

C.T. - Standard. Tuesday, May 8, 1945.
Sunoco.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Well, the great Russian V ~~E~~ ^{mystery} Day ~~victory~~ was solved this evening -- when Moscow, for the first time during the day made mention of the end of the European war. All day long the other united nations celebrated formal announcements of V E Day, but Moscow remained strangely silent. We ~~have~~ ^{had} been told that the official news of the German surrender had been held up ^{so} ~~so~~ ~~that~~ the Big Three could proclaim it simultaneously. Two of the Big Three, ^{as all} ~~the world knows~~ did proclaim it this morning -- President Truman and Prime Minister Churchill. However, while they were making known the great ~~xi~~ tidings on the radio, what was Moscow saying? ^P During the historic minutes of the Truman and Churchill announcements, the Moscow radio was giving a children's-hour-program, reciting

a fairy tale, ^a fable for the little ones.

There was no end of curiosity about this -- why V E Day news in London and Washington were attended by silence in Moscow - with the official proclamations accompanied by a Moscow fairy tale. The answer is clear tonight. The Soviets were having their own surrender ceremony, and until then it might be V E Day for the rest of the world, but it was just Tuesday, May Eighth for Moscow. ~~It~~ Today, covered by official secrecy, the Germans having already surrendered to the Western Allies, capitulated all over again -- with military ritual ~~being~~ staged in Berlin. The German representatives made their submission to Soviet representatives at a meeting attended by high officials of the Western Allies.

Then after that was completed Moscow announced the end of the European war. (The announcement was made late tonight our time which means ~~x~~ early tomorrow Moscow time. ~~And the day, which is now morning in Moscow, is~~ ^{So} V E Day ^{is} May Eighth for the

Western Allies, ^{and} May Ninth for the Soviets. [The

President of the Soviet Union, Kalinin, issued a V E ~~Day~~ proclamation in which he described the day of triumph in the following words: "The victorious completion of the great patriotic war of the Red Army against the German invaders and the historic victories of the Red Army ending with the complete defeat of Hitlerite Germany which unconditionally surrendered".

There is, we note, no mention of the Western Allies, no mention of the British or American armies, only the Red Army. That I think is to be taken as a sign that ^{the Russians,} ~~Soviet forces,~~ celebrat^{ing} the end of the European war, choose to regard it as a Russian war, dwelling exclusively on the part played by the Soviets. But now, let's go on to V E Day, as we know it.

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GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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On the first day of Peace in Europe, the news plays out the pattern of the last few days of war. Broadcasting from Paris last week, as the curtains were swiftly descending, I remarked that the two final areas, where German resistance could be prolonged on a considerable scale, were Czechoslovakia and Norway.- We were constantly reminded of this by members of General Eisenhower's staff who gave us a briefing, each night at Supreme Allied Headquarters.

And today, - so far as military moves are concerned - the focus was still on Czechoslovakia and Norway. In the former country, some fighting went on.

In the former country ~~signing~~ fighting still continued -- bitter fighting according to the Russians. Stalin issued more of those orders-of-the-day, which had become so familiar. Coming as they did before the belated Soviet announcement of V E Day they were couched in the customary details, military language of Moscow war bulletins, and announced the capture of important places in Czechoslovakia. One - the key city of Olomouc and Dresden, the capital of Saxony which is ~~the~~ near the Czechoslovak border -- the once exquisitely beautiful city of Dresden. Several reasons are ascribed for the continued fighting, after Germany had surrendered -- at least, according to our own announcements. One reason may have been the fact that the Soviet announced surrender of Germany was not made formal until this evening and announced for Soviet V E Day tomorrow.

(In northern Jugoslavia German troops today were reported to be in battle against the forces of Marshal Tito. They are trying to get away from the Yugoslav partisans, presumably for a march to the American lines - there to surrender.

These, belated flames of the ~~R~~ European war flickering on into the first day of peace.)

In Norway the Germans were waiting to carry out the terms of the capitulation - waiting there to lay down their arms. The surrender left them with nobody official to surrender to - and Allied military forces were on their way to fill that gap.

Political control ~~is~~ was being taken over today by the Norwegian underground - pending the arrival of officials of the exiled Norwegian government, who will reestablish the legal regime of King Haakon. One late report is that Crown Prince

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Olaf has already arrived in Norway - aboard a British warship.

