



UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER WON BY ALLIES OVER GERMANY

Official Announcement By Truman

SWEEPING CHANGES NOW EXPECTED ON HOMEFRONT

Radical changes in the home-front are now expected, following VE-Day, with Federal machinery to be set in motion at once to restore at least limited supplies of most goods within six months, and the hope of a prewar volume in a year.

The office of War Mobilization and Reconversion prepared to issue a sweeping change of home-front plans for reconversion, rationing, manpower, price and wage controls for the one-front war.

Among restrictions which are expected to go out are the "brownout" of unnecessary lighting, the midnight curfew and the horse racing ban.

It is also predicted that gasoline rationing will be eased up in the next 30 to 90 days, tires will be more plentiful and rationing of all scarce items will ease up.

Most authorities believe that shoes, clothing, textiles, lumber and some chemicals may be even scarcer for many months to come.

SCHOOLS TO CLOSE TODAY AT NOON

City schools of Athens will close today (Tuesday) at noon in celebration of VE-Day, it was announced this morning, following the official announcement by President Truman.

ANNOUNCES SURRENDER



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

who announced the capitulation of Germany Monday morning at 7:41, Central War Time. His announcement was later officially confirmed by President Truman.

MOST BUSINESS HOUSES WILL CLOSE TODAY

The majority of business houses in the City of Athens closed their doors this morning following announcement by President Truman of Germany's unconditional surrender.

A check showed that practically all businesses were closed at 8:30 and those still open were preparing to close their doors.

EXTRA EDITION

This extra edition of The Alabama Courier is brought to you after months of planning and preparation in order that we may render the greatest service to that area in which our paper circulates.

In addition to the news of the end of war in Europe, this issue brings you many worthwhile messages from our advertisers. We urge you to read them and buckle down for continued cooperation until Total Victory is achieved.

To these advertisers who have made this issue possible and to our loyal staff of workers in the shop and office, go our thanks.



LT. GARTH FREED

Lt. Winston S. Garth, Jr., who has been a prisoner of the Germans for about two years, has been freed, according to information received by his wife, the former Marion Hoover, of Owensboro, Ky.

A cable from a Red Cross worker said, "I saw Winston today, he is well and alright, will be home soon. He sends all his love to you, Elizabeth."

Mrs. Garth received this information last Thursday and called Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Garth, parents of Lt. Garth.

LONG MAY IT WAVE



Over Land Of The Free And The Home Of The Brave

Union Services To Be Held At 8:00 p. m.

Limestone county residents will take part in a Union Service to be held at the Methodist church from eight to nine o'clock in the evening following official announcement of VE-Day.

If the announcement is officially made before seven p. m. the services will follow that evening at eight o'clock. If the announcement comes later than seven p. m. the services will be held on the following evening.

All are urged to attend this service. The program is as follows.

VE-DAY First Methodist Church Union Service 8 to 9 p. m.

- Presiding G. B. Phillips
Prelude
Call To Worship
Hymn 489 Congregation Standing
Prayer Rev. J. A. Smoake
Anthem Choir
Responsive Reading Page 561 Second Reading.
Hymn 72 Congregation Standing
Thanksgiving E. T. Waites
Hymn 77 Congregation Standing
Praise F. A. Hoffman
Hymn 302 Congregation Seated
Prayer Dr. E. R. Naylor
Hymn 165 - 1, 2, 4 Congregation Standing
Benediction Rev. J. A. Smoake

President Gives Waiting Nation Official Proclamation As It Is Also Announced In Other Capitals

MAKES PLEA FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE TO CONTINUE WORKING FOR COMPLETE VICTORY ON EASTERN FRONT

Final and unconditional surrender of the German forces was announced this morning (Tuesday, May 8, 1945) at eight o'clock by President Harry S. Truman, following ten days of rumor and false alarms heralding the end of the European conflict.

The President said that this "is a solemn but glorious hour" and his joy was dimmed only by the fact that Franklin D. Roosevelt had not lived to see this day. He warned that though victory was won in the West that the East is still in bondage and said that if he could give a single watchword, it would be "work, work and more work."

The President continued, "I call upon every American to stick to his job until final victory is won."

The President said that he had been informed by General Eisenhower that the final and unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany was now a reality, the actual signing of the surrender having taken place at 2:45 on May 7th.

In the formal proclamation by the president he set aside Sunday, May 13, as a Day of Prayer and asked that everyone join in this day of religious celebration, which he said should be dedicated to the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

Germany's new leader, Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz said that all Germans would lay down their arms in unconditional surrender and further stated that "The Nazi party has been severed from the German State."

Germany's final capitulation followed many rumors during the past few days. Early Monday morning it was announced over the radio that General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters had signed the terms of Germany's unconditional surrender at 2:45 a. m. French time (7:45 Central War Time) in a little red school house where he had maintained his headquarters. This report was not confirmed officially but it was announced that any official word would come from the White House.

Also confirming the rumors that Germany had surrendered unconditionally was the radio broadcast Sunday quoting Grand Adm. Karl Doenitz, who succeeded Hitler as the German Fuehrer, who issued the following official order:

"Crews of all ships flying the German flag (both warships and merchant ships) are to cease all military operations in harbors and waters affected by the cease-fire. They are not to scuttle their ships or to render them unserviceable by destroying machinery. The crews are to remain on board."

EDITORIAL

Arrival of VE-Day brings a joyful feeling to all of us. It means that the killing of our men and boys will cease so far as Germany is concerned, and we should be glad.

But, we must all remember that Victory in Europe does not mean that the day of final celebration is here. Victory for peace and civilization will not be complete throughout the world until Japan has been brought to her feet and conquered as Nazi Germany has been conquered.

Until that day, we must continue to work, fight and pray without any let-up so that no lives will be lost which can be saved by efforts on the home front.

It is the hope of all our great leaders that Americans will keep within certain bounds in celebrating VE-Day. That a new resolution to continue the homefront fight will be made by all and that a full measure of prayer will be a big part of the celebration.

The messages brought to you by the firms represented in this Extra Edition of The Alabama Courier are called to your attention. They contain many thought provoking statements and if our people will adopt the spirit contained in them—the final day of Victory will be made.