

# V-E CELEBRATION QUIET IN EUROPE

Battered and Starving, There Is Little Show of Emotion To Commemorate End of Struggle Year Ago.

By CHARLES BERNARD  
United Press Staff Correspondent

BERLIN, May 8.—The first anniversary of the official V-E day today found Europe hungry and battered, giving little heed to the emotions of a year ago.

Little glossy military show and few public ceremonies commemorated the end of a struggle that swayed from the gates of Moscow to the skies of London, and from the Arctic circle to the Sahara desert.

Everybody wanted to forget the war. It was a big enough job just trying to live.

Late on May 8, 1945, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, German chief of staff, signed his armies into oblivion in the Berlin headquarters of Soviet Marshal Georgi K. Zhukov. The signing was before a delegation of American, British, French and Russian military leaders.

The next day, Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz issued the final German communiqué. It told every soldier to lay aside his weapons proud and erect and "set to work in these gravest hours in our history with courage and confidence to safeguard the undying life of our people."

Today Keitel and Doenitz stood on trial as war criminals before the allied tribunal at Nuremberg.

No ceremonies were held in Berlin today.

Tomorrow a few hundred French, Russian, British and American soldiers will march through the streets as a slight reminder to the Germans.

Choose May 9

May 9 was chosen for the Berlin observance because the capitulation document became effective at one minute past midnight on the 9th.

Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, American commander in Europe, sent an anniversary message to his occupation troops stating that three negative objectives of the occupation—demilitarization, de-Nazification and deindustrialization—were nearly complete.

Gen. McNarney said the American occupation still had before it the essential tasks of re-education of the Germans, restoration of self-government to the German people and recreation of the German economy.

Holiday in Italy

All of these are necessary if Germany is not to again become a festering sore continually threatening the peace of Europe and the world," the general said.

In Italy, the day was a holiday. Allied troops put on a military show at the Caserta headquarters and brought German prisoners of war to watch it.

At the red brick technical college in Reims, France, 1200 French students went about their classroom business on the spot where the first, and basic, German surrender was signed at 2:41 a. m. on May 7.

The prosaic building then was the SHAEF headquarters of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower.

Every Day Needed

Mayor Michel Sicre said Reims couldn't take a holiday, because every day was needed to rebuild France.

The table on which the Reims surrender was signed stands as an unpretentious shrine.

A few visitors came to read the nameplates on it, recalling those who participated. Two keys to the SHAEF war room, now gold plated, were displayed in a glass case.

Maps depicting the final battle lines hang on the wall. Beside them is a casualty chart showing that the western allies lost 122,072 dead and 661,000 wounded in the western front campaign.

Railway Car Vanishes

In the forest of Compiegne, where the victorious allies signed the end of the first great war to end war, French peasants gathered wood in an empty clearing.

No visitors could pay homage in the railway car where the Germans of 1918 surrendered, and which Adolf Hitler later hauled to Germany as Nazi booty.

It has vanished, apparently blown to bits by allied bombs.

20,000 GERMANS ARRESTED IN RAIDS

BERLIN, May 8 (U. P.)—The American military government announced today that 20,000 persons were arrested for black marketing during recent raids in downtown Berlin.

Gen. Joseph T. McNarney's report for March and April said hundreds of German police, working with military authorities, have made as many as 6000 arrests in a single day.

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## I 'Stuffed' Ballot Box—And Nobody Noticed It

(Continued From Page One)

of the count itself heightened suspicion.

These peculiarities were:

ONE: A count of ballot boxes made by the Times at 4 a. m.—nine hours after the polls closed yesterday and seven hours, after all boxes were to be safely stowed at Tomlinson hall—showed that 12 boxes containing returns from six precincts were missing.

Election officials could not account for the missing ballot boxes, but asserted that their contents probably wouldn't influence the election anyway.

By 9 a. m., officials said all ballot boxes had been accounted for.

### Reasons Offered

According to the election commissioners' check lists, seven precincts were missing at that hour, but commissioners didn't know whether their own lists were accurate or not.

Listed as missing on the check lists were boxes from the 1st precinct of Lawrence twp., the 10th, 11th and 12th precincts of Wayne twp., the 4th of the 11th ward, the

5th of the 5th, and the 6th of the 2d.

David Klapper, Democratic member of the commission, listed a number of reasons why the ballot boxes were missing:

The taxicabs the county hired to haul the boxes to Tomlinson hall broke down; maybe the cabs were out cruising; the precincts decided to hold the boxes until morning ignoring instructions; perhaps the precincts were missing.

### Fastened Incorrectly

"Who knows?" he said. "It always happens. Nothing to get excited about. It won't influence the election either way."

TWO: One of the delays in the count resulted from an argument between election officials themselves over what to do about eight more boxes which Mr. Hanrahan thought improperly marked. These were also shunted aside, to be marked out.

This made a total of 26 boxes involving 13 precincts which were "in doubt."

The count which was scheduled to start at 10 p. m. got under way at

12:15 a. m. this morning. The huge counting force then went out to lunch at 2 a. m. and did not resume the count until nearly 3 a. m.

### Watcher Issue

Mr. Hanrahan made it clear at the start that he was running the count, and would not brook interference. He assigned watchers to tables. Protests came that the watchers should be permitted to circulate.

"Maybe I'll let them do it later," he finally compromised.

The first altercation over who should watch whom arose when deputy sheriffs arrived from Sheriff Petit's office.

Sheriff Petit's deputies, it seemed, had been invited to preserve law and order by County Clerk Jack Wilson.

Obviously suspicious, Commissioner Hanrahan tried to push them out. He said there were enough city police.

"This is Marion county, isn't it?"

Mr. Hanrahan was forced to admit they had him there. They stayed.

Shortly after this battle of wits,

to go being smoothly enough. Arguments over watchers and ballot boxes were quiet, in contrast to former years when lesser quarrels started fistfights.

"We're doing the best we can," Election Commissioner Klapper said. "Nobody's perfect."

### REPORT CONFESSION IN DUCE GRAVE THEFT

MILAN, May 8 (U. P.)—Newspapers today published a purported confession of the grave robbery of Benito Mussolini's body, and police announced they had arrested six persons in connection with the plot.

"However, both the confession and the arrest left a number of points obscure."

The confession blamed the plot on Gen. Enzo Calvati, prominent Fascist militia leader.

"SNOOZE' TIES UP TRAFFIC

CHICAGO, May 8 (U. P.)—Thomas Chandler, 28, a truck driver from Kernersville, N. C., paid a \$25 fine today for blocking traffic at a busy intersection. Chandler said he had driven all the way from North Carolina and had fallen asleep when he halted his truck for a stop light.

He charged that the Nationalists have eight armies in Manchuria instead of the five to which they are limited by a Jan. 13 executive headquarters agreement.

### KEEP CARROTS MOIST

WASHINGTON—To hold their vitamin C, carrots must be kept both cold and moist.

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