(Meanwhile a round-up of Nazi collaborationists - Quislings - we hear. It is assumed that as many as thirty thousand will be put on trial - headed by Major Quisling, himself, whose name has become a worldwide expression for treason.

Word has just come
~~There is one report~~ that Quisling ^{*is being*} ~~has fled - though~~
held prisoner,
~~to what place it is hard to imagine.~~)

And, today there also remained small pockets of German resistance - like the stubbornly held Channel ports and the Channel islands, and islands in the Mediterranean - all apparently giving up. For example, the German troops holding the Dodecanese made an official surrender today to the British.

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But, in general, the military news on the first day of peace in Europe winds up with the

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pattern that I reported from Paris last week -
ending on a wholesale scale in Czechoslovakia and
Norway.

— 0 —
~~With no word~~

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The storms of war in Europe have been succeeded by a lively newspaper battle -- because of the Associated Press release telling of the end of the European war. As just about everybody in this nation knows, the A.P. sent the story ~~unauthorized~~ yesterday morning, a whole day before the official announcement of V-E Day. For this the Associated Press was suspended, all news facilities cancelled, by Supreme Allied Headquarters. Then, shortly afterward, the suspension was lifted -- though not ^{for} ~~from~~ the A.P. Bureau Manager, Edward Kennedy, who put the story through.

Today a protest was signed by all the other newsmen ^{at} ~~assigned to~~ Supreme Allied headquarters -- a protest against the cancellation of the suspension of the Associated Press. The other newsmen bitterly castigate the action of the A.P., describing it in the following words -- "the most disgraceful, deliberate and unethical double-cross in the history of journalism." And with that, we are given the story of what happened. Here is the account cabled by Boyd ~~B~~ Lewis of the United Press:

"There were sixteen of us in the party which assembled in an airport outside ~~of~~ Paris on Sunday afternoon," he writes. "Most of us suspected that we were on our way to witness the final ^{capitulation} ~~expituit~~ of Germany. But not until our big Douglas C-47 was climbing over the rooftops of Paris, did we know for certain."

^{Boyd}
He goes on to tell how the newsmen were called to the middle of the plane to gather around Brigadier General Frank Allen, Jr., Director of the Public Relations Division of Supreme Headquarters. ~~And~~ General Allen told them: "We are going on a mission to cover the signing of peace. The story is off the record, and I pledge each and every one of you on your honor not to communicate it until it is released by Supreme Allied Headquarters."

To this U.P. Correspondent Boyd Lewis adds: "No objection to this pledge, with which General Allen bound us, was raised by any correspondent in the plane."

That's the ground for the accusation that the A.P. was guilty of a breach of confidence. And the other newsmen were burned up when they found out about the unauthorized scoop. They went to Kennedy of the A.P., and upbraided him. ^π The United Press man ^{And he goes on to} ~~writes~~ ^{later that} "Kennedy admitted he had violated Allen's pledge. He said he had done so, because he did not believe Allen had any right to impose such a pledge."

The Associated Press angle in the matter is that the news of the surrender of Germany was not of the kind that should have been held up. Not military censorship, but political censorship. The argument is that no military security was involved, because the German radio had already announced officially that Nazi Germany had quit.

Ed Kennedy, upon getting back to Paris from the surrender conference, got through with a telephone call to London. And over a bad connection he was able to transmit most of his story - before his telephone communication was cut off.

HENRY TAYLOR

It's now ^{no longer} Prophet Patton!

I wonder what Henry Taylor has done with all that money he collected from Generals, Field Marshals and staff officers over in Europe? I wonder if he turned it over to General Patch of the Seventh Army, as he said he was going to do?

You may or may not have been listening - in ~~to~~ the night I told the story of Taylor's Folly from Europe -- last Thursday night from Paris. Henry Taylor, colleague and old friend, on ~~his~~ visits to the various armies, asked the Commanding Generals, and members of their Staffs to predict the date of the ending of the war. Most of them put it in mid-summer or late summer. General Patch of the Seventh Army said May Fourth.

