

JAPAN PAYING WAY FOR FINAL SURRENDER; UNITY ASKED 'IF WORST COMES TO WORST'



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V-J DAY IMMINENT

Big 4 Agree To Allied-Handled Hirohito Regime

Final Victory Appears Near as Allied Acceptance Message Winds Way Through Diplomatic Channels

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—(AP)—The allies told quivering Japan today they would dictate orders to her emperor "from the moment of surrender" and tossed back to Tokyo the bitter decision on immediate peace or more war. But to Washington, London, Moscow and Chungking the hour of final victory appeared near in history's most horrible war.

The latest declaration of allied plans was transmitted through neutral Switzerland. Bern handed it over late today to Japan's minister in the Swiss capital, for relay to Tokyo. It was the answer to Japan's offer yesterday to surrender—provided she could keep her emperor and his sovereign prerogatives. Then at 6 p.m. (EWT) the White House sent its staff home and said "There will be no announcements tonight."

Tomorrow it may be a different story. Tomorrow may be V-J day.

Experts Say Japs to Quit

For most diplomatic experts held the opinion that Japan would realize that by battling hopelessly on she merely would postpone, at the cost of more destruction and slaughter, imposition of the same stern terms which now confront her.

The four great powers told the Japanese that a still unnamed allied supreme commander would control them through their emperor. They would hold any assurance that Hirohito or any successor could remain indefinitely on his throne.

The Japanese people eventually will decide for themselves, they said, whether there is to be an emperor at all.

The fate of the man the Nipponese consider a combination of god and emperor—and the question whether he or others can guarantee surrender compliance—were the only obstacles to peace. Otherwise both sides were willing to abide by surrender terms laid down in the proclamation of Potsdam. Under the declaration Japan would lose her stolen empire and shrink to peaceful existence in the home islands.

'Snap Up' Predicted

Now that Japan has made her bid to keep an emperor with all his powers, and failed, there were high expectations around the world that she would yield to the will of the allies. A diplomatic expert on far eastern affairs predicted here that the land of the setting sun would "snap up" the latest allied conditions.

From the Swiss legation here, where it was delivered by a state department official, the allied statement of intentions toward the emperor went by radio to Bern.

There the chief of the political department's foreign division called in Japanese Minister Shumishi Kas and handed it over at 3:25 p.m. (EWT).

'I'm in a Hurry'

Kase dashed from the parliament building to a waiting automobile, promising to transmit the document to Tokyo at once. He had no comment beyond this: "I'm in a hurry."

Radio Tokyo appeared to be preparing the Japanese people for surrender. Here in Washington, government authorities toiled on reconversion plans, and Senate Majority Leader Barkley said congress probably would cut short its vacation on September 4.

At his Georgia home, Senator Walter F. George disclosed he had talked with President Truman. The senator interpreted today's allied declaration as still meaning unconditional surrender.

It stated that "from the moment of surrender" the emperor will be subject to every dictate of a still unnamed supreme allied military commander.

Warlords Given Choice

The once bellicose but now cringing warlords of Japan thus had only a clear-cut choice between:

Agreeing to the condition that they must surrender and see their emperor become for the time being, at least, a puppet with an allied commander pulling the strings; or

Utter destruction not only of a fast-dwindling empire won by conquest but also in the teeming home islands themselves.

As if to give them a taste of what peace would be like, the Japanese got a temporary respite from the terror of Superforts, from the ravages of atomic bombs. Land fighting went on.

But it was clear the Pacific enemy had had enough. Japan decided yesterday to tell the big-four allies she would quit if she could keep Hirohito and his powers.

Fleet Bag Of Planes Hits 711

GUAM, Sunday, Aug. 12.—(AP)—Silent on any fleet action since Japan sued for peace Saturday, Admiral Nimitz announced today that additional reports disclosed U. S. and British carrier planes Thursday and Friday destroyed or damaged 711 enemy planes on northern Honshu.

The communice increased the previously announced bag by 188 planes.

Nimitz also reported the two-day toll of enemy vessels as 35

WITH U. S. THIRD FLEET OFF JAPAN, Sunday, Aug. 12

(AP)—Admiral Halsey declared today that there will be no cessation of hostilities by the Third fleet until Japan surrenders. Even then he added significantly, he thought his mighty armada would have "a pretty definite job in case of surrender."

sunk and 59 damaged. These included five destroyer escorts.

Allied losses, disclosed for the first time, were listed as seven American aircraft, with six pilots and aircrewmembers, and seven British planes, with five pilots.

Today's communice made these additions for Friday to the score for American planes:

Enemy planes—62 destroyed on the ground; 78 damaged.

Enemy ships—a destroyer, four cargo and four luggers sunk; a destroyer, 10 cargo vessels, two ferries and nine luggers damaged.

V-Plans for Oregon Told

Oregon will observe a legal holiday upon official confirmation of the termination of the war by Washington officials, Gov. Earl Sneed announced Saturday.

The governor's proclamation calls for closing of all public buildings, state stores and agencies and urges that all business activity be suspended wherever possible during the holiday period. He also suggested that churches be opened and special services arranged.

