

JAPAN

L.J. - Sunoco. Wednesday, August 15, 1945.

Here's question number one. Japan has surrendered but what about the Jap armed forces? All along, as the end drew near, we wondered - how far would Tokyo be able to bring about the capitulation of the Japanese military units all the way from Manchuria to the South Seas? So what do we hear today? Tokyo states that the Japanese government is ordering its forces to yield. Nevertheless, attacks have been made - one in particular. Japanese planes assailed American forces, presumably in the ~~the~~ Okinawa area - after Tokyo had officially surrendered.

Here's the official Japanese version given today: "Imperial headquarters are endeavoring to transmit the imperial order to every branch of the forces." ^{Then it goes on: "But} ~~But~~ before it took full effect, part of the Japanese air force is reported to have made an attack on Allied bases and fleets in the south."

"Imperial headquarters, " the statement goes on, "are trying ~~to~~ their best to prevent a recurrence of such incidents".

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The matter of continued Jap resistance is brought up in a war bulletin from Soviet Russia today. Yes, the Soviets are still issuing battle communiques - still waging war. And the Japs are resisting - say the Russians.

This applies to the most powerful of the Japanese armed forces, the Kwantung Army in Manchuria. In all the speculation about whether or not Tokyo would be able to bring about a surrender of its forces, the Kwantung Army stood first and foremost.

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The Tokyo acceptance of Allied terms is, in the words of Moscow, "only a general declaration about unconditional surrender. The order to ~~be~~ the armed forces to cease operations" continues the *Russian* communique, "has not yet been given, and the Japanese armed forces continue resistance as before".

"Consequently," concludes Moscow, "there is still no capitulation of the armed forces of Japan - and the armed forces of the Soviet Union in the Far East will continue their offensive operations".

It is hard to figure out what it all means, maybe the Kwantung Army of Japan ^{after all is} ~~really~~ ^{just} refusing to surrender; or, maybe the Soviets [^] won't wait until formalities are arranged.

In China the thing is still more complicated. There, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek today radioed an order to Japanese garrisons, commanding them to stay under arms and hold their present positions. That means, hold their present position against the Chinese Communists.

19
Meanwhile [The Chinese Reds are on the move, trying to take as much as they can under the surrender. They have rebuffed a Chiang Kai-Shek order to stay put, and are hurrying to take over from the Japs. And now the Generalissimo, in effect, orders the Japs to resist the Chinese communists. That's the real meaning of the order commanding the Japanese garrisons to hold their positions against everybody except the troops of Chiang Kai-Shek.

All of which increases the likelihood that has been ominous all along - the likelihood that the Jap war against China might be followed by civil war among the Chinese. ~~However,~~ The latest is that Chiang Kai-Shek

has invited Chinese communists to come to Chungking in an effort to arrive at a ~~xx~~ settlement. *And that's a good sign.*

TOKYO CABINET

In defeated Japan, things proceed with all sorts of oriental ceremony - the downfall of an empire being enacted with a kind of ritual that might suggest peculiar play-acting. The Japanese Cabinet today resigned with a rhetoric of self-abasement and breast beating - the ministers blaming themselves for the inconvenience ^{that} the loss ^{of} the war ^{has} caused the Emperor. — inconvenience!

Those forms of polite self-reproach remind me of a story I read in a history of ancient China - about an emperor on the dragon throne who created scandal by the number of concubines he had. The Empress was much disturbed by the imperial philandering ~~and romancing~~. So she issued a public statement in which she announced that she was condemning herself ~~to~~ jail - because she had failed to make herself enchanting enough to keep the Emperor faithful. All very Chinese; - and ⁱⁿ ~~Japanese is just as~~ ^{the customs are even more} curious.

Anyway, the Cabinet resigned today with much bowing and obeisance before the Imperial Throne. It is a heavily defeated throne, now under orders from

General MacArthur, but they ^{are} proceeded ^{ing} on the fiction that it still remains most imperial. The Mikado asked the resigning Premier to retain office until a new Cabinet can be gotten together to operate under allied control.

There was one cabinet member who did not resign, or rather his resignation was in the old Japanese traditional form. General Anami, the Minister of War, committed ^{ing} Hari-Kari - paying for his part in his country's disaster by performing the ~~gm~~ gruesome ritual prescribed by ancient custom.

