

YANK

THE ARMY



WEEKLY

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ALASKA GIs from Fort Richardson tried to take over the nearby town of Anchorage when the final surrender news came through, but the town's six blocks of bars and liquor stores folded under the impact. Anchorage's seemingly inexhaustible supply of liquor just wasn't enough to meet the demand.

The celebration got under way early Tuesday afternoon and continued till 8 P.M. when the bars closed. Civilian neckties keyed the rejoicing here. GIs bought up all the available ties in Anchorage stores and when the tie supply was exhausted they exchanged OD ties with civilians. MPs removed OD ties from soldiers; the MPs wore civilian ties themselves.

The difficulty for the MPs was telling soldiers from civilians. Officers and EM exchanged insignia and stripes and one sergeant made full colonel during the evening.

Local girls did a strip tease for a couple of hundred GIs. They stripped in a hotel window and tossed their garments to soldiers gathered below. Telegrams to and from the States quadrupled over the previous day.

The reaction was summed up by Sgt. Bob Kirk of Chicago: "How long is the duration?"

—Sgt. AL WEISMAN

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