

IT'S V-DAY JAPS YIELD FOR END OF GREAT WAR

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ALLIED GUNS SILENT

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

Like the snapping of a tightly coiled spring emotions were released when the official announcement was made by President Truman at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon that Japan had agreed to surrender, and that orders were going out to suspend hostilities. At last the suspense was ended; the war was over. Tooting whistles and horns made the noise, but the deep stir in the hearts of men and women was the truest index of feeling. The war had ended in overwhelming victory; the dreaded cost of invasion of Japan was avoided; there was hope that the new organization of nations might prevent another outbreak of worldwide war.

While all the circumstances pointed to Japanese capitulation, the prolonged wait from their initial inquiry of last Friday until final transmission of willingness to accept the Potsdam terms had worn the nerves of the people. They became restless with Japan over the delay, and more belligerent. They were ready to shower Japan with atom bombs. Some were fearful of a Jap trick.

But it was no trick. Japan was through. The delay was merely due to oriental deliberation and ceremonial, made most painful by the fact that this was the first time in history that Japan had really been humbled as a nation. To see all the ambitions of over half (Continued on editorial page)

Bomb Reason For Surrender, Says Hirohito

By the Associated Press

The Japanese Domei news agency today broadcast over Tokyo radio a statement from Emperor Hirohito to the effect "the enemy had begun to employ a new and most cruel bomb and should the Japanese continue to fight, it would lead to the total extinction of human civilization."

Japanese Premier Kantaro Suzuki a short time later told the Japanese nation by radio that Japan's war "aim" had been lost by the enemy's use of the new-type bomb. He added that Japan faced a "difficult" future and said "the defense of national policy is our duty now." His broadcast was recorded by the FCC.

SHIPYARDS LOSE CONTRACTS

PORTLAND, Aug. 14—(AP)—The cancellation of contracts for 27 additional vessels at the Kaiser shipyards here and in Vancouver was announced today.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



Chicago Sun Herald

'Halt Fire' Ordered By Nimitz

Some Planes Out, Pilots Jettison Bombs in Pacific

GUAM, Wednesday, Aug. 15—(AP) Orders have been issued to the U. S. Pacific fleet and to other forces under command of the commander in chief of the U. S. Pacific fleet to cease offensive operations against the Japanese, Admiral Nimitz announced today.

The announcement was made in a very brief communique issued at 11 a. m.—exactly three hours after President Truman's announcement that Japan had accepted surrender terms.

Nimitz did not disclose at what time his order was issued to all fleet units and other forces under his command.

However, it was known that it had been radioed to Admiral Halsey's third fleet, off Honshu, almost immediately—barely in time to prevent carrier pilots from unloading hundreds of tons of bombs on the Tokyo area.

Reports direct from the fleet said "hundreds of carrier planes were but a few seconds from their targets" when their planes' radios told them of the truce.

"It looks like the war is over. Cease firing, but if you see any enemy planes in the air shoot them down in friendly fashion," Halsey himself radioed the fliers.

The pilots jettisoned their bombs into the waters off Honshu. Another dispatch, from Okinawa, said one of the war's biggest operations by the far east air forces was planned for today and it was possible that some fighter planes, already in the air, might not have been halted by radioed "cease fire" instructions.

Navy Cancels Huge Contracts

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14—(AP)—The navy announced tonight it is cancelling nearly \$5,000,000,000 in prime contracts.

This is in addition to a recently announced \$1,200,000,000 cut in the shipbuilding program.

The cancellations were ordered, the navy said, to bring production into line with requirements of the postwar navy, and to free men, materials and productive capacity for manufacture of civilian goods.

Pres. Truman Turns Loose Machinery of Reconversion

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14—(AP)—President Truman tonight turned the whole machinery of government loose to try to carry the nation swiftly—and smoothly—into the broad path of peace.

The magnitude of the job ahead—getting industry back on a peacetime basis and getting people into jobs—was vividly revealed by the president when he declared shortly after announcing the Japanese surrender:

"The emergency is as great as it was on Dec. 7, 1941."

Promptly he disclosed these two prime points:

1. The draft is finished for men 35 years of age or over. Only those under 26 will be taken henceforth. The president did not disclose how long he thought the draft itself would continue before congress stopped it.

2. Between 5 and 5½ million men now in uniform will be turned back into the civilian world within

Salem Lets Loose

He'll Rule the Japs



General MacArthur, who vowed he would move "On to Tokyo" as he stood on the shores of the reconquered Philippines was given a commission to do just that with his appointment as Allied Supreme Commander over Nippon.

More Than 400 Valley Men Pay Supreme Price

The loss of more than 400 men within a radius of 25 to 25 miles of Salem tempered the joy of V-day in many a home today. The casualty list more than doubled within the last few months.

Of those who gave their lives, approximately 65 per cent were army casualties, 19 per cent in the navy, 15 per cent in the marines, 1 per cent in the merchant marine.

Casualties in the Pacific war made up 44 per cent; European war 36 per cent; American theatre 15 per cent; unknown theatre 5 per cent.

(A roster of the honored dead is on page 7).

