

Tuesday, May 8, 1945

# DOENITZ'S AIDE URGES GERMANS TO BACK PLEDGES

## Tells Nation to Retain Unity and Prepare for Heavy Sacrifices

By CLIFTON DANIEL

LONDON, May 7—Having surrendered unconditionally, the skeleton German government of Grand Adm. Karl Doenitz turned immediately to postwar problems today, and if the words of its Foreign Minister can be believed, renounced Nazi principles and began a campaign to regain Germany's eventual independence.

Now that the Allies are in position to dictate Germany's future, the government appears to have been converted rather quickly to ideas of justice, international law and respect for treaties.

### Announces Surrender

Broadcasting from Flensburg, Foreign Minister Count Lutz Schwerin von Krosigk was the first to announce that Doenitz had ordered the unconditional surrender of all the German forces.

He acknowledged that due to a "collapse of all physical and material forces," Germany had succumbed. He repeated that Germany had continued to fight as long as she had only to save as many men as possible from the Red Army.

### Warns Against Illusions

"No one," he added, "must be under any illusions about the severity of the terms to be imposed upon the German people by our enemies."

The severity of these terms is not known even to the public in the Allied countries. They have been drafted over a period of months by the European Advisory Commission in London and were not supposed to be given to the Germans until unconditional surrender had been accepted.

Whatever the surrender terms may be, Krosigk called on the German people to "stand loyally by the obligations we have undertaken" and to preserve the "unity of ideas of a national community" which was manifested during the war.

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### Appeals to Conquerors

In an appeal to Germany's conquerors, he said: "In our nation justice shall be the supreme law and guiding principle. We must also recognize law as the basis of relations between the nations. Respect for treaties will be as sacred as the aim of our nation to belong to the European family of nations.

"Then we may hope that the atmosphere of hatred which today surrounds Germany all over the world will give place to a spirit of reconciliation among the nations without which the world cannot recover.

"Then we may hope that our freedom will be restored to us without which no nation can lead a bearable and dignified existence."

### Strange Sentiments

These forgive-and-forget sentiments sounded strange from a man who was from the beginning a member of the government which denied equal justice to its own citizens, flouted international law and repeatedly violated its treaties.

The Foreign Minister apparently hoped Germany, like Italy, would be allowed to "work her passage" rapidly back to respectability. His speech followed a practical program outlined last week by Armaments Minister Albert Speer for a restoration of transport and food distribution to prevent Germany from starving.

How much of their program will be acceptable to the Allies and whether they themselves will be allowed to participate in it remains to be seen. The more odious Nazis such as Heinrich Himmler seem to have vanished from the government.

### Disarmament First

The terms made ready for Germany are believed first of all to call for disarmament of all forces, surrender of war criminals and complete obedience to orders of Allied Military Government authorities for restoring order in Germany.

At a time to be jointly decided by the Allies, the Allied Control Commission, composed of the commanders-in-chief of the British, American, Soviet and French forces in Germany will take charge of the country.

### Border Changes Expected

Permanent shape of the future Reich is not expected to be decided until a peace conference is held, perhaps two years hence, but some adjustments of the

## Prepare for Sacrifices



von Krosigk

border in favor of Poland and Russia may take place in the meantime.

One question which may be settled promptly is that of drafting labor from Germany to rebuild devastated European countries. Upward of 10,000,000 men may soon be in Allied captivity, and until peace is signed, they remain prisoners of war and can be sent to work wherever they are needed.

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