



Once on the same side of conflict, following their 1939 Non-Aggression Pact, Hitler and Stalin appeared to be allies (or, more appropriately, "strange bedfellows").

Soon, however, these two leaders would be at opposite ends of "The Great Patriotic War" (as WWII is known in Russia and in some former Soviet republics).

In this image, political cartoonist Clifford Barryman shows Hitler (wearing swastika-dominated pajamas) and Stalin (wearing hammer-and-sickle-dominated pajamas) sharing a moment of apparent agreement.

On closer inspection, however, Stalin's facial expressions—in this drawing—cause us to wonder if he wasn't bemused by the whole situation. If so, all of that ended when Hitler sent his forces to invade the Soviet city named after Stalin himself—a major metropolis, situated along the Volga River, known (at that time) as Stalingrad.

The drawing also points-out something else. At that time, in America, politicians of normally opposing views were coming together to support President Franklin Roosevelt and his efforts to prepare the country for war (in the event that it also impacted the United States).

Who was the creator of this perceptive political cartoon which was published in American newspapers? A prolific artist (who may have created as many as 15,000 political jibes) and a respected individual (whom President Truman considered to be akin to a Washington monument). Here is what [Paperless Archives](#) says about him:

*Clifford Kennedy Berryman (1869-1949), American artist and cartoonist, famous as the originator of the Teddy Bear, during Theodore Roosevelt's presidency.*

*In 1886, when he was 17 years old, Berryman moved from Kentucky to Washington, DC, to work at the U.S. Patent Office, where his talents as a self-taught illustrator were employed to draw patent illustrations. In 1891, he became a cartoonist's understudy for the Washington Post. By 1896, he was the chief cartoonist.*

*In 1907, Berryman took the position of front-page cartoonist at the Washington Evening Star. Berryman drew political cartoons for the Star until his death in 1949.*

*Berryman's most famous cartoon, "Drawing the Line in Mississippi," appeared in the November 16, 1902 edition of the Washington Post. The cartoon portrayed the image of a "teddy bear" for the first time, appearing next to President Theodore Roosevelt.*

*By some estimates, Berryman drew over 15,000 cartoons in his lifetime and his work was recognized in 1944 with a Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning. In 1949, President Harry Truman complimented Berryman saying, "You are a Washington institution comparable to the Monument."*

Click on the image for a better view.

Credits:

Clifford Kennedy Berryman's political cartoon, published on 24 September 1939. Online via [Paperless Archives](#).

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