

# Kennedy Sticks By Guns Amid Critical Storm Regarding Nazi Surrender Story

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Edward Kennedy, whose Berlin dispatch to the Associated Press Monday gave the first eye-witness account of the German surrender, made today his first direct statement concerning the story and de-

## N. Y. Times Viewpoint

# Nazi Surrender Story Mixup Blamed On Official Bungling

(The following dispatch by Raymond Daniel of The New York Times was made available to the Associated Press by the Times because of widespread interest in the controversy over the new policies of Supreme Headquarters, American Expeditionary Force in Germany, published the article today under the heading, "Fiasco by SHAEF at Reims is Bared.")

PARIS, May 8.—The dawn of peace in Europe was marred by press relations officers in a state of open war with newspaper correspondents. For the first time since which the last big story of this war was covered for the American people under the direction of Brig. Gen. Frank Allen can only be described as one of the greatest fiascos yet in the long history of blundering bureaucracy.

And so, while mobs outside the Hotel Scribe, which is SHAEF headquarters, shouted themselves hoarse in the streets, correspondents were losing their voices from angry meetings with their superiors. General Allen into limbo and squabbling among themselves over what punishment should be meted out to those among them who had violated the rules and regulations prescribed for their behavior by the Army.

**MANY PROTESTS**  
Resolutions of protest were a dime a dozen in the lobby all day yesterday and today and correspondents were being lifted and restored at such a pace that when one newspaper man next another instead of commenting on the war, they were more likely to ask: "Are you still arrested?"

The Associated Press was very much in the doghouse for applying the beams prematurely in the violation of censorship and the most solemn agreements. For most of the day its whole staff was suspended and forbidden to attend any briefings or to send even messages to the New York office explaining this sudden and uncustomed silence.

The AP correspondents were re-arrested, however, before the official announcement that the war was over—all of them that is, except Edward Kennedy, the chief press manager, who made no bones about the fact that it was he who evolved the method which Army Intelligence is still investigating for beating the gun on the surrender story.

The Associated Press staff was not alone in the doghouse. There were other correspondents in the line for having violated Berlin and writing about what they saw in the Russian zone of occupation. The AP official SHAEF chaparran. The correspondents themselves were building their own case to house only General Allen, who so arranged things that out of fifteen places for correspondents, only the signing of the surrender, only three went to American newspaper agencies, and not one individual newspaper was represented. Although space was found for four American broadcasters.

As the aftermath of that, the correspondents held an indignation meeting this morning at the Scribe and Charlie Weisbacher of the New York Times, declaring that reporters at SHAEF no longer had the slightest degree of confidence in the public relations division of SHAEF or in its director, General Allen. However, action on this resolution finally was deferred.

**ALLEN'S DEFENSE**  
General Allen defended himself on the ground that the American press committee had approved the list of correspondents who were admitted to the room where the surrender took place. There were two things wrong about that, however. The first was that the American correspondents upon whom the list had been imposed by the Army last December had made reservations in writing.

And another was that the plan that was used for the surrender story had been drawn up originally for an entry into Berlin which was quite a different matter, because that was a story that could be covered in phases. In other words, if only a few correspondents could have been landed in Berlin the first day, others could have been sent in on a second day.

The correspondents never liked the Army's plan, but they accepted it with reservations. What made them especially angry, however, was the fact that when the time came for surrender, it was the Army's plan for coverage in Berlin that was adopted instead of an order of precedence drawn up at Dieppe by the newspaper representatives and followed ever since until last Sunday night by the Army whose space was limited.

And so, at Reims last Sunday night, when the Germans signed on the dotted line, the only American newspaper witnesses present were representatives of International News Service, the United Press and the Associated Press except for Price Day of the Baltimore Sun, who won his place by the flip of a coin with the British Exchange Telegraph.

Cooper, executive director of the AP, said this was "true to admit that SHAEF regulations and breach of confidence."

**STAFF STATEMENT**  
Kennedy distributed his statement to newspapers accredited to SHAEF and the Paris press. It was the only statement he presented for himself, but he presented his case. Previous efforts of the AP, SHAEF and the Associated Press to his Paris Bureau and also to Gen. Eisenhower, had failed to obtain a statement from Kennedy, who, under the suspension, was not permitted to communicate directly with his home office.

His statement said: "I am the representative of the Associated Press Government in the agreement of unconditional surrender."  
"I was informed by a representative of SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters) public relations staff, although no issue of military security was involved, SHAEF public relations intended to suppress this news from the public until a later time."

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**OTHER VERSION**  
As for the ethics of what has happened, there is the testimony of Boyd Lewis of the United Press, a competing organization, it is true, but whose story is confirmed by other sources in the official party to the release time that had been agreed upon not only put a premium on disclosure but also put a brake upon free coverage of historic events in the Europe of the future.

Another version of SHAEF public relations that I could not see this view, since I had been conceded that no military security was involved and that I intended to send this story. "I sent the story," said Gen. Frank A. Allen, Jr., director of Supreme Headquarters' public relations division, declines to comment on Kennedy's statement.

