

VE-DAY!

IT'S OVER IN EUROPE

3 p.m. ANNOUNCEMENT WILL CLINCH IT

TODAY is VE-Day—the day for which the British people have fought and endured five years, eight months and four days of war.

With unconditional surrender of Germany to all the Allies, the war in Europe is over except for the actions of fanatical Nazis in isolated pockets, such as Prague.

The Prime Minister will make an official announcement—in accordance with arrangements between Britain, Russia and the U.S.—at three o'clock this afternoon.

ALL TODAY AND TOMORROW ARE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN BRITAIN, IN CELEBRATION OF OUR VICTORY.

We also remember and salute with gratitude and pride the men and women who suffered and died to make triumph possible—and the men still battling in the East against another cruel enemy who is still in the field.

WAR WINNERS ON AIR TODAY

YOU will hear the voices of the King, Field-Marshal Montgomery and Alexander and General Eisenhower on the B.B.C. Home service tonight.

After the King's speech at 9 p.m., and separated from it by the news bulletin, comes "Victory Report," a special programme which will contain the recorded voices of Ike and Monty, and other

famous personalities of the war.

This afternoon Mr. Churchill announces the end of the war to the House of Commons and then, at 3 p.m., broadcasts to the world.

There will be no speeches, no ceremony in the House. The Prime Minister will read the official document, then at once ask that the House adjourn to St. Margaret's Chapel for a service of thanksgiving.

A procession will then be formed, headed by the Speaker and all members of the Cabinet, and will pass through Palace Yard and across Westminster-square to the chapel.

Holiday for M.P.s.

There will be no further sitting of the House that day. M.P.s will meet again tomorrow. Additional features of the B.B.C. Home programme, which will end at 2 a.m. tomorrow, include, at 8 p.m., an address by the Archbishop of Canterbury at a Thanksgiving Service for Victory, and at 8.30, "Triumph to the King," in which fifteen people will take part.

They include representatives of the Dominions and Colonies, the three fighting Services, the Merchant Navy, the Police and Civil Defence forces, a B.B.C. and a London household.



*** VE-SCENE TRAFALGAR SQUARE ***

It was a high old time in Trafalgar-square last night. Everybody wanted to climb something. This party of Wrens and Allied soldiers celebrated by clambering on to the lions. Army policemen present—like Nelson on his column—turned a blind eye.

London's first V-hour

"Daily Mirror" Reporter

PROBABLY CIRCUUS, VE-DAY. THERE are 10,000 of us here—at a conservative police estimate—in the first hour of this day of days so unique in VE with all the noise that 10,000 people can make when they are out to celebrate.

We had been waiting since two o'clock yesterday for this. We went home at six when it seemed that the news of VE-Day would never come—but we were back in strength for the first minute of VE-Day.

And for some time now we have been making the most of it.

We are dancing the Congo and the Jig and "Knees up,

Mother Brown," and we are singing and whistling, and blowing paper triangles.

The idea is to make a noise. We are. Even above the roar of the motors of low-flying bombers "shooting up" the city.

We are dancing around Eros in the black-out, but there is a glow from a bonfire up Shaftesbury-avenue and a brass band cinema has lit its canopy lights for the first time in getting on for six years.

A huge V sign glares down over Leicester Square. And songs of girls and soldiers of all the Allied nations are waving rattles and shouting and climbing lamp-posts and swarming over cars that have become bogged down in this

struggling swirling mass of celebrating Londoners.

A paper-hatted throng is trying to pull me out of this telephone box now. I hold the door tight, but the din from Piccadilly Circus is drowning my voice.

A group of men liberated from German prison camps are yelling—"Hold out the Barrel!" We sang it when we went to France in 1919 and we sang it as we tried to get out in 1940. They told me, "Now we sing it for victory."

Amid deride cheers a New Zealand sailor climbed on the bonnet of a bus and from there to the roof.

He stood there swaying above the crowds as the

American army swarmed on after him, but the police fought through the crowd and pulled them down.

Traffic tried to push through

Continued on Back Page

SURRENDER IN A FARMHOUSE

A Reuter message from Rheims described how the surrender was signed at the little red farmhouse which is General Eisenhower's headquarters at 2.41 a.m.

General Jodl, new German Army C-in-C, signed for Germany.