

Moscow News - Wednesday February 14, 1945

For once, the usually boring, official, bureaucratic, un-journalistic display in the front page of the Moscow News gave its front page story a necessary air of solemnity. At that meeting in Yalta (Crimea, URSS) of “the big three”, Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin, very important things were being decided: the establishment of a new order in Europe and the rebuilding of national economic models, the destruction of the last vestiges of Nazism and fascism and the creation of democratic institutions, the complete dismemberment of Germany, the division of that country into three separate zones that would be occupied by forces of the three powers, and the warning that an unconditional surrender was the only way out for the German army.

It was one of the most crucial political meetings of the twentieth century and one that would seal the fate of Europe and the world for many years to come, follow-

World News Conference of Jan. 3
Agreement Reached by Representatives of Allied Nations
-Page 1
Red Army Units Move to Budapest, 1944 -Page 1
Visiting of Budapest -Page 1

Moscow News

Joint Press Staff Officers Conference Decision -Page 1
Edward R. Stettin, Jr., in Moscow -Page 1
Walter James Scott, News Editor -Page 1
American Charles Under, News and Editor -Page 1
President's 25th Inauguration -Page 1
Soviet Union -Page 1

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WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1945

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Conference of Leaders of Three Allied Powers— Soviet Union, United States of America And Great Britain—in Crimea

For the past eight days, the leaders of the Three Allied Powers, Winston S. Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, and J. V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, have met, with the Foreign Secretaries, Chiefs of Staff and other advisors, in the town of Yalta.

In addition to the three heads of governments, the following took part in the Conference:

For the Soviet Union: Y. M. Molotov, People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the USSR; Alexander N. G. Orlov, People's Commissar for the Navy; Sergey G. Kovalev, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Red Army; A. Y. Vyshinsky, Soviet People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the USSR; I. K. Kuznetsov, Soviet People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the USSR; M. M. Litvinov, F. Y. Izrael, Ambassador in Great Britain; A. A. Gromyko, Ambassador in the United States.

For the United States of America: Edward R. Stettin, Jr., Secretary of State; Walter Andrew Wilson, Acting United States Navy, Chief of Staff to the President; Harry E. Hopkins, Special Assistant to the President; Arthur James F. Brown, Director, Office of War Relocation; General of the Army George C. Marshall, Joint Chiefs Staff, Chief of Staff, United States Army;

Chief of Staff, United States Army; Major General E. S. Kirtland, United States Army, Staff of Commanding General, United States Army Air Forces; W. Stuart Harrison, Ambassador to the USSR; H. Francis Matthews, Director of European Affairs, State Department; Albert Dies, Deputy Secretary, Office of Special Political Affairs, Department of State; Charles E. Bohlen, Assistant to the Secretary of State, together with national, military and technical advisors.

For the United Kingdom: Anthony Eden, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Lord Islay, Minister of War Transport; Sir A. Clark Kerr, Ambassador at Moscow; Sir Alexander Cadogan, Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Sir Edward Bellamy, Secretary of the War Relocation; Field-Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff; Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Charles Portal, Chief of the Staff; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Cunningham, First Sea Lord; General Sir Hastings Ismay, Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State; together with Field-Marshal Alexander, Supreme Allied Commander, Staff Operations Theater; Field-Marshal Wilson, Head of the British Army Staff Mission at Washington; Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, Chief of the British Staff Mission at Washington; together with military and diplomatic advisors.

The following statement is made by the President of



ing on from the horrors of the Second World War which was still raging.

The “Big Three” proclaimed outright that Nazi Germany was doomed. Armed resistance was finally being crushed.

Powerful armies were rushing to Berlin to get a big slice of the cake of a city and of a country in the process of being, at last, conquered.

This is how the Moscow News reported

key passages of the joint communique of the Crimea Conference:

“It is our inflexible purpose to destroy German militarism and Nazism and to ensure that Germany will never again be able to disturb the peace of the world. We are determined to disarm and disband all German armed forces, break up for all time the German General Staff that has repeatedly contrived the resurgence of German militarism, remove or destroy all German military equipment, eliminate or control all German industry that could be used for military production, bring all war criminals to just and swift punishment and exact reparation in kind for the destruction wrought by the Germans, wipe out the Nazi Party, Nazi laws, organizations and institutions, remove all Nazi and militarist influences from public office and from the cultural and economic life of the German people”.

Tough words indeed and, as it turned out, not idle ones.