Each man had to back up his prophecy with Five Dollars in the currency of the country in which his Army was. So, Henry Taylor wound up with a suit case full of paper money of a dozen

varieties. And when we saw the headlines in the Paris papers last Thursday, he decided, and many others agreed with him, that that was the big day, the true end of the European war, no matter whether a proclamation came from General Eisenhower and the heads of the Allied governments or not. So, Harry said he was going to send the suitcase full of money to General Patch.

When I left France Major General Ralph Smith, who at one time played a major role in the Pacific war, was arguing with him that it wouldn't be fair to let General Patch ~~have~~ have that bale of money and that the date could only be when General Eisenhower indicated that the war in Europe had finally come to an end.

Not that General Smith, personally could have any claim to it, for his guess was August First.

If Harry hasn't shipped the loot to
General Patch it will go to none other than General
George Patton. For "Old Blood and So On" picked May
Tenth for the end of the war with Germany. He missed
it by only two days; and that ^{prophecy} should entitle him to
be known ^{now} as Prophet Patton!

For President Truman, V-E Day was one of those apt coincidences. It was his birthday, his Sixty-First. And can you imagine any more glorious birthday celebration than to be the President of the United States, announcing V-E Day? There is one thing that would tie it - announcing V-J Day, the surrender of Japan.

CHOICE

Today at Long Beach, California, a woman made up her mind - and a difficult decision it was. She is Mrs. Helen MacDowell, a pretty blonde of twenty-two, who found herself in the dilemma made famous by the romance of Enoch Arden.

The news has told how her first husband, Lieutenant Harold Goad, an Army flyer, was officially reported to have been killed in a plane crash in Burma. Believing that he was dead, she remarried - wedding a Navy ensign. Then, last week, the news came that Lieutenant Harold Goad, whom she had married first, had been found among prisoners rescued from ^{the} a Japs. The Enoch Arden story all over again.

Impulsively she, who had since become the wife of another man, cabled ^{to the first one} that she still loved him. And then she had to make up her mind. Today she said that at first she thought she'd wait until she could talk

things over with her present husband - the naval ensign.

He's somewhere in the war zone in the Pacific. ~~She~~

~~thought she'd wait until she could talk it over with~~

~~both men.~~ But today she decided. What will she do?

She announces that she is going to ask for an annulment

of her second marriage, and go back to the husband who

has come back from the dead.

"I know now," she said, "which one I love -

it is Harold." And she added: "I hope he feels the same

about me."

27 In all the jubilation today, one thing was not forgotten - ~~Japan. There were scenes of immense rejoicing in the capital cities of the Allies, and everywhere the same remark was made -~~ "we've still got to beat the Japs." This was echoed in Prime Minister ~~Churchill's announcement of V-E Day, and in King George's address. It was~~ made emphatic ⁱⁿ by President Truman's ~~his~~ V-E Day announcement - the President warning Japan to surrender. He presented cogent arguments to the Far Eastern enemy, making what was virtually a bid to the Japanese people to yield.

("The longer the war lasts," he said, "the greater will be the suffering and hardships which the people of Japan will undergo - all in vain." He outlined benefits that the Japanese people will gain by giving in, and assured them that unconditional surrender will not mean the extermination and enslavement of the Japanese.)

TEN DOWNING STREET

8 The first day of peace in Europe begins an aftermath that follows every war - the "now-it-can-be-told" kind of disclosure. In the bombing of London, the deepest of British military secrecy covered important targets. For example, Number Ten Downing Street, the residence of the Prime Minister. From that historic address, Winston Churchill, to a large extent, directed Britain's part in the war. Was Number Ten Downing Street hit? Well, now it can be told. Churchill's residence was blasted by a bomb explosion, and damaged. And Churchill was in it at the time.

It was dinner time, and the portly Prime Minister was at the table. He is a devotee of dignified dining, as most Britons are. Dessert was just being finished, when - bang! Down came the chandelier, and down came the ceiling. Nobody hurt, but it was devastating to nerves and dignity - with the wreckage

of the chandelier and the plaster of the ceiling.

Churchill stayed put, never moved - keeping his place at the table with British imperturbability.

"Carry on with the coffee!" he ordered - as if nothing more disturbing had occurred than an indiscreet remark or a social faux pas, something to be ignored.

Well, that Churchillian remark may well have an echo on this official V-E Day. The echo responding - "and carry on with the Japs."

1/4 And so long until tomorrow.