

FRIDAY, AUG. 10, 1945

Allies Study Jap Peace Offer; Pacific War May Be Near End

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Chinese and American forces in China proper; Australian troops in the islands of the South Pacific; Americans in the Philippines; Russians in Manchuria, Korea and Sakhalin.

In addition the Japanese are still firmly installed in Malaya and Singapore, French Indo-China, Java, dozens of Pacific islands and the vast bulk of China.

Arrangements for the simultaneous surrender of these widely dispersed forces, it was believed, would be the most complicated surrender negotiation in history.

It was certain the allies would insist that the Japanese provide guarantees that the surrender orders be literally carried out by all the imperial forces at the same time.

Whether the emperor who was cited by Tokyo radio as initiating the surrender offer could maintain effective control over such fire-eating Japanese forces as the quasi-independent Kwantung army against which Russia is arrayed was a question.

Mass Harikari Suggested

Another question was what governmental authority in Japan was behind the offer. The allies have laid down the elimination of the present government as a requisite for surrender.

This, it was suggested, might be settled by the mass harikari of the government and the military leaders responsible for the war.

Having led their country into disaster and jeopardized the position of their god-emperor, it is virtually incumbent under the Japanese code for the leaders to take their own lives.

Such a development would vastly ease the task of the allies in taking over Japan and would eliminate in many instances the necessity of conducting trials of Japanese war criminals.

U. S. officials pointed out that formal communications from the Japanese to this country have normally been transmitted via Bern.

They also recalled that in the past it usually has taken several days for urgent messages to or from the Japanese to clear through Swiss channels. The record so far is three days. The usual period for transmission has been about 10 days. But someone might speed up this message.

Since the Soviet ambassador is still in Tokyo, and has been submitted the offer, it might not be necessary to await receipt through Swiss and Swedish channels.

No One Seems Hurried

The Tokyo broadcast was timed at about 6:35 a. m. (Indianapolis time). President Truman arrived at the White House at 7:25 a. m. (Indianapolis time)—his usual hour.

Byrnes arrived at the executive office at 7:45 a. m., followed by Adm. William D. Leahy, the President's chief of staff; Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Secretary of Navy James Forrestal.

Nobody seemed hurried. To reporters' questions as he entered the White House, Byrnes said "ask me when I come out." Half an hour later he told them no official surrender offer had been received.

President Truman did not cancel a heavy schedule of previously-made routine appointments. The White House said he continued seeing his list of 12 callers, including several congressmen, a number of ministers and ambassadors, and Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach.

Opinions Differ

Among congressional callers a difference of opinion developed as to whether senators and representatives—their houses in recess until Oct. 8—should be called back into session.

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D. Wyo.) said he believed congress should reconvene "certainly right after Labor day," Sept. 3.

"The problems of peace," he said, "are every bit as important as the problems of war."

Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D. Wash.) another White House caller, disagreed with O'Mahoney.

"There is no need to call congress back," he said, "because the demobilization job is so big and so slow."

War department officials long have said that limitations of shipping will make demobilization a long and tedious operation.

As to whether Mr. Truman will call congress back, Ross said he did not know.

Resumes Usual Schedule

After the war cabinet meeting, the President operated on a business-as-usual schedule while awaiting official word.

"He knows nothing more than you do," Ross told reporters. "I mean only what came in over the radio and was monitored."

Hours after the Jap broadcast an aid described President Truman as:

"Cool, calm, collected and working as usual."

That didn't mean the President was not doing the necessary; that he wasn't just as glad as everyone else that the enemy was cracking. It just meant that until the surrender offer became official he had work to do and was going to do it.

When Mr. Truman arrived at his office, he told his naval aide, Commodore James K. Vardaman, to call Secretary of State Byrnes, Secretary of War Stimson, and Secretary of Navy Forrestal on the telephone and ask them to come to the White House.

Leahy—Already There

Fleet Adm. William J. Leahy already was with the President when Byrnes stepped sprightly out of his limousine in an immaculate white suit and panama hat. Byrnes strode past a fast-swelling throng of reporters into Mr. Truman's office.

Byrnes joked a bit with questioners.

Stimson, his car zooming into the curved White House drive, was close behind, and Forrestal was, but seconds later.

By this time small handfuls of pedestrians had begun to gather in the park across Pennsylvania ave., and for a time military police were posted outside the White House to prevent any assembly near the executive-mansion fence.

Among those waiting outside the President's office, tension mounted as the emergency conference lasted half an hour. Then Byrnes emerged to say that nothing official had been received from the Japanese.

Then the President took up his scheduled day's work.

