

EDITORIAL CARTOON ANALYSIS

	Sample Cartoon	Political Cartoon #1	Political Cartoon #2	Political Cartoon #3
What is the subject of this cartoon?	The US shifted from Europe to the Pacific (Japan) at the end of WWII.			
Who are the characters and what do they represent?	There is a rural man in a cowboy hat, an American ship called "The Mississippi", a Japanese civilian, and a Black soldier. These characters represent both soldiers and civilians in Japan during the war.			
What symbols are used and what do they represent?	There is a Dixie band representing the oppression that is seen in the US South. The white cowboy character has a rope and gun that could represent the racialized violence seen in the US. The Black soldier has a shovel that could represent how Black soldiers are exploited to meet wartime needs, not deemed fit for combat, and usually not given guns.			

What outside knowledge and facts do you know about the subject?	The US used the Atomic Bomb in Japan twice to force the Japanese to surrender. There were thousands of fatalities and casualties, the majority of whom were civilians (including women and children).			
What is the cartoonist's opinion about the topic?	The cartoonist suggests that Black soldiers and Japanese civilians have a lot in common. The cartoonist illustrates the hypocrisy of the US. While the war was supposedly a fight against fascism, the US harbors racism at home.			
Do you agree or disagree with the cartoonist's opinion? Why?	I disagree with the cartoonist's depiction of the US. It seems like an overgeneralization to stereotype all Americans as having the same beliefs as some people from the US south.			