

TRUMAN ANNOUNCES END OF WORLD CONFLICT (Cont.)

"General Douglas MacArthur has been appointed the Supreme Allied Commander to receive the Japanese surrender. Great Britain, Russia and China will be represented by high ranking officers of those countries.

Meantime, the Allied armed forces have been ordered to suspend offensive action.

The proclamation of V-J Day must wait upon the formal signing of the surrender terms by Japan."

President Truman made the historic announcement to a huge crowd of reporters who had been virtually living in the White House for days in anticipation of just such developments. Three statements were immediately issued to the press: One detailing MacArthur's appointment and containing the Japanese note; a second disclosing the immediate outbreak in the East and the third in which Mr. Truman congratulated "one of the hardest working groups of war workers", the Federal employees who were on the job for the past four years. He said they were entitled to a holiday Wednesday and Thursday with pay and only skeleton forces should be maintained.

Literally beaming with pleasure, the group gathered around his desk when announcement was made included Admiral of the Fleet William D. Leahy, his personal Chief of Staff, Secretary of State Byrnes, James Vardaman, the President's Naval Aide, Brigadier General Harry Vaughan, his Military Aide, Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal, Secretary of the Treasury Fred M. Vinson, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley, Special Assistant David K. Niles, Major General Philip B. Flaming, Public Works Administrator, and Private Secretary Matthew Connolly.

One of the late comers to the conference was Cordell Hull, Secretary of State for twelve years under Franklin D. Roosevelt and a prime mover in the creation of the United Nations Organization. Hull stepped in unannounced, looking wan but in much better health than he was a few months ago.

The Japanese official reply to the Allied surrender terms was delivered to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes at 2306 GMT by the Swiss Foreign Minister Max Grasseil in the State Department. Byrnes left his office at 2212 GMT and walked to the executive office of the White House.

The three day tension was broken when the dispatch from Bern, Switzerland, Japanese Minister Shunichi Kase arrived at the Parliament building at 1905 GMT. He left a few moments later and the United States Minister, Leland Harrison, arrived at the office within a few minutes. The official Swiss announcement said that the reply was delivered to Harrison at 1925 GMT and was cabled to Washington at 2005 GMT.

In an impromptu speech on the White House lawn following his press conference President Truman told a large crowd of spectators that this was a great day for democracy. He said it marked the final triumph over fascism and would go down in history as one of its most noteworthy days. The whole country should now be united, the President said, in an effort to preserve the future peace of the world.

TRUMAN ORDERS JAPS TO CEASE FIRING

Washington, 16 August - President Truman tonight ordered Japan to halt the war on all fronts. The Japanese government was ordered to "direct prompt cessation of hostilities by all Japanese forces." He also directed that General Douglas MacArthur, as Supreme Allied Commander, must be informed by the Japanese of the effective date and hour for hostilities to cease.

Secondly, the President ordered the Japanese government to send emissaries immediately to MacArthur with information on Japanese forces and with full power to make arrangements as MacArthur directs for formal enemy surrender."

These orders were sent through the Secretary of State Byrnes to the Swiss Government Legation in Washington for transmission to the Japanese. The message was delivered to the Swiss Charge D'Affaires, Max Grasseil, a few minutes after 7:00 p.m. Washington time (2300 GMT).

MOSCOW SAYS JAPS ORDERED TO CEASE FIRING BY EMPEROR

London, 15 August - The Moscow Radio said early to-day that the Emperor Hirohito had ordered all Japanese armed forces wherever they are to cease military operations and give up their arms and follow the orders of the Allied Supreme Commander.