In London, an official government statement said that Britain was in consultation with the United States, Russia and China.

The statement said no formal communication had yet been received from the Japanese government.

If the Japanese offer is genuine—officials did not overlook the fact that it might possibly represent an attempted insurgent coup—it climaxed a rushing torrent of mighty events unparalleled in history.

CARRIER PLANES RENEW ATTACK

B-29's Bomb Arsenal in Tokyo Area.

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Installations in the Chiba district just east of Tokyo for an hour and a half.

Strafed Airfields

A dispatch from Richard W. Johnston, United Press correspondent with the U. S. 3d fleet said that clouds of planes "hit areas in which the Japanese have dozens of airfields and were believed to have airborn troop transportation points which might be used to reinforce the Kwantung army in Manchuria."

All the Superfortresses returned from the B-29's two strikes. In all 562 giant bombers flew five missions over Japan within 48 hours and dropped a total of 3250 tons of bombs. About 850 tons were dropped by the 180 B-29s which made the two attacks today. The Superfortress assault on the Tokyo area began at 11:30 a. m. early reports said fair to excellent results were obtained. Japanese fighter opposition was light but anti-aircraft fire was moderate to intense.

The bombers were escorted by 60 two-based Mustangs and Thunderbolts, which found few opponents.

Smoke 20,000 Feet High

Good results were obtained at Nagasaki as the B-29's struck again to cut down the enemy's dwindling fuel supplies. One pilot reported smoke billowing 20,000 feet over the target area.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced in a communiqué that preliminary reports from American and British carrier forces which attacked northern Honshu on Thursday showed that considerable damage was inflicted.

Nimitz said the raiding fighter-bomber struck an area extending from northern Honshu to point 100 miles to the south, and that American planes destroyed 124 Japanese planes on the ground, damaged 57 others, and sank a number of small ships during the early hours on Thursday.

During the day 11 other enemy planes were destroyed when they attempted to attack warships of the 3d fleet.

Nimitz said one of these enemy planes had crashed into a light 3d fleet unit, "which is now returning under its own power."

British planes destroyed 22 Japanese planes and 24 gliders on the ground. They damaged 19 other planes trapped on the ground and sank or damaged several small ships.

JAPS REPORT 4 NEW SOVIET INVASIONS

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on the march across all frontiers common with Japan or Japanese-occupied territory.

The reported Soviet thrust into Korea at Keiko put the Russians only 30 miles from Rashin, an important port which repeatedly has been mined by American Superfortresses.

A supplementary communiqué from the Japanese northern district army command said that simultaneously with the Soviet push into Karafuto on Sakhalin, Russian warplanes bombed areas south of Buika and west of Handa.

Sakhalin, a slender, 600-mile-long island off the coast of Russia's maritime provinces, originally was owned entirely by Russia. However, she ceded the southern half of the island to Japan after the first Russo-Japanese war.

Reds Reinforced

Tokyo said the Red armies attacking both eastern and western Manchuria gradually were being reinforced as the Russian offensive gained momentum.

All Soviet columns—including the new thrusts reported by Tokyo to day—appeared to be heading for Harbin, Japanese administrative and military center for northern Manchuria.

Moscow's first communiqué of the battle yesterday revealed that one Soviet force striking east from outer Mongolia in the Lake Buir Nor area had captured the air base town of Jilin-Su, 150 miles southeast of Manchouli and approximately 30 miles inside Manchuria.

Nearby Hoshum also was captured by this force, Moscow said.

Some 150 miles to the northwest, another Russian column captured the border city of Manchouli, 150 miles east of the outer Mongolian border, and thrust another 15 miles down the railway toward Harbin to capture Chailiaop.

Capture Fuyuan

In northwest Manchuria, Soviet forces drove across the Amur and Ussuri rivers and captured the town of Fuyuan, 39 miles southwest of their base at Khabarovsk, in heavy fighting.

In southeast Manchuria, still another Soviet invasion column broke through a network of concrete defenses and overwhelmed strong Japanese resistance west of Vladivostok.

Mongolian cavalry forces of the Mongolian republic, an ally of Russia and through whose territory part of the Red army invaded Manchuria, were expected to join the Soviets in the offensive.

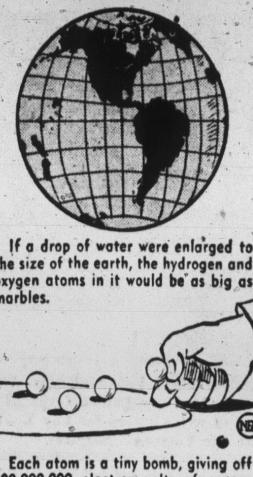
A London Daily mail dispatch estimated that 2000 planes were supporting the Russians. The dispatch said Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov was heading the Soviet supreme command for the attack.