No disorder is anticipated, the governor said, although he recently held a meeting to Brig. Gen. R. F. Olson, acting adjutant general; Charles P. Pray, superintendent of state police, and George Neuner, attorney general, for consideration of any special plans that may be necessary.

Nagasaki Bomb Said to Render Hiroshima Bombing Obsolete

GUAM, Sunday, Aug. 12.—(AP) Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Farrell, commander of America's atomic bomb operations in the Pacific, declared yesterday that the A-bomb which struck the war-busting city of Nagasaki packed more punch than the first one dropped on Hiroshima.

Farrell said the second bomb not only was more potent, but made obsolete the No. 1 parcel of death, and was less difficult to construct.

And as the U.S. army strategic air forces announced that 30 per cent of Nagasaki had been destroyed in the mission of devastation Thursday, Maj. Charles W. Sweeney, pilot of the big Superfortress which carried out the attack, said:

"The turbulence from the blast at Nagasaki was greater than at Hiroshima."

Reconnaissance photographs showed that destruction at Hiroshima was greater, however. General Spaatz' strategic command said 60 per cent of Hiroshima was destroyed in the bombing last Monday.

Farrell did not elaborate on the increased potency of the bomb or its manufacture, size or weight nor on the comparative destruction handed the two cities.

Post-bombing pictures of Nagasaki showed a great crater where the bomb struck. No crater appeared in the Hiroshima photographs. The Japanese claimed both missiles were dropped by parachute and that the Hiroshima bomb exploded before it struck the ground.

Harbin Approach Falls to Soviets

LONDON, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Russian armored spearheads, in lightning 50-mile advances, burst across the great Khingan mountain range in western Manchuria today and broke into the river-cut valleys leading down to the Japanese war arsenal city of Harbin, Moscow announced.

The pile-driving Soviet smashes that have covered 155 miles in two days tore through natural Japanese defenses in western Manchuria in disregard of the exchange of peace notes between Japan and the allied nations.

Japs Report 70 Superforts Over Nippon

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 11.—(AP)—The American Broadcasting company tonight quoted the Japanese Domei agency as reporting almost 70 Superforts, fighter-escorted, attacked Matsumaya, on the north-west coast of Shikoku, at 10 a.m. Sunday, Tokyo time.

It was the first reported Superfort attack since Japan's peace offer became known Friday night—except for a mining operation that continued until the early morning hours Saturday.

Contract Let For National Battery Firm

Work on the National Battery company's projected West Salem plant will be started immediately by Ed R. Viesko, contractor, successful bidder for the factory reported to cost around \$80,000.

Fire Reaches Mop-Up Stage

The Polk county fire has reached the patrol mop-up basis, the state forester's office announced Saturday. No further trouble is expected in that area.

Eisenhower Arrives In Russian Capital

MOSCOW, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Gen. Eisenhower and Marshal Georgi Zhukov arrived in Moscow today by plane and were greeted by a guard of honor parading across the flag decorated airport.

Churches Slate United Service

Plans for a union thanksgiving service following receipt of information of the end of the war have been announced by the Salem Ministerial association. The service will be held at 8 p.m. at the First Methodist church and Rev. Mark Getzenander of the American Lutheran church will be the speaker.

Nylons by New Year's

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"Various rumors that the federal communications commission has recorded a Tokyo broadcast, or a Chungking broadcast questioning Tokyo, to the effect that Japan has rejected Allied surrender terms are without foundation. The FCC has recorded no such broadcast."

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'Lay That Pistol Down, Jap' Guam Hit Parade Tune

GUAM, Sunday, Aug. 12.—(AP)—The announcer on the Guam radio station for the armed service broke into a musical program today to announce the Allies' conditional acceptance of Japan's surrender offer.

"Lay That Pistol Down, Babe," blared the first selection.

Reconversion Prompts Recall Of Congress

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Congress will cut short its vacation and reconvene probably on September 4 to act on five major issues involved in a sudden change from war to peace.

The date was decided on today at a conference of President Truman and senate majority leader Barkley of Kentucky. House majority leader McCormack in Massachusetts, agreed by telephone.

Barkley told reporters at the White House these subjects are to be taken up:

1. A bill to provide a maximum of \$25 a week unemployment compensation up to 26 weeks on a nationwide basis, the federal government to supplement funds where states do not provide such a scale.

2. Removing the surplus war property disposal task from the present 3-man board to a single administration.
3. The so-called full employment bill designed to link management, labor and government into a vast effort to provide perhaps as many as 60,000,000 jobs in peacetime.

4. Decisions on what legislation might be needed to keep alive for a while those war agencies which still might have a job to do. This would contemplate perhaps the immediate abolition of those whose task could be considered ended.
5. Reorganization of the government set-up, merging a number of agencies within regular departments as setting up others as independent.

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Plans for a union thanksgiving service following receipt of information of the end of the war have been announced by the Salem Ministerial association. The service will be held at 8 p.m. at the First Methodist church and Rev. Mark Getzenander of the American Lutheran church will be the speaker.

