

This is a reproduction of a historic page to commemorate The News-Sentinel's 175th anniversary.

Fair to Partly Cloudy, Cooler Tonight, Low Near 45, with Some Frost; Cool Wednesday

The News-Sentinel

The Newspaper with the Largest Circulation in Northeastern Indiana

112TH YEAR—110

FORT WAYNE 2, INDIANA, TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1945

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HOSTILITIES END AT 5:01 P.M.

Furious War Continues on Pacific Isles

10th Army Hammers Forward All Along Okinawa Battlefront

(By International News Service) Dawn brought Victory-Day in Europe to the world today, but war clouds still darkened the Pacific where American and Allied forces scored new gains against the Japs.

Foreboding even greater blows to be unleashed against the Nipponese in the future, now that their German partners have been knocked completely out of the war, the Japs were rocked by land, sea and air strikes.

In the furious battle for Okinawa's southern area, powerful American warships of the Pacific fleet trained their long naval rifles on enemy strongpoints and helped break the stalemate existing along the Naha battlefront.

Many pillboxes, blockhouses and other structures of the enemy's defense system above Naha City were destroyed by the U.S. battleships, cruisers and destroyers.

Attacked by Sea Bombardment Assisted by this sea bombardment, as well as by streams of warplanes, troops of the U.S. 10th Army hammered their way forward in all sectors.

On the left flank, units of the Tenth Army Division were moving deeper into the enemy positions.

At the front, Gen. Charles W. Nimitz, in revealing details of the advance, said that the Tenth Army has slain at least 20,000 Japanese troops in all areas of the island fighting through Monday.

The invasion of Okinawa got under way on April 1—three more than five weeks ago.

While his warships were aiding the tanks in their assaults on the Naha line in Southern Okinawa, aircraft of the Tenth Army again brought Jap shipping in the waters around Korea and Japan under attack.

Neutralizing attacks on Japanese airfields in the Sakishima group of islands in the southwest of Okinawa also continued.

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President Proclaims V-E Day with Thanks to God, Tribute to War Dead, Warning of Work Ahead

WASHINGTON, May 8. (UP)—Following is the text of President Truman's speech today proclaiming victory in Europe:



President Truman Announces Victory in Europe

This is a solemn but a glorious hour. General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations.

I only wish that Franklin D. Roosevelt had lived to witness this day. For this victory we join in offering our thanks to the Providence which has guided and sustained us through the dark days of adversity.

Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by a supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band.

Let us not forget, my fellow Americans, the sorrow and heartbreak which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbors—neighbors whose most precious possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to return our liberty.

Pay Debt by Devotion We can repay the debt which we owe to our God, to our dead and to our children only by work—by ceaseless devotion to the responsibilities which lie ahead of us.

We must work to finish the war. Our victory is but half won. The West is free, but the East is still in bondage to the treacherous tyranny of the Japanese.

When the last Japanese division has surrendered unconditionally, then only will our fighting job be done.

We must work to bind up the wounds of a suffering world—to build an abiding peace rooted in justice and in law.

We can build such a peace only by hard, tedious, painstaking work—by understanding and working with our Allies in peace as we have in war.

The job ahead is no less important, no less urgent, no less difficult than the task which now happily is done.

I call upon every American to stick to his job until the last battle is won.

And now, I want to read to you my formal proclamation of this occasion: By the President of the United States of America: A Proclamation.

The Allied armies, through sacrifice and devotion and with God's help, have wrought peace from Germany's final and unconditional surrender.

The western world has been freed of the evil forces which for five years and longer have imprisoned the bodies and broken the lives of millions upon millions of free-born men.

They have violated their churches, destroyed their homes, corrupted their children, and murdered their loved ones.

Our armies of liberation have restored freedom to those suffering peoples whose spirit and will the oppressors could never enslave.

peace-loving nations have demonstrated in the West that their arms are stronger by far than the might of dictators or the tyranny of military cliques that once stalked us soft and weak.

The power of our peoples to defend themselves against all enemies will be proved in the Pacific war as it has been proven in Europe.

For the triumph of spirit and of arms which we have won and for its promise to people everywhere who join us in the love of freedom, it is fitting that we as a Nation give thanks to Almighty God, who has strengthened us and given us the victory.

Now, therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Sunday, May 13, 1945, to be a day of prayer.

Ugates Dead Be Honored I call upon the people of the United States, whatever their faith, to unite in offering joyful thanks to God for the victory we have won and to pray that He will support us to the end of our present struggle and guide us into the way of peace.

I also call upon my countrymen to dedicate this day of prayer to the memory of those who have given their lives to make possible our victory.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this eighth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-five, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-ninth.

HARRY S. TRUMAN, By the President: Joseph C. Grew, Acting Secretary of State.

Much Yet to Do Much remains to be done. The victory won in the West must now be won in the East. The whole world must be cleansed of the evil from which half the world has been freed.

