

'War in Asia', from Die Welt (26 June 1950)

Caption: On 26 June 1950, the German daily newspaper Die Welt criticises the invasion of South Korea by North Korean Communist troops and expresses concern at the paralysis of the United Nations.

Source: Die Welt. Unabhängige Tageszeitung. Hrsg. Schulte, Heinrich ; Herausgeber Bourdin, Paul. 26.05.1950, Nr. 146; 5. Jg. Hamburg: Die Welt. "Krieg in Asien", p. 2.

Copyright: (c) Translation CVCE.EU by UNI.LU

All rights of reproduction, of public communication, of adaptation, of distribution or of dissemination via Internet, internal network or any other means are strictly reserved in all countries.
Consult the legal notice and the terms and conditions of use regarding this site.

URL: http://www.cvce.eu/obj/war_in_asia_from_die_welt_26_june_1950-en-a59af47d-8c72-4051-b3a6-ea71119539ee.html

Last updated: 04/07/2016



War in Asia

Wk — For anybody still unsure about what to think of the drivelling nonsense that Communists of all countries have been and are continuing to propagate under the heading of 'peace campaign', the events of the last hours must have been an eye-opener. Troops from the democratic people's regime of North Korea have crossed the border into South Korea in an armed invasion. War has broken out in Korea! The aggressor is Communist North Korea. All this is happening without North Korea having seriously attempted to resolve existing conflicts in a peaceful manner. The Communists want to seize power in all of Korea and are not afraid to resort to war in pursuit of that aim. That is what this action is about.

The thought that five years after the end of the Second World War a new war has started, albeit in the Far East, is a terrible one. But what is worse is the thought that this new war is sponsored by global powers and that this conflict could therefore spark a new world conflagration! Mercifully, things have not gone that far yet. There is no reason to panic. But there is also no sense in burying one's head in the sand.

The international preconditions were there for re-establishing a united Korea, encompassing both North and South.

To bring peace to the country after the withdrawal of the occupation forces, all that would have been needed was to create a country-wide government on the basis of free elections. Instead, North Korea has sent tanks and planes against Seoul. Shivers run down one's spine at the thought that the Far East may be offering the world a rehearsal of what could happen if in Germany the wishes of the Communists were met and the occupation troops were withdrawn here also, paving the way for the establishment of a unified Germany on the Communist model.

And there is something else here to be worried about. An armed conflict has broken out in Korea. But where is the authority that will not only send the aggressor packing but will also see that it gets punished? Because war of aggression is now a crime under international law. Where is the authority capable of first containing what is still a local blaze and then extinguishing it? This is the responsibility of the UN Security Council. According to its statutes, its remit is to free humanity of the scourge of war and let it be blessed with lasting peace. However, what can, and what will, the Security Council do to discharge this remit, when its decisions can be blocked at any time by a Soviet veto and when it is now practically paralysed by Moscow's abstentionist policy?