

16 August 1945.

MANILA CELEBRATES JAP SURRENDER

Manila, 14 August - International News Service reported today that the Office of War Information's newspaper "Free Philippines" rushed an extra edition with full page red headlines of "It's all over" on to the streets shortly after the United States Agency said Japan had accepted the surrender terms. Soldiers and sailors waved copies of the paper from trucks and jeeps and civilians raced through the streets laughing, shouting and praying. Manila, City of war shattered buildings and war shattered society celebrated joyously.

SELECTIVE SERVICE INDUCTIONS REDUCED 30,000 PER MONTH

Washington, 14 August - The President made the following statement tonight "The War Department has recommended, and I have approved, a request to the Director of Selective Service to reduce inductions immediately from 60,000 to 30,000 a month. This figure will provide only sufficient men to support the forces required for occupation duty and to permit the relief of men of long service overseas to the maximum extent transportation makes possible.

In justice to the millions of men who have given long and faithful service under the difficult and hazardous conditions of the Pacific war and elsewhere overseas a constant flow of replacements to the occupational forces is thought to be imperative. Theoretically and morally no other course of action appears acceptable. Transportation by air and sea should make possible the release for the Army of five to five and a half million men during the next twelve to eighteen months. It is too early to propose definite figures for the occupational forces which will be required in the Pacific twelve months from now or what reduction which it may be possible to make in the strength of the Army force now allotted to occupation duties in Europe. It is apparent, however, that we can release as many men as can be brought home by the means available during the next year.

CRUISER INDIANAPOLIS LOST - ALL HANDS CASUALTIES

Washington, 14 August - The United States heavy cruiser INDIANAPOLIS was lost in a recent Philippines Sea action with one hundred percent casualties her complement totalling 1,196 officers and men. The Navy Department announced that the famous vessel was lost shortly after the completion of her last mission sailing from San Francisco 16 July on a high speed run to Guam to deliver essential atomic bomb material. She delivered her precious cargo safely prior to disaster.

The INDIANAPOLIS casualties placed her near the top in weight of losses on a single vessel in this war. The aircraft carrier FRANKLIN suffered 341 dead, 431 missing, and more than 300 wounded. The battleship ARIZONA with a total of 1,104 officers and men lost in the Pearl Harbor attack leads the list in personnel killed. The INDIANAPOLIS, which was traditionally the flagship of the powerful Fifth Fleet, had been at the Mare Island Navy Yard for repairs just before her last run. She had been damaged by a Japanese suicide plane off Okinawa March 31, 1945. Admiral Raymond A. Spruance was aboard at the time of the suicide attack but escaped injury. The skipper of the INDIANAPOLIS was Captain Charles B. McVay who is listed as wounded.

HONOLULU, 14 August - The lights went again full force at Pearl Harbor last night after Tokyo Radio said that the Imperial message accepting the Potsdam Declaration would be forthcoming soon. Flashes brighter than those when the Japanese attacked the Naval Base at the start of the war illuminated the sky. An impromptu twenty minute celebration lighted the harbor as searchlights, tracer bullets, rockets and flares blazed. Truckloads of sailors rode through the streets singing and shouting. Snake dances filled the streets and overflowed onto sidewalks amid the din of sirens, ships whistles, and auto horns.

SHORT BURSTS

WASHINGTON, 14 August - Democratic senate leader Alben Barkley of Kentucky announced today that Congress will be reconvened on Wednesday September 5, regardless of whether victory has been proclaimed by that time.