After the confirmation of V-E Day by President Truman's broadcast, workers in several war plants began leaving their jobs until noon the following day.

Another Fort Wayne man has been killed in action in the Philippine Islands, and two others from here have been wounded.

Staff Sgt. Harry (Bud) R. Kennedy, husband of Mrs. Thelma Kennedy, 308 West Douglas Ave., and son of Mrs. Donna Stewart, 622 East Douglas Ave.

Wounded: Pvt. Max F. Potter, 605 1/2th St.; Pfc. Maurice F. Otten-Weller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ottenweller, 3218 Webster St.

Freud from Prison: Sgt. Bob G. Johnson, husband of Mrs. Johnson, 14, Columbia St.

Major Calls for Humility and Thanksgiving for War Victory Mayor Harry W. Baatz after the official confirmation of the V-E Day 1945 victory.

In appreciation and memory of the boys in the armed forces, particularly those who have made this day possible by the supreme sacrifice.

Urges Thanksgiving "Fort Wayne has met every patriotic duty," Mayor Harry W. Baatz said today.

Surrender Ratification Will Be Held in Berlin

Ending Bloody Conflict

Russ Score Big Victory At Parley

Latin-Americans Are Indignant as Scope Begins to Sink In

German High Command Chief Will Acknowledge Formally That Wehrmacht Is Beaten

PARIS, May 8. (UP)—The bloodiest war in European history will come to its official end at 12:01 a.m. tomorrow, European time, (7:01 p.m. C.W.T. today), with the formal end of hostilities on a continent desolated by more than five years of conflict.

The agreement formalizing the unconditional surrender will be ratified in Berlin today, with Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, chief of the German high command, officially acknowledging that Germany is beaten.

Sitting around the table with Keitel in Berlin will be: For the Western Allies: Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur W. Tedder, deputy supreme commander.

For Russia: Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov, commander of the First White Russian Army.

For France: Gen. Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, commander of the French First Army.

Some Nazis Still Resisting To save lives, the cease fire order already has sounded. But the fighting went on today in some small and scattered sectors.

Financial Nazis, defying the big command's unconditional surrender, held out in some parts of Czechoslovakia, in French Atlantic ports, the Channel Islands, and some portions in the Aegean.

And on the Russian front resistance continued in some considerable strength. But Prime Minister Churchill warned in London that if the Nazis held out after the 12:01 a.m. deadline, they would become outlaws under the rules of war, and would be attacked from all sides by the Allies.

The German "peace" government of Grand Adm. Karl Doenitz, successor of Adolf Hitler, was carrying on a semblance of official functions at Flensburg on the Danish frontier.

Doenitz offered today in a Flensburg broadcast to continue the leadership of the German government during the Allied occupation of the Reich.

Believe Goering, Himmler With Downfall Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering, ousted in the last days of organized resistance from the command of the German Air Force, was believed to be with the Doenitz government.

Churchill said the unconditional surrender of Germany was signed at 2:41 a.m. yesterday at Reims.

Doenitz and General Jodl, representing the German high command, signed for Germany. Lt. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Eisenhower's chief of staff, and Gen. Francois Suez, signed for the Western Allies, and Gen. Ivan Slesovsky, for Russia.

Eisenhower did not appear until after the documents—papers assembling ordinary legal forms—were signed. Officials said that, in accordance with precedent, negotiations of this kind were carried out on the chief of staff level.

Jodl Recognizes Eisenhower When Eisenhower appeared, he was greeted by Jodl's kicking of his heels. He was asked sternly whether the Germans understood the terms completely.

Throughout the conference the Russian and French were silent. The Germans wore full military uniforms with medals and ribbons.

Even in the face of Allied triumph in Europe, Churchill turned over attention to the war against Japan.

Man Fatally Hurt as Paint Gun Explodes

Hoover Will Deliver Address Tonight

Actual Signing of Their Finish by Germans Takes Only Five Minutes

Mayor Calls for Humility and Thanksgiving for War Victory

Harry Kennedy Loses Life, Two More Wounded

Few Nazis Still Resist

Fort Wayne Observes V-E Day Quietly; Few Businesses Open

Premier Says 'Japan Next'

Churchill Pledges Aid in Pacific War in V-E Proclamation

Body of Hitler Reported Found in Berlin Ruins

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THE WEATHER

TEMPERATURES IN FORT WAYNE

INDIANA: Fair and cooler with scattered light rain tonight. Low tonight 45; tomorrow 48.

Editor's Note: Here is an eyewitness account of Sunday's surrender at Reims by one of the senior American news and radio reporters who saw it take place.

Germany accepted their names on a sheet of foolscap in a map-lined room at 2:41 a.m. European time today and ended World War II in Europe.

I witnessed this historic occasion in a ceremony exactly 20 minutes long.

Immediately after signing the last document with a bold "Jodl," the surrender is effective one minute after midnight Wednesday.

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