

GERMAN SURRENDER ENDS WAR IN EUROPE

'Big Three' Proclamation Expected Shortly; Britain To Observe V-E Day Tomorrow

By EDWARD KENNEDY

REIMS, France—(AP)—Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Western Allies and Russia at 2:41 A. M. French time today.

(This was at 8:41 P. M. Eastern War Time Sunday.)

The surrender took place at a little red school house which is the headquarters of Gen. Eisenhower.

The surrender which brought the war in Europe to a formal end after five years, eight months and six days of bloodshed and destruction was signed for Germany by Col. Gen. Gustav Jodl.

Jodl is the new chief of staff of the German Army.

It was signed for the Supreme Allied Command by Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith, chief of staff for General Eisenhower.

It was also signed by General Ivan Susloparoff for Russia and by General Francois Sevez for France.

General Eisenhower was not present at the signing, but immediately afterward Jodl and his fellow delegate, General Admiral Hans Georg Friedeburg, were received by the Supreme Commander.

They were asked sternly if they understood the surrender terms imposed upon Germany and if they would be carried out by Germany.

They answered yes.

Germany, which began the war with a ruthless attack upon Poland followed by successive aggressions and brutality in internment camps, surrendered with an appeal to the victors for mercy toward the German people and armed forces.

After signing the full surrender, Jodl said he wanted to speak and was given leave to do so.

"With this signature," he said in soft-spoken German, "the German people and armed forces are for better or worse delivered into the victors' hands."

"In this war which has lasted more than five years both have achieved and suffered more than perhaps any other people in the world."

History's Greatest War Brought To Conclusion

LONDON — (AP) — The war against Germany, the greatest in history, ended today with the unconditional surrender of the once mighty Wehrmacht.

The surrender to the Western Allies and Russia was made at Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters at Reims, France, by the German High Command.

The British Government announced that tomorrow will be celebrated as V-E Day. Prime Minister Churchill will broadcast at 9 A. M. (EWT) and King George VI at 3 P. M. (EWT).

The text of the British announcement: "It is understood that in accordance with arrangements

between the three great powers, an official announcement will be broadcast by the Prime Minister at 7 o'clock tomorrow afternoon the eighth of May, (9 A. M., EWT).

"In view of this fact tomorrow, Tuesday, will be treated as Victory-in-Europe Day and will be regarded as a public holiday.

"The day following, Wednesday the ninth of May, will also be a holiday.

"H.M. the King will broadcast to the peoples of the British Empire and Commonwealth tomorrow Tuesday at 9 P. M. DBST (3 P. M. EWT).

"Parliament will meet at the usual time tomorrow."

In Washington microphones were made ready for a broadcast by President Truman. Prime Minister Churchill, after a busy day at 10 Downing St., went to see King George.

The British Press Association attributed "the surprising delay in announcing V-E Day, in spite of the complete capitulation by the Germans," to the importance "attached to synchronizing the news in London, Washington and Moscow."

There were telephone calls all day between London, Washington and Moscow. The British Press Association said there apparently were differing views on when the public should be informed, "but finally tomorrow was decided upon."

Press Association said Gen. Eisenhower and Field Marshals Montgomery and Alexander were expected to speak tomorrow after the addresses by Churchill and King George.

BELLS TOLL

News of the surrender came in an Associated Press dispatch from Reims, at 9:35 A. M. Eastern War Time, and immediately set the church bells tolling in Rome and elsewhere.

In the hour before the news from Reims, German broadcast told the German people that Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz had ordered capitulation of all fighting forces, and called off U-boat warfare.

Joy at the news was tempered only by the realization that the war against Japan remains to be resolved, with many casualties still ahead.

The end of the European warfare, greatest, bloodiest

and costliest war in human history—it has claimed at least 40,000,000 casualties on both sides in killed, wounded, and captured—came after five years, eight months, and six days of strife that overspread the globe.

Hitler's arrogant armies invaded Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, beginning the agony that convulsed the world for 2,076 days.

Unconditional surrender of the beaten remnants of his legions first was announced by the Germans.

The historic news began breaking with a Danish broadcast that Norway had been surrendered unconditionally by its conquerors.

Then the new German Foreign Minister, Ludwig Schwerin Von Krosigk, announced to the German people, See HISTORY'S on Page 1

Truman Is Waiting On Churchill And Stalin

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Truman said today he had agreed with the London and Moscow Governments that he would make no announcement on the surrender of enemy forces "until a simultaneous announcement can be made by the three Governments."

Until a simultaneous statement can be made, he declared, "there is nothing I can or will say to you."

The President's statement, released by Press Secretary Jonathan Daniels, was addressed to the press and radio.

When Daniels was asked about British announcements that tomorrow will be observed as V-E Day, he said that he had nothing to add to the President's statement.

