

45-37

VICTORY IN EUROPE

The closing chapter of the War in Europe. Unforgettable moments which must not go unrecorded in our newsreel history of World War two. First, we look back to that momentous day a short while ago when British and Russians linked-up near Weismar. The war was virtually over when this exciting event took place.

Luneberg Heath, Germany, May the 4th, 1945. In an old and tattered tent there occurred the greatest battlefield surrender of this or any other war. The instrument of Germany's unconditional surrender was signed. Said Monty, "If you don't agree I shall go on with the war and be delighted to do so," but the Germans sat down and having read out the terms of capitulation Field Marshal Montgomery gave his orders.

"The German delegation will now sign this paper, and they will sign in order of seniority, and General-Admiral Von Friedeberg will sign first. Now General Kienzl will sign next. Rear-Admiral Wagner will sign next. Colonel Pollak will sign next, and Major Frieder will sign last. Now I will sign the instrument on behalf of the Supreme Allied Commander General Eisenhower."

Seven clauses - and no mere scrap of paper. Clause two is tapped out by morse. The signal for the cease fire which reads, "All hostilities on land, on sea and in the air by German forces to cease at 0800 hours."

Field Marshal Montgomery, fresh from his great triumph sends a message to his troops.

Cheers bridged the English Channel. Britons, impatient for the official signal to celebrate jumped the starting gun on Monday night when notice of capitulation waited upon Whitehall, Washington and Moscow. "V-E" eve began it, and for days afterwards Londoners packed city streets and squares. The idea was to make a noise and this is it.

You measured the crowds by the acre in this bubbling over of a nation's joy and thanksgiving.

It had been a long wait for the chance to let off steam. So exuberantly did the people of Britain rejoice in Victory that it would be impossible in this edition of our newsreel to picture in adequately. In our next issue we plan to present the full and glorious story of Britain's greatest public holiday in celebration of PEACE IN EUROPE.