> Катерина Павлова ОБРАЗЪТ НА БАЙ ГАНЬО В КАРИКАТУРИТЕ ОТ БЪЛГАРСКИЯ ХУМОРИСТИЧНО-САТИРИЧЕН ПЕРИОДИЧЕН ПЕЧАТ (1895-1944) , [The image of Bay Ganyo in the satirist periodical press] електронно списание LiterNet, 29.12.2013, № 12 (169)

<http://litenet.bg/publish29/katerina-pavlova/karikaturi.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Source: Мичурин, Андрей, Железният занавес. Истоки Холодной войны [The iron curtain. Sources of the Cold War] <http://sheshbesh144.blogspot.ru/2014/08/blog-post.html>

<sup>5</sup> Source: Озимко, Кирилл, Роля карикатури в информационната война, [The role of caricature in the information war] <http://politru.com/society/rol-karikatury-v-805/> (17.12.2015 г.)

<sup>6</sup> Списание „Крокодил“ [Journal Crocodile], 20 февруари 1951

<sup>7</sup> Source: сп. Крокодил [Crocodile] <http://nuk18.livejournal.com/1102917.html>

<sup>8</sup> Source: сп. Крокодил [Crocodile] , <http://nuk18.livejournal.com/1102917.html>

<sup>9</sup> Source: Попов, Петър, Империализмът – смъртен враг на мира и дружбата между народите, [Imperialism – mortal enemy of the peace and friendship of the nations], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 2, 13

<sup>10</sup> Source: Конатев, Владимир Алексеевич, На всяка лъжа трябва да се сложи край, [Each lie should be brought to an end], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 5, с.30

<sup>11</sup> Source: Скитник, Константин, Съветските художници в борбата за мир [Soviet painters in fight for peace], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 4, с.20

<sup>12</sup> Source: Манев, Михаил, Титовската клика – враг на дружбата със Съветския съюз, [Tito's clique – an enemy of the friendship with the Soviet Union], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 7, 18-21

<sup>13</sup> Source: Кюркиев, Хр. Кой стои начело на Титофашистката армия? [Who is headed the Tito-fascist army?], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 8, с. 22-23

<sup>14</sup> Source: Кръстев, Стойне, Титовци – най-злостни врагове на социалистическата култура, [Tito's people – the most vicious enemies of the socialist culture], 1951, кн. 9, с.33

<sup>15</sup> Source: Скитник, Константин, Съветските художници в борбата за мир, [Soviet painters in fight for peace], Българо-съветска дружба, 1951, кн. 4, с.20-21

<sup>16</sup> Source: сп. Крокодил, [Crocodile], <http://nuk18.livejournal.com/1102917.html>

The famous image of USA as Uncle Sam was “modernized”.

<sup>17</sup> Source: сп. Крокодил [Crocodile], <http://nuk18.livejournal.com/1102917.html>

„Instigators of war”

<sup>18</sup> Source: Ефимов, Б. Поджигатели на война (Новая работа на художниците Кукрински), [War mongers (New work of the painters Kukrinski)], Искусство, 1951, кн.1, с.55-57

<sup>19</sup> Source: Калатозов, Михаил, Как се правят сценарии в Холивуд, Кино и фото, [How to do scriptwriting in Hollywood], 1951, кн.2, с.14

<sup>20</sup> Source: Арна, З, Филмовата маршализация на Турция, [Film Marshall-ization of Turkey]. Кино и фото, 1950, №8, 18

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- <sup>21</sup> Source: Браун, М. Студената война и американският филм (специална кореспонденция) [The Cold War and the American Film (special correspondence).], Кино и фото, 1950, №11, 14)
- <sup>22</sup> Source: Чечеткина, Олга, Под знака на упадък и разложението (Кинофестивалът във Венеция), [Under the sign of decadence and corruption (cinema festival in Venice), Кино и фото, 1951, кн. 13, с.14
- <sup>23</sup> Source: Сап, Евно, Киностудията „USA Mission“ в София – закрыта! (фейлетон), [“USA Mission” in Sofia –closed! (feuilleton)], Кино и фото, 1951, кн.6, с.13
- <sup>24</sup> Born on 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1878, died on 30<sup>th</sup> of September 1968.
- <sup>25</sup> Папакочев, Георги, ДС и карикатурите [State Security and Caricatures], <http://dw.com/p/1EHil> (9 януари 1915)
- <sup>26</sup> *Щурец [Cricket]*, бр.195 от 4 септ.1936 и бр. 219 от 19 февр. 1937 г.
- <sup>27</sup> Папакочев, Георги, ДС и карикатурите, [State Security and Caricatures] <http://dw.com/p/1EHil> (9 януари 1915)
- <sup>28</sup> Алексиев, Алекс, За две карикатури на Сталин комунисти главорези убиват интелектуалеца Райко Алексиев, [For two caricatures of Stalin the communist criminals killed the poet and intellectual Rayko Alexiev], Factor.bg, 18 ноември 2014, <http://www.faktor.bg/politika/na-vseki-kilometar/32507-za-dve-karikaturi-na-stalin-komunisti-glavorezi-ubivat-intelektualetza-rayko-aleksiev.html%7D>
- <sup>29</sup> Николов, К. Българската карикатура след 1944 г., [The Bulgarian caricature after 1944], <http://vivafolk98.blogspot.bg/2015/04/1944.html>
- <sup>30</sup> Николов, К. Българската карикатура след 1944 г. [Bulgarian caricature after 1944].
- <sup>31</sup> <http://www.24chasa.bg/Article.asp?ArticleId=4712430>
- <sup>32</sup> Source: Стойков, Атанас, Българска карикатура, Кратък очерк за нейния път и за творчеството на Ал. Божинов, Илия Бешков, Ал.Жендов, Б.Ангелушев и Ст.Венев [Bulgarian caricature, short features about the works of Al. Bozhinov, Iliya Beshkov, V. Angelushev, St. Venev], С., Български художник, 1970
- <sup>33</sup> Source: Стойков, Атанас, Българска карикатура, Кратък очерк за нейния път и за творчеството на Ал. Божинов, Илия Бешков, Ал.Жендов, Б.Ангелушев и Ст.Венев, [Bulgarian caricature, short features about the works of Al. Bozhinov, Iliya Beshkov, V. Angelushev, St. Venev], С., Български художник, 1970
- <sup>34</sup> Source: Стойков, Атанас, Българска карикатура, Кратък очерк за нейния път и за творчеството на Ал. Божинов, Илия Бешков, Ал.Жендов, Б.Ангелушев и Ст.Венев, [Bulgarian caricature, short features about the works of Al. Bozhinov, Iliya Beshkov, V. Angelushev, St. Venev], С., Български художник, 1970
- <sup>35</sup> Source: Стойков, Атанас, Българска карикатура, Кратък очерк за нейния път и за творчеството на Ал. Божинов, Илия Бешков, Ал.Жендов, Б.Ангелушев и Ст.Венев, [Bulgarian caricature, short features about the works of Al. Bozhinov, Iliya Beshkov, V. Angelushev, St. Venev], С., Български художник, 1970
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- <sup>38</sup> [http://www.conelrad.com/books/print.php?id=321\\_0\\_1\\_0](http://www.conelrad.com/books/print.php?id=321_0_1_0)
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