This was the text of the President's statement:

"I have agreed with the London and Moscow Governments that I will make no announcement with reference to surrender of the enemy forces in Europe or elsewhere until a simultaneous statement can be made by the three Governments. Until then there is nothing I can or will say to you."

Broadcasting equipment was readied for use in the White House diplomatic room, usual site of Presidential addresses.

The President apparently had lunch at his desk. It was a departure from custom for Mr. Truman, who has been taking a brisk walk to his temporary residence at Blair House for his midday meal.

On Capitol Hill radio receiving equipment was set up in the House of Representatives so that the members could remain in their seats to hear the historic V-E declaration of the President.

House Democratic Leader McCormack asked and received unanimous consent for the Speaker to declare the House in recess at any time, to hear the proclamation.

McCormack told the body "nothing definite can be said," but indicated he personally expected that the proclamation may be made sometime during the afternoon.

McCormack told the members that after the President's message is heard the House will resume its work.

"It is my feeling, and I hope the House agrees, that we should confine with the business at hand and set a good example for the rest of the country," McCormack declared.

"I agree fully with the gentleman," Minority Leader Martin, Republican, Massachusetts, responded.

President Truman was conferring with aides in the executive office today as news was flashed to the world from Reims of the unconditional surrender of German arms.

Newsmen surged into the White House in anticipation of an expected V-E announcement.

OWI Director Elmer Davis was among those at the White House. He told reporters:

"When there is any official announcement it will come from in there." (Indicating the President's office.)

Mr. Truman arrived at his office at 8:27 A. M. (EWT), accompanied by his military and naval aides, and went directly to his office.

Newsmen who have been staffing the White House See TRUMAN WAITING on page 8

Germans Told That Armies Have Given Up

LONDON—(AP)—A Reich Government broadcast this morning told the beaten Germans their armies had surrendered, well ahead of reports from the Allied side, and called for a new Germany of "unity, justice and liberty" which would seek conciliation and abide by international law.

The grim announcement was made by Adm. Doenitz, Foreign Minister, Count Ludwig Schwerin Von Krosigk, speaking "as the leading Minister of the Reich" over the wavelength used for the last German communiques, that of the Plesburg radio in British-occupied Schleswig-Holstein.

"We end this gravest hour of the German nation and its Reich," it said. "ATMOSPHERE OF HATRED"

Germans were urged to "stand loyally by the obligations we have undertaken." They were told that an "atmosphere of hatred" surrounds Germany.

Among the minister's concluding words were:

"In our nation justice shall be the supreme law and the guiding principle. We also must recognize law as the basis of all relations between the nations—we must recognize it and respect it from inner conviction.

"Respect for concluded treaties will be as sacred as the aim of our nation to belong to the European family of nations, as a member of which we want to mobilize all human, moral and material forces in order to heal the dreadful wounds which the war has caused."

It was noteworthy that Krosigk did not imply the Germans would have to heal the wounds of Germany alone. He continued:

"Then we may hope that the atmosphere of hatred which today surrounds Germany all over the world will give place to a spirit of reconciliation among the nations, without which the world cannot recover."

ASKS-GOD'S BLESSING

Krosigk ended by asking that Germany link herself to the efforts "of the Christian Western civilization to make to the honest work of peace a contribution which shall be worthy of the best traditions of our nation. May God not leave us in our efforts. May he bless our difficult task."

The text of the broadcast:

"German men and women! The High Command of the armed forces has today at the order of Grand Admiral Doenitz declared the unconditional surrender of all fighting German troops.

"As the leading Minister of the Reich Government which the Admiral of the Fleet (Doenitz) has appointed for the winding up of all military tasks I turn at this tragic moment of our history to the German nation.

"After a heroic fight of almost six years of us. See GERMAN'S TOLD on Page 8

AP Scores Greatest Scoop In All History

The Associated Press apparently scored the greatest news "scoop" of history today.

The first Associated Press flash from Edward Kennedy arrived in The News office at 8:28 A. M. and was followed immediately by the additional details of the surrender. The first edition of The News, due on the streets at 10 A. M., was made over to carry the great story, but still did not reach a few minutes after 10.

The press ran almost constantly for hours as news-hungry readers bought papers wildly. The press was stopped only for making over the front page to keep the editions up to date.

The United Press and the International News Service still were not carrying the details of Kennedy's surrender story at 2:30 P. M. this afternoon, making it a smashing exclusive account. The other services reported the British Ministry of Information announcement that a V-E Day would be observed tomorrow, and were carrying accounts of celebrations in various cities.

The Associated Press' account of the signing of the surrender terms, however, was not quoted by these services, but only by the Associated Press.

WEATHER Increasingly... Tuesday, cloudy with... Temperatures at 100... High & Low... Sun... Moon...