The day when the service will be held depends upon the time the information is received, Rev. J. M. Goodheart, chairman in charge said. If the information is received before 11 o'clock this morning each church will transform its regular morning service into one of special thanksgiving and no union service will be held.

If the information is received at any time up to 6 p.m. Monday the service will be held at 8 o'clock Monday night. If after 6 p.m. Monday and before the same time Tuesday, then it will be held Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Nylons by New Year's

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Nylons by New Year's is the prediction of Roy E. Tilles, president of the Gotham Hosiery Co.

Nylon hosiery will be back on store shelves about four and a half months after the release of that material by the government, Tilles said.

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Gravest National Crisis Of Nippons

'Full Obedience' Called for; New Menaces Cited

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—(AP)—The Tokyo newspaper Asahi in an article in its Sunday, Aug. 12 edition called upon all Japanese "to do his or her part as his majesty's subjects in fullest obedience of the august wish of his majesty" and to maintain national unity "if worst comes to worst," the Domei agency reported tonight in a wireless dispatch recorded by the FCC.

The English-language dispatch, beamed to the United States, quoted Asahi's "top-column feature article" as saying that since the beginning of Japanese history "the Japanese nation has gone through many an ordeal and kept growing by courageously overcoming such ordeals."

"By faithfully obeying his majesty's august wish our people have always found a way out of such crises. Our ancestors have thus overcome many a national crisis and banded down to their posterity Japan as she is now with her spirit and blood."

At this point in the broadcast of the article, the FCC reported, the transmission was interrupted, "presumably because of technical difficulties."

The transmission was resumed a few minutes later with the following continuation of the quotation:

"The Soviet Union's abrupt declaration of war on Japan, coupled with the United States' resort to atomic bombs, entailing the most atrocious mass slaughter of civilians on a scale, unprecedented in human history, has greatly intensified the gravest national crisis. She stands at the cross road whether or not she is able to maintain her unique national policy and uphold the honor of the Japanese race."

The newspaper said that all Japanese must "face reality squarely with absolute calmness and with the greatest courage."

"Closest compliance with the august wish of his majesty, in complete disregard for one's own private selfish interest is the only source from which the nation can derive strength to live and revive, carrying on their undying national tradition," the article said.

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"Another report, to the effect that the Japanese war minister has called on Japanese forces to continue the fight, appears to be a garbled version of an appeal he issued to the troops yesterday three hours before Domei transmitted its surrender offer to the United States."

I walked through a store yesterday, and happened to notice some toy guns. Already they seemed obsolete.

That is a tiny sample of the effect of the peace news on people's thinking and interests. If the peace is settled, as now seems only a matter of hours, an immediate reorientation will take place. Not only will the toy guns and toy tanks and soldiers seem dated, and other ersatz merchandise, but the very language we have used for some four years will slip out of common usage. With a speed we can hardly appreciate the mind of the people will turn toward things of peace. No legislation is needed for such mental reconversion: It is automatic, and certain and rapid.

Already one feels a lightening of a burden. Particularly is this true of those with relatives in combat zones or headed in that direction. The weight so constantly on the heart begins to lift, and long restrained emotions begin to surge through one's being. That feeling comes even to those with no close relatives in areas of danger, a great feeling of relief and of gladness for those whose days of anxiety appear now to draw to an end.

In our own minds the war is over. We have a consciousness of victory and an assurance that Japan will complete the contemplated surrender. Once a foe lets down its guard to ask for terms its fighting strength oozes away. There seems little doubt but that Japan will accept the subordination of the emperor required in the Byrnes note. Not only does it permit his survival as symbol, but the alternative of national suicide is inescapable; and the very apex of the Japanese government shows that it will not condemn its country and people to annihilation.

That is why already we focus attention on V-J day plus . . . that is why the toy guns suddenly seem a bit odd. The vast war machine, so utterly absorbing of our energies and our thoughts, is grinding to a sudden halt. The human mind, insatiably curious, now turns to see what is ahead, around the corner of peace.

Navy Cutback Halts Building

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—(AP)—Lessening navy needs brought a halt today to the building of 85 ships costing \$1,200,000,000 and army officers told of plans to cut war purchases by an amount exceeding \$25,000,000,000 on a yearly basis.

Fifty-six combatant ships are included in the navy cutback, which war mobilizer John W. Snyder attributed to a review of what was required to whip Japan. There was no formal announcement of the army program but Snyder made it clear that the real V-J deluge of cutbacks was yet to come.

The combatant vessels include the 45,000-ton battleship Illinois at Philadelphia, the 27,100-ton carriers Reprisal at Newport News, Va., and 10 heavy cruisers.

The navy now is left with a construction program of about 160 combatant ships, including one battleship, three 45,000-ton carriers, six 27,100-ton carriers, 14,900-ton carriers, 10 escort carriers, 13 heavy cruisers, nine light cruisers, 76 destroyers and 30 submarines.



"A thousand pardons for stepping on your feet."