

Germany's Act of Military Surrender: History Is Made: A Schoolhouse ...

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. The New York Times (U.S. Signal Corps Radiotelephoto) The New York Times
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History Is Made: A Schoolhouse in France Is the Scene of the Signing of Germany's Unconditional Surrender



Col. Gen. Gustaf Jodl signing the pact at Reims for Germany. At the left is Maj. Wilhelm Oxenius, his aide, and at the right Gen. Admiral Hans Georg Friedeburg.

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps Radiotelephoto)

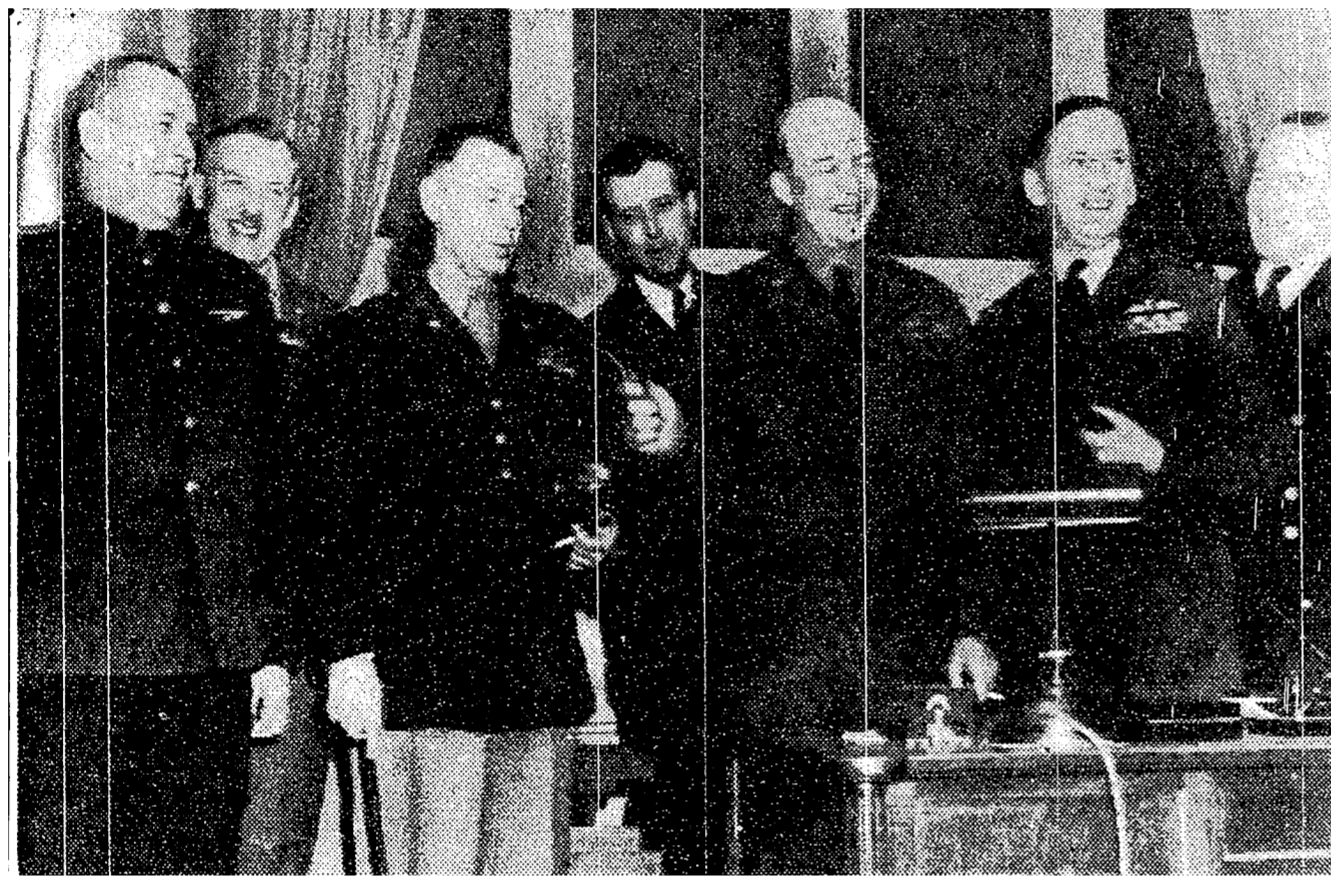
Lieut. Gen. Walter B. Smith, General Eisenhower's chief of staff, affixing his signature. At left is British Admiral Sir Harold M. Burrough and at right is Russian Maj. Gen. Ivan Susloparoff,

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps Radiotelephoto)



General Eisenhower and Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur W. Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander, wear victory smiles as General Eisenhower announces end of war in Europe.

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps Radiotelephoto)



General Eisenhower displaying the fountain pens used by the Germans in signing. Left to right: Russian Maj. Gen. Ivan Susloparoff, British Lieut. Gen. Sir Frederick E. Morgan, Deputy Chief of Staff; Lieut. Gen. Walter B. Smith, Chief of Staff; Capt. Harry C. Butcher, naval aide to Gen. Eisenhower; British Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur W. Tedder, and British Admiral Sir Harold M. Burrough.

The New York Times (U. S. Signal Corps Radiotelephoto)



Gen. Eisenhower greets Russian Lieut. Col. Ivan Zenkovitch after the pact was signed.

Associated Press Wirephoto (U. S. Signal Corps Radiophoto)

Germany's Act of Military Surrender

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, May 8—The text of "An Act of Military Surrender" as announced today at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force:

1. We, the undersigned, acting by authority of the German High Command, hereby surrender unconditionally to the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, and simultaneously to the Soviet High Command, all forces on land, sea, and in the air who are at this date under German control.
2. The German High Command will at once issue orders to all German military, naval and air authorities and to all forces under German control to cease active operations at 2301 hours [11:01 P. M.] Central European Time on Eight May and to remain in the positions occupied at the time. No ship, vessel or aircraft is to be scuttled, or any damage done to their hull, machinery or equipment.
3. The German High Command will at once issue to the appropriate commanders, and ensure the carrying out of any further orders issued by the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, and by the Soviet High Command.
4. This Act of Military Surrender is without prejudice to, and will be superseded by, any general instrument of surrender imposed by, or on behalf of the United Nations and applicable to Germany and the German Armed Forces as a whole.
5. In the event of the German High Command or any of the forces under their control failing to act in accordance with this Act of Surrender, the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, and the Soviet High Command will take such punitive or other action as they deem appropriate.

Signed at Reims, France, at 0241 hours [2:41 A. M.] on the seventh day of May, 1945.

On behalf of the German High Command—JODL.

In the presence of:
 On behalf of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force—W. B. SMITH.

On behalf of the Soviet High Command—IVAN SUSLOPAROFF.

On behalf of the French—F. SEVEZ.

[The Act of Surrender signed in Berlin yesterday was virtually identical with that of the Reims document. It was dated May 8, 1945, Berlin, and signed "In the name of the German High Command: Keitel, Friedeburg, Stumpf." Marshal of the Soviet Union Zhukoff signed on behalf of the Supreme Commander in Chief of the Red Army and Air Chief Marshal Tedder on behalf of General Eisenhower. Witnesses to the signatures were Commander of United States Strategic Air Forces Gen. Carl A. Spaatz and Commander in Chief of the French Army Gen. de Lattre.]