Weather

San Francisco	82	83	Trace
Eugene	85	48	90
Portland	75	55	90
Seattle	78	55	90
Willamette river	33	ft.	

Forecast from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem:
Early morning cloudiness, clearing about noon, with maximum of 83 degrees.

U.S. Accepts In Allies' Name

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14—(AP)—Britain, Russia and China today agreed with the United States to accept Japan's surrender—without ever seeing it.

The agreement was worked out verbally by Secretary of State Byrnes in a worldwide telephone call which he made from the Pentagon building late this afternoon. He talked with officials in London, Moscow and Chungking, told them of a report on the enemy message which he had received by telephone from American Minister Leland Harrison in Bern, Switzerland.

He assured them that he considered the note a complete acceptance of the Potsdam ultimatum for unconditional surrender, and they agreed.

Petaim Draws Death Sentence With Clemency

PARIS, Wednesday, Aug. 15—(AP)—Marshal Henri Philippe Petaim was convicted and sentenced to death early today by three judges and a 24-man jury who deliberated almost seven hours.

The high court of justice added it "hoped the sentence would not be executed."

(This recommendation for clemency presumably will be considered by Gen. DeGaulle, president of the French provisional government.)

Besides condemning the 89-year-old former chief of the Vichy state to death for "plotting against the internal safety of France," the court also sentenced him to national indignity and ordered confiscation of all his property.

The lengthy judgment, read by Judge Mongibeaux, president of the court, went over the acts of collaboration of the Vichy government with Germany point by point and laid their responsibility at Petaim's feet. Mongibeaux said the marshal instituted "a veritable regime of terror" in France.

Gratitude, Joy, Get Full Rein

Energies harnessed for years to wartime pursuits, released Tuesday afternoon, sent conservative Salem shrieking, hornblowing, gunshooting, singing and praying into a celebration which now promises to continue throughout the day.

President Truman's proclamation of two days' holiday (Wednesday and Thursday) for federal employees was followed a few minutes later by a similar proclamation for state employees from Gov. Earl Snell. On down the line, heads of governmental units followed suit.

Many Offices Closed

County Judge Grant Murphy announced that the courthouse offices, with the exception of those occupied by the law enforcement division of the sheriff's department, would not reopen until Friday morning. Mayor I. M. Dougherty declared that city employees, with the exception of firemen and police officers or emergency sewer and street workers, would likewise have the two days free.

Salem retail stores, which Tuesday closed seconds after the president's announcement of the Japanese unconditional surrender, will remain closed today but be open Thursday morning "in justice to vital industries and our servicemen," it was announced.

Both banks here will be closed today and Thursday, under the legal holidays proclamation.

Postmaster Albert C. Gragg late tonight awaited formal proclamation from the postmaster general. Without that notification, he said, the postoffice would be closed today and no city deliveries would be made, but the rural mail would go through.

For some public employees the war is not over. Fire fighting crews of the state and federal force, the state group including some 400 high school boys, will remain on fire fronts. State and city police and sheriff's men are doing double duty as the celebration advances.

Closing of liquor stores and taverns apparently did little to dampen the enthusiasm of celebrants.

The celebration early today gave no indication of being anything other than spontaneous and informal. State guardsmen, leaders of parades since their organization early in 1942, and Legionnaires, who haven't missed one since Nov. 18, 1918, said they had no plans for either parade or speeches—but wouldn't be surprised whatever happened.

Scheduled activities were crossed off the calendar. No Rotary club luncheon is to be held this noon. The War Chest board session which was to have been held at 4:30 Tuesday is now tentatively scheduled for 4:30 Friday. School directors probably will meet Thursday instead of today.

Playgrounds Closed

One major industry in Salem will work overtime today. Canneries, particularly those handling beans, will observe the day of victory by working to save the produce of the valley's fields, and an urgent call for assistance from persons released from regular work was issued by Egbert E. Oliver, coordinator for the Salem cannery committee.

Other valley towns greeted V-day with the same joy and dedication that marked Salem.

MILLIONS TO GET BALLOTS

SEATTLE, Aug. 14—(AP)—Forty thousand ballots will be mailed out to members of the AFL-Lumber & Sawmill workers union in Washington state and Oregon for the Smith-Connally strike election vote August 29 and Sept. 1, regional labor board director Thomas P. Graham Jr., announced today.

Heavy Cruiser Sunk by Japs; Death Toll 883

PELELIU, Palau Islands, Aug. 5—(Delayed)—The 10,000 ton cruiser Indianapolis was sunk in less than 15 minutes, presumably by a Japanese submarine, 12 minutes past midnight July 30—and 883 crew members lost their lives in one of the navy's worst disasters.

She went down in the Philippine sea, within 450 miles of Leyte while on an unescorted high speed run from San Francisco.

She had completed the trip to Guam and was bound for the Philippines.

There were 315 survivors.

(The navy in Washington, first to announce the tragedy, said there were "100 per cent casualties" and gave a version at variance with Landsberg's corroborated story. The navy in Washington listed five navy dead, including one officer; 845 navy missing, including 83 officers; 307 navy wounded, including 15 officers; 30 marine corps missing, including two officers; and 48 enlisted marine corps wounded.)