CLYDE HOLMES

Clyde Holmes, 60, of 1134 Congress ave., house painter, was in City hospital, today, with a possible broken back following a 22-foot fall from a ladder. He was painting the house of Eugene Chambers, 1225 Congress ave.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Atom Facts



If a drop of water were enlarged to the size of the earth, the hydrogen and oxygen atoms in it would be as big as marbles.

2D ATOM BOMB, RUINS NAGASAKI

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Many Soldiers Victims in North Dakota Crash.

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smashed into the car, telescoped and then exploded.

Ten persons were known to have been injured seriously. Scores of others were bruised, cut and shaken. Some were burned.

The accident occurred about 7:30 p. m. (Indianapolis time) last night when the first section of the train stopped about a half mile from the small Michigan depot because of a hot box" on the locomotive.

Before flares could be put out to warn the second section, it plowed into the rear coach, a combination Pullman-observation car. It split the coach down the middle.

The engine's boiler exploded on impact and searing steam scalded those already dying.

Felt Wreck Coming As Brakes Jammed

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ing for the tumult of a gigantic celebration.

The downtown celebrating district was designated as the area bounded by Delaware, New York and Maryland sts., and Capitol ave. No cars will be permitted to park in this area, and no vehicular traffic may move in this district except streetcars and buses.

Police went to Camp Atterbury to arrange for assignment of between 400 and 500 military police for "celebration" duty throughout the city. Capt. A. E. Jacobs of the traffic department said he will also have auxiliary police in the downtown district following the flash of the good news.

Curb on Liquor Sale

War plants were on the alert, and those with public address systems planned to announce the peace news immediately on receipt. Several were arranging for plant celebrations.

P. R. Mallory & Co. planned to stop work immediately and close the several plants till Monday morning, should the news of peace come today or tonight. Only skeleton crews will be maintained, announced Joseph E. Cain, executive vice president.

Don Tooley, inspector of police, said he had been notified by the Alcoholic Beverage Commission that when it had been officially notified of the end of the war, it would proclaim that all places dispensing alcoholic beverages be closed for the next 24 hours.

Crowds Jam London Streets in Celebration

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the war as quickly as possible, decided upon the following:

"The Japanese government are ready to accept the terms enumerated in the joint declaration which was issued at Potsdam on July 26, 1945, by the heads of the governments of the United States, Great Britain and China, and later subscribed to by the Soviet government with the understanding that the said declaration does not compromise any demand which prejudices the prerogatives of his majesty as a sovereign ruler."

The peculiar thing about this wreck was the lack of cries of the injured which I always thought went with train wrecks.

There seemed to be a stunned silence on the part of the dazed people who had clambered out of the coaches to find out what was wrong.

I looked up on the side of the dangling car and saw a woman's body hanging out of the wreckage. Her body seemed to be pinned down in the twisted steel from the waist down. She was still conscious and crying feebly for help.

"We're going home," the G. I. shouted. "Now we're sure we're going home."

Her voice was the only one that came from the smashed car.

JAPS' STATEMENT ON PEACE TERMS

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The Japanese government hope sincerely that this . . .

At that point the Morse code telegraphic transmission was interrupted. Domei waited a moment and then the signal "stand by" was sent.

Second Broadcast

A Domei broadcast aimed at Europe and heard by the FCC repeated most of the text heard by United Press listeners and then began sending the following:

"Acceptance of the Potsdam proclamation as communicated to these governments (the allies) through the Swiss and Swedish governments was expressed by authoritative quarters here today. These quarters recalled a broadcast addressed to Japan on July 27 by Capt. (E. M.) Zacharias (an official office of war information spokesman), who professed to be the spokesman for the Washington government, in which he said that Japan's acceptance of allied peace terms will make it possible to apply the Atlantic Charter to Japan and therefore the Japanese nation will be free to adopt a form of government of their own choosing.

"The same quarters stressed that the decision by the Japanese government to accept the peace terms, as set forth in the Potsdam proclamation under extremely difficult circumstances, has been due to the August wish of his majesty, the emperor, who was anxious to forward the cause of world peace as well as the welfare of his majesty's subjects.

"These quarters further stressed that whether in war or in peace it is the immutable conviction of the entire Japanese nation firmly to uphold Japan's national . . .

The FCC said that transmission then broke off.

Safety officials were busy preparing

IN INDIANAPOLIS

EVENTS TODAY</