

TRUMAN WILL SUPPORT ARMED FORCES MERGER

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (AP)—President Truman threw his support today to a renewed drive for merger of the armed forces.

As the Pearl Harbor report sparked a new unification drive in congress, the president told his news conference:

He always has favored unity of command for the army and navy. He said he did not want to amplify his views now. Congressional supporters of the movement termed the Pearl Harbor report "convincing evidence" that a lack of coordination existed between the army and navy when the Japanese attacked.

Cooperation Situation
They said the situation would not have existed had the army and navy been working together under one head both in Hawaii and Washington.

Likewise, they added, a recurrence can be prevented only by creation of a national department of defense.

Merger advocates said they had planned a campaign this fall but had not hoped to have "such strong ammunition."

Now, they asserted, they will press for early action by the house postwar military policy committee, which conducted hearings last winter but made no recommendations.

Typical Comment
Typical of the comment was that of Rep. Sikes (D-Fla.), a veteran of both World wars and a member of the house military committee.

"The revelations in the (Pearl Harbor) report are clinching arguments in favor of complete consolidation of the army and navy," Sikes told a reporter.

"I am convinced we did not have enough cooperation between the two services and that the only way to get it is through a department of national defense."

Democrats and republicans joined in the move.

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General Sidney Hines (right) of the second armored division stands beside his jeep holding a deer he bagged during hunting amid the ruins of Hermann Goering's hunting lodge, "Karin Hall," outside Berlin. Col. Demain Koncherov of the Russian army of the Berlin district accompanies him. Photo by B. I. Sanders, AP staff photographer. (AP wirephoto).

Arriving Veterans Send 'Homeward Bound' Wires

Nearly half of the 200,000 or more veterans arriving from overseas each month are sending Homeward Bound telegrams immediately to the home folks, E. P. Livingston, local manager of the Western Union Telegraph company, announced last night.

On some ships more than two-thirds of the men send Homeward Bound wires. These are prepared before the ship docks and are about the first thing to come off a troopship. By the time the last soldier has debarked from the vessel, Johnny's message is already flashing across the wires to his loved ones.

Fixed-text telegrams approved by the army and navy are provided to returning overseas veterans. They include such phrases as "Back in the States. Feeling fine. Furlough soon," or "being discharged here. Will be home soon. Round up the gang to celebrate."

Veterans who face a period of hospitalization give the news to their families in messages such as "Passing through here. Will write from next hospital. Feeling fine. Love."

As soon as the men reach their army redistribution point, many more telegrams are sent. At Camp Shanks, a typical New York port of embarkation camp, the top volume is around 30,000 a day. Many of these self-composed telegrams sparkle with true GI originality: "Just shook hands with the Statue of Liberty! See you in a few days."

The dynamic spirit and ever-ready sense of humor of the men is reflected in communications like these: "Established a beachhead at New York today. Objective: home soon." "Hi, darling! Hide the milkman, I'll be home PDQ. Love." "Sunday, Monday

BIG FIVE MAY HEAR CASES OF NAZI ALLIES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (AP)—Countries formerly allied with Nazi Germany may get a chance to plead their own cases before the Big Five foreign ministers in London next month.

Similarly, it was learned today, nations involved in territorial disputes may be summoned to present their views when the council convenes for the first time September 10. The

council is a creation of the recent Potsdam Big Three conference.

To Hear Menaces

Secretary of State Byrnes is expected to propose full hearings in order to bring out all facts related to any controversial matters he fears might menace the peace of Europe.

Byrnes also is understood to have several other suggestions designed to speed up the work of the council. It has been assigned the task of drawing up proposed peace treaties for Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland, in addition to recommending solutions for the territorial disputes.

Expert Committee

One proposal Byrnes may make would establish committees of experts to deal with the major specialized problems. For example, a committee of experts on Italy could be created to draw up a report on proposed terms of the allied-Italian peace treaty.

When the report on Italy was ready, the foreign ministers themselves would consider it, then give Italian government officials an opportunity to present their views.

Other Questions
Then, the council itself finally would formulate a finished proposal for presentation to the United Nations.

Similar groups would deliberate other treaties and such territorial questions as Trieste, Aosta, and the Greek-Yugoslav boundary.

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