

ACTS OF GERMAN MILITARY SURRENDER

Signed April 29 and May 4, 7 and 8, 1945

CANADA

TREATY SERIES, 1945

No. 15

ACTS

OF

GERMAN MILITARY SURRENDER

Signed on April 29 and May 4, 7 and 8, 1945



OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY

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SUMMARY

	Page
I. Instrument of local surrender of German and other forces under the command or control of the German Commander-in-Chief South-West, signed at Caserta, Italy, April 29, 1945.....	3
Appendix "A".—Orders for German Land Forces.....	4
Appendix "B".—Orders for German and German-Controlled Naval Forces and Merchant Shipping.....	6
Appendix "C".—Orders for German and German-Controlled Air Forces.....	11
II. Instrument of surrender of all German armed forces in Holland, in northwest Germany including all islands, and in Denmark, signed on 4th May, 1945.....	14
III. Act of military surrender signed by General Oberst Jodl in Rheims on 7th May, 1945.....	15
IV. Undertaking given by certain German emissaries