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VICTORY

Nazis Reveal Surrender To Western Allies, Russia

The unconditional surrender of Germany to the Western Allies and Soviet Russia was announced by the German high command yesterday morning.

The official announcements from the Allied governments are expected to come simultaneously from Washington, London and Moscow today.

The British Ministry of Information, proclaiming that today would be 'Victory in Europe Day,' said Prime Minister Churchill would make 'an official announcement' at 3 PM.

President Truman said he had agreed with the British and Russian governments that no surrender proclamation would be made 'until simultaneous announcements could be made by the three governments.'

King George VI of England sent Gen. Eisenhower a cablegram last night

Nazis Still Fight Reds At Prague

Russian and U.S. Third Army troops, despite Germany's reported unconditional surrender, continued their sweep into Czechoslovakia yesterday after the Nazi commander there announced his forces still were at war with Russia.

Gen. Patton's famous Fourth Armored Div. last night was reported speeding toward Prague, where partisans and Germans were locked in a struggle for control of the capital. A Czech radio broadcast said Gen. Patton's troops were only 16 miles away and London reports said it was 'realistically possible' that American vanguards already were in the city.

Kennelau Capture Reported
Enemy sources said Marshal Ivan Konev's First Ukrainian Army had entered Bohemia from Saxony at a point probably 80 to 85 miles north of Prague.

All fighting stopped yesterday in Breslau, the Silesian capital which has been a battleground since Feb. 11. Marshal Stalin in an order of

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Prayer, Tears, Laughter — The World Celebrates

By David A. Gordon
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

People in Allied cities throughout the world yesterday accepted the news of the reported unconditional surrender of Germany as true—despite lack of official announcements from the governments of the U.S., Britain and Russia—and celebrated with prayer, liquor, tears and laughter.

Crowds milled in the streets of the world's great cities—in Times Square, New York; Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus in London, and along the Champs-Élysées, Paris—but it was not a wild jubilee. The absence of a clear-cut official announcement and the piece-by-piece collapse of the German Ardennes tended to dull the feeling of triumph.

Ticker Tape Showers Wall Street

Then, too, the huge casualty lists, the vast war against Japan that still lay ahead, the leveled cities and the shell-battered fields and the absence of sons, fathers and brothers from homes, checked unrestrained exuberance.

Ticker tape poured from the office windows of Wall Street and strands of telephone braids from the windows of the Garment Center buildings in the Thirties, and men and women flooded Times Square, waving their arms and trying to express in words their happiness. Liquor, flowed inside bars, while people held newspaper extras and devoured the news.

Orderly Celebration Makes Things Easy for Police

But there was no special need for strict police measures, because the celebrating was orderly. Aristocratic Fifth Avenue in New York City also was covered with ripped sheets of paper which became shapeless messes in the wet streets, but stores remained open and some people seemed more dazed than jubilant.

On one section of Fifth Avenue, an impromptu conga line was formed, and on another, a group of girls marched spontane-

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congratulating him and his armies on the 'complete and crushing victory' in Europe.

The Associated Press broke the news of the surrender in a story from Rheims, France, that the Allies had announced Germany's surrender at 0241 hours yesterday morning. It said the surrender took place in the little red school house that is Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters.

Col. Gen. Gustaf Jodl, German army chief of staff, signed for Germany, it was reported.

The Associated Press story apparently was premature. From dispatches coming from Washington and London, it appeared that arrangements were being made to announce the surrender simultaneously in the three capitals when the news broke. This seemed apparent from President Truman's statement and news stories from London saying that Truman, Churchill and Stalin had conferred by telephone during the day.

Supreme Headquarters said it authorized no such story to be sent out. However, the American Broadcasting Station in Europe—operated by the Office of War Information—was reported by International News Service to have

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