

# FINAL EXTRA

USS Bennington (CV-20)

PRESS NEWS

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## ALLIES ACCEPT JAPANESE PEACE OFFER - WITH A CONDITION:

### EMPEROR MUST TAKE ORDERS FROM SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER

The Allied Governments have agreed to accept Japan's qualified offer of surrender, but have added their own clarification: that the authority of the Emperor must be subject to that of the Allied supreme commander.

The Allied reply was handed by Secretary of State Byrnes to the Swiss charge d'affaires in Washington at 1430 GMT (2330, ship's time). It stated the Allies position on the Emperor's authority as follows:

"From the moment of surrender, the authority of the Emperor and of Japan's Government to rule the state shall be subject to the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, who will take such steps as he deems proper to effectuate the surrender terms."

The Japanese offer had included the condition that the prerogatives of the Emperor, as a sovereign ruler, would not be prejudiced.

It was expected that many letters would be required for transmission of the Allied message through Switzerland to Tokyo, and that the Japanese reply could not be expected before late today.

In the meantime, a battery of short-wave stations of the Office of War Information beamed the message to Japan. Other OWI stations in Honolulu and Saipan relayed it on medium and short waves. Japanese home receivers are mostly medium-wave, and those of officials short-wave. The text also was cabled to OWI outposts for printing on leaflets, in the event the Army and Navy should decide to use them.

The Allied reply also included the conditions that the Emperor and Japanese Government ensure the carrying out of the terms of the Potsdam Proclamation. They also would be required to issue the necessary orders concerning the surrender of all arms by the Japanese military. All Allied prisoners would have to be transported immediately to places of safety, as designated by the Supreme Allied Commander, so that they could quickly be transferred to homebound transports.

The Allied reply reiterated that the eventual form of Government of Japan must be in accord with the freely-expressed will of the Japanese people.

The Japanese press began to prepare the people for surrender. One editorial, broadcast by Tokyo and heard in San Francisco, said:

"To discuss the past of this war and our lost areas is as useless as to count the age of one's lost child. Reality must be faced squarely. The only thing left to be done is to think out how to cope with stark reality. There is no escape from reality."

If the surrender is consummated, an American will hold the post of Supreme Allied Commander, Washington announced.

Pending the final surrender, the war against Japan will go on, it was stated by Fleet Admiral Nimitz and General MacArthur. The Chinese issued orders to this effect to their troops, and have launched an attack against Euihow.

The Soviet machine ground on into Manchuria. New gains of 50 miles were announced, bringing the total advance at some points to 130 miles.

General Dwight Eisenhower arrived in Moscow. The object of his visit was not stated.