The Japs are trying to retain as much face as they can - the Tokyo broadcasts today giving as cheerful an interpretation as possible to a cheerless condition of affairs. In a radio message to the Japanese military ~~fmf~~ forces all along the recent Pacific fighting fronts, a government spokesman uttered such exhortations as this: "Let us all unite together and work to bring our country back as a strong and admirable nation. We bow to the enemy's material

and scientific power", said he. Which meant a deep

Japanese bow in the direction of the atomic bomb, and the B-29s and the U.S. Navy.

The Tokyo spokesman used one phrase that is attracting considerable attention. "We have lost", said he, "but this is temporary". All of which might sound like Jap scheming to come back and go on a rampage again. Or - it might be part of the old human habit of trying to make things look as well as possible, and save some face.

PARLIAMENT

In London, King George today delivered his royal address to the new parliament, with its socialist majority. The Cabinet of Prime Minister Attlee is committed to a policy of Socialism, and this, according to British constitutional forms, was a thing for the King to proclaim.

So how did King George today present the Socialist plans of the Labor Party? ^{Was it difficult for His Majesty?} These, right off the bat, call for the government to take over the Bank of England, that venerable British financial institute. Also - the nationalization of the mines.

Speaking to a joint session of the two branches of Parliament, the King began with the usual form: "My Lords and Members of the House of Commons". ^{Then -} This being the first day of peace, he gave thanks for the victory over Japan. He ^{also} spoke of the Atomic Bomb and the necessity of world peace.

~~After that~~ ^{then} he came around to the socialistic part of it, saying: "A measure will be laid before you to bring the bank of England under public ownership", and

he added: "A bill will also be laid before you to nationalize the coal mining industry". Thus the Sovereign of Britain announced the two projects which the British Labor Government considers a beginning in the establishment of socialism in Britain.

RECONVERSION

Here's a rapid sketch of reconversion, as the country moves rapidly in the giant task of transforming from a war economy to peacetime production.

The Army and Navy announce plans to release seven million men. The Army expects to demobilize five million in a year. ~~The~~ ^{The} Navy will send back to civilian life between one and a half and two and half million, in a period of a year to eighteen months.

The draft ^{however} will continue until Congress formally ^{declares} ~~announces~~ an end of hostilities. Meanwhile, inductions have been cut from eighty-thousand to fifty thousand a month.

Armament production is being abolished - almost a hundred percent. Contract cancellations are expected to reach thirty-five billion dollars' worth in a few weeks. ^{And -} Food purchases by the armed forces will be cut - as fast as demobilization will permit; ~~so~~ says Washington.

A rise of unemployment is expected, and Washington warns that as many as eight million Americans

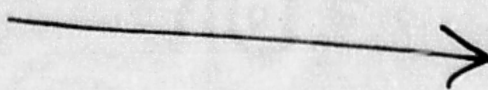
RECONVERSION - 2

may be without jobs before next spring - this possibility to be counteracted by everything that can be done to promote a rise of peacetime production.

as you may have heard,
Rationing [^] is terminated right away, on ~~xx~~

a series of items - like gasoline and fuel oil. In this field, transition from war time to peace time production seems to be ~~at its best~~, *fairly simple*. For example, *my* ~~the~~ Sun Oil Company ^{sponsors} *Sun's* ~~the~~ vast refineries are ready to reconvert at once - plans drawn, schedules made up. As soon as certain conditions left over from wartime are removed, the ^{re}reconversion will be one hundred percent.

however
Rationing [^] will continue on some things, like meats, fats, oils, butter, sugar, shoes and tires. ~~and~~ Automobile rationing may continue until auto production rises - *along about* ~~probably by~~ the end of the year.

Other civilian goods ^{to} ~~will~~ appear on the market in a hurry. 

^{As for} controls of wages, prices, rent and transportation, ^{all}
^{that} will be continued. Curbs to guard against a swift
inflation ^{to} ~~must~~ remain for a while, ~~in any case.~~
^{But, the Government will}
~~And finance will have one more fling.~~
^{have to have one more}
~~reminiscent of wartime~~ another loan. This was
announced today by ~~the~~ Secretary of the Treasury
Vinson, who stated ^{that} the new ~~loan~~ drive will be ^{for}
^{from} ~~between~~ ten billion and fourteen billion dollars,
~~This one will~~ ^{to} be called a victory loan, ~~and will~~
~~certainly deserve its name.~~

CIGARETTES

In Washington, a lady carrying a huge package, walked into a drug store today. She plunked the package down on the counter of the cigar stand, and in it were twenty-one cartons of cigarettes.