The fatal torpedo attack came without a second's warning. Two explosions flashed out of her bow. She quivered while flames streaked like a white, searing torch down passageways all through her slim hull.

In less than 15 minutes the Indianapolis was gone; 10,000 tons of "proud and happy" ship plunged headfirst into the sea.

MacArthur to Head Allied Government; Holidays Declared

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14—(AP)—The second world war, history's greatest flood of death and destruction, ended tonight with Japan's unconditional surrender.

Formalities still remained—the official signing of surrender terms and a proclamation of V-J day.

But from the moment President Truman announced at 7 p. m., Eastern war time, that the enemy of the Pacific had agreed to allied terms, the world put aside for a time woe-filled thoughts of the cost in dead and dollars and celebrated in wild frenzy. Formalities meant nothing to people freed at last of war.

To reporters crammed into his office, shoving now-useless war maps against a marble mantel, the president disclosed that:

Japan, without ever being invaded, had accepted completely and without reservation an allied declaration of Potsdam dictating unconditional surrender.

General Douglas MacArthur had been designated supreme allied commander, the man to receive surrender.

There is to be no power for the Japanese emperor—although allies will let him remain their tool. No longer will the warlords reign, through him, Hirohito—or any successor—will take orders from MacArthur.

Allied forces were ordered to "suspend offensive action" everywhere.

MacArthur Notified

"I thank a merciful God that this mighty struggle is about to end," General MacArthur commented this morning after receiving official notification of the Japanese capitulation and of his appointment as supreme allied commander of occupation forces.

"I shall at once take steps to stop hostilities and further bloodshed."

Text of a White House statement on the designation of Wednesday and Thursday as legal holidays:

President Truman today amended executive order 9240 to declare August 15 and 16, 1945, legal holidays for premium pay purposes under the order. He said it was necessary to do this in order to permit essential work to be performed on those days.

Draft Call Cut

From now on, only men under 26 will be drafted. Army draft calls will be cut from 80,000 a month to 50,000. Mr. Truman forecast that five to five and a half million soldiers may be released within 12 to 18 months.

The surrender announcement set in motion a whole chain of events. Among them:

To a Japanese government which once had boasted it would dictate peace terms in the White House, Mr. Truman dispatched orders to "direct prompt cessation of hostilities," tell MacArthur of the effective date and hour, and send emissaries to the general to arrange formal surrender.

The war manpower commission terminated all manpower controls.

OWI End Near

Director Elmer Davis declared the life of the office of war information "soon will be over."

A war production board official predicted that agency would go out of business once industry is on a solid peacetime basis.

War labor board chairman George W. Taylor predicted there would be no epidemic of strikes.

Those were developments which on any other night would have commanded smash headlines. Those developments and surrender capped a week packed with some of history's most stunning news.

So tonight there was reason for rejoicing. A war-racked world made the most of it. Three times President Truman had to come out on the White House porch to greet tremendous crowds—75,000 people by official estimate—who jammed the streets and parks around the executive mansion.

They jammed so tightly against the iron fence around the White House grounds it looked as if they were coming right on through, despite military police stationed at four foot intervals.

The chief executive spent half an hour dining with his staff. For him there was no personal celebrating, even with close friends.

Grain of Salt Noted

For days, the national capital had taken surrender reports with complete calm and a generous portion of salt. At 7 p. m., not a minute before or a minute earlier, it gave way to utter abandon.

But across the potomac in the Pentagon building, nerve center of the army's winning war, there wasn't any jubilation. There was no one left except a couple of bored public relations officers answering phones.

As the great news became known, hundreds of Washingtonians raced to the White House to join hundreds already massed around the grounds.

Mr. Truman, accompanied by his wife, walked out on the porch and stepped up to a hastily erected microphone. He waved and smiled. Then he spoke:

'This Is the Day'

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is the great day. This is the day we have been looking for since December 7, 1941.

"This is the day when fascism and police government ceases in the world.

"This is the day for the democracies.

"This is the day when we can start on our real task of implementation of free government in the world.

"We are faced with the greatest task we ever have been faced with. The emergency is as great as it was on December 7, 1941.

"It is going to take the help of all of us to do it. I know we are going to do it."

Once the Japanese sphere had stretched from Attu to Timor and Java and India. Once Japan kept half a billion people enslaved under iron rule, and threatened to snuff another half billion.

Now she is defeated—without invasion—but at a terrific cost.

War Toll High

For the United States, the price of victory in world war II was more than a million casualties, an expenditure of some \$300,000,000,000.

The world counted its killed or wounded at perhaps 23,000,000, plus millions more slaughtered in air raids or dead of starvation.

Even while Japan's surrender note was on the way to Washington, the crash of bombs and clash of arms sounded on all Pacific fronts, signalling death almost at the moment of peace to enemies and allies alike.

But for the moment the world forgot the horrors of conflict which had its seeds in Japan's beg of Manchuria in 1931.