A telegram from Reims from Cooper conveyed this message from Kennedy: "The story is completely incorrect to say that he has admitted any breach of confidence. He says he did what he considered was his duty and is still of that opinion."

**OTHER MEN SUSPENDED**  
Supreme Headquarters in Paris announced that two other AP men besides Kennedy had been suspended. It said: "War Correspondents Edward Kennedy, Morton Gudeborn and Robert Bunnell of the Associated Press have been suspended pending an investigation of alleged violations of SHAEF regulations."

The bulk of the correspondents at SHAEF signed the letter to Gen. Eisenhower, declaring that in their opinion the Associated Press had behaved very badly but that they only people whose freedom to report the news had been infringed were those who kept their word and followed the rules.

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When the allegation was criticized, Capt. Harry Butcher, Gen. Eisenhower's sea-going aide who used to be an executive of the Columbia Broadcasting System, said he had no intention of releasing decisions on the matter.

Then, when Lt. Gen. Frederick E. Morgan came along and found the press representative standing on the sidewalk, he said it was a "fact to know what was going on" that that something was done.

The British general was a man of few words. He said that the AP's came out of the adobe house where the surrender was signed and he said that he had seen the correspondents to get into the room. Morgan went to Gen. Allen and said it was disgraceful to keep the cream of British and American journalists outside, and Gen. Allen interpreted that to mean that he wanted them chased away instead of admitted to the proceedings.

And that's not all. The five who were arrested and permitted to hold their visit on the sidewalk were five, including this correspondent who, Gen. Allen named arbitrarily as those with whom he would treat on the question of coverage.

But this committee never did see the chief of the SHAEF press section until it was all over and then he apologized, saying there was nothing "personal" about the suspension. Then he admitted that his governing thought on coverage was to restrict the number of correspondents present to a minimum.

**OTHERS PRESENT**  
The five who were in the room where the surrender occurred, he said, but he conceded that even though he had seen the five, he did not know what was going on. He said that he was willing to risk SHAEF disciplinary action if he was first to tell them.

And so tonight he is discredited and the Army's press section before the release time is being held up here, although it has been sent in every language, including the Scandinavian, already.

Meanwhile, there is a split in the public relations staff. Kennedy says he never plans to keep his mouth shut until it was opened officially, and that he is willing to risk SHAEF disciplinary action if he is first to tell them.

His fellow-correspondents, however, take a different view. With two exceptions, they voted today to send a letter to General Eisenhower denouncing his behavior and that of his organization. These leading newspaper men also have rejected the idea that in this instance the Army was jeopardizing freedom of the press and that Kennedy's action and that of the Associated Press in distributing the story throughout Europe before

# J. C. Cochrane Is Wounded In Germany

John M. Little, 41, prominent reporter, was wounded in a battle with a German plane today at 3:30 A. M. at his home on Annapolis Road. He had been in Germany since the outbreak of the war.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 3 P. M. at the Annapolis Presbyterian Church. He was a member of the Navy and the Army.

Active pallbearers will be C. W. Martin, Jr., J. Small, C. O. Fincher, E. L. Blaine, C. W. Todd, H. W. Wenz. Honorary pallbearers will be John Donaldson, Donald Wallace, L. D. Campbell, J. B. Davis, J. C. Bryan, W. M. Moore, Clayton Kuck, John Kuck, Will Stanford, and James Sample.

Mr. James C. Cochrane, 34, husband of Mrs. Mary Thomas Cochrane of Route 1, Charlotte, was slightly wounded in action in Germany on April 13, according to a telegram from the War Department received by his wife. Mr. Cochrane received a shoulder wound from shrapnel, according to the message.

He entered service June 20, 1944, and has been overseas since Nov. 20, 1944. He served with the Infantry, Son of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Cochrane of Route 3, Charlotte. Mr. Cochrane was trained in this country at Camp Blending, Ft. and Fort Meade, Md.

He attended Derris High School and was employed by the Southern Railway Shop in Charlotte prior to entering military service. The Cochrane have two small children, Nancy and Earl.

Long channels or to est at Army messes. Capt. Harry Clark, SHAEF public relations officer in London, who telephoned Bunnell's notification, said he acted on instructions of Supreme Headquarters in Paris, which, he added, gave no reason for the move. Bunnell asked a written statement of specific charges and Clark said he would forward the request to Paris.

Cooper last night urged on Gen. Eisenhower abolition of military censorship in Europe now that the war there has ended.

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# One Carolinian 49 Die In Explosion Of Boat In Water

CAPE HENRI, Va., (AP)—A 49-year-old man was killed in a terrific explosion when the boat he was in exploded in the water today. The explosion occurred at 10:30 A. M. and the man was identified as James H. Little.

Only two of the bodies were recovered. One was the body of George William Morgan, 41, who was killed in the explosion. The other was the body of a man who was killed in the explosion.

Many of those who got over the side before the explosion were killed. The explosion occurred in the water and the bodies were scattered in all directions.

One of the men who was killed in the explosion was James H. Little, 49, who was killed in the explosion. The other was the body of a man who was killed in the explosion.

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