"I bought these during the shortage", she told the clerk, "and now I'm afraid they'll go stale. Will you buy them back?" she smiled.

The startled clerk said - "no", he wouldn't buy them back.

~~I will leave you to imagine the argument that ensued until the~~
The highly
indignant lady finally departed, still carrying the twenty-one cartons of hoarded cigarettes, now about to go stale.

BOMB

~~We hear today~~
~~We are told~~

~~that the research that led to the atomic bomb began as an attempt to prolong life - although it has turned out to be a devastating way to shorten life.~~

As had been stated over and over, a key factor in the history of the atomic bomb was the invention of the cyclotron, the atom splitting machine, by Dr. E. O. Lawrence of the University of California. Our statement today is from his brother and co-worker, Dr. John E. Lawrence, also of the University of California, ~~He is the~~ head of a new division of the university, a division dedicated to what is called - "medical physics". That term, "medical physics", is the key to the whole thing.

When Dr. E. O. Lawrence invented the cyclotron, ~~he~~ he wasn't thinking of any practical use at all. He hadn't any atomic bomb in mind, nor was he thinking of medical ~~xxxx~~ uses. Soon, however, he and his brother saw that the atom smashing machine was the perfect instrument for producing artificial radioactivity.

We all know that radium, so excessively rare, is used in the treatment of many maladies. And here was a way of producing radio-activity at will - just turning it out with a machine. The two Lawrence Brothers saw visions of great help to ~~the~~ ailing humanity.

Then the war intervened - and for the time being those benevolent ideas had to be postponed. The atomic bomb was now the goal; - from medical physics to destruction in war.

Well, the atomic bomb has done its devastating work in a most decisive way. Peace has returned, and now the thoughts of the two Lawrence Brothers at Berkeley, California, have turned back to their former purpose - "medical physics", the use of atomic power to cure disease, the production of artificial radioactivity.

Today the brother of the inventor of the cyclotron stated that the atomic forces have, in his words - "implications for the future which may be more

important even than the atomic bomb". He said that the way is open for the use of radioactivity to explore the fundamental processes of life and disease. And he summarized with an epigrammatic turn of phrase: "Now" he said, "we hope ~~to~~ to contribute to longer lives instead of shorter ones".

Meanwhile, the War Department announces that the end of the war will not alter the censorship of information about the atomic bomb. All individuals and groups connected with the research are warned that the wartime security regulations are still in force. Nothing is to be given out that might give a clue to the atomic secret.

The War Department issues this warning: "Loose talk and idle speculation, particularly by individuals now or formerly connected with the project, will jeopardize the future of the nation. It is the duty of every citizen, in the interest of national safety", continues the War Department, "to keep all discussion of this subject within the limits of

~~information disclosed in official releases". In other words,~~ Wartime secrecy still applies to the atomic bomb - as, indeed, we should expect.

And thus

~~All the same,~~ it creates a strange and dramatic situation. With the ~~world~~ world at peace, the most terrible of the war secrets has still to be guarded. As the President has informed us, the atomic bomb is possessed exclusively by the United States, Great Britain and Canada ~~and the idea is to keep it, retain the secret.~~

~~One can surmise that if any little country should get hold of the atomic bomb, it might be able to rise to a reckless power. Anyway, We can all sense the drama in the fact that other nations of this earth might well desire to possess the secret, the fearful power of the atomic bomb, which is known to a few top notch scientists, and which perhaps might be gained by piecing together a few bits of esoteric information.~~

INDIANS

At Caribou, Maine, today Jeremiah Cambellton celebrated his hundred and sixth birthday. Jeremiah is of some local renown as a survivor of an Indian War. Long years ago, when he was seven, his family was massacred and he was kidnapped by the Indians.

It all goes back to the middle of the last century when, in Maine, the Micmac Indians went on the warpath.

The Redskins, as was often their practice, wiped out adults and carried away children - and one of these was a seven year old boy, Jeremiah Cambellton.

He grew to manhood among the Micmacs, then rejoined his own people and became a hunter and trapper. Today at a hundred and six he still talks the Micmac language fluently, though he can neither read nor write.

The birthday of this survivor of Indian wars of long ago coincides with the first day of peace after the greatest of wars - which may evoke some apt reflection from the aged hunter and trapper - a reflection spoken in Micmac, no doubt.

And S-L-U-T-M
~~Hugh any closing reflection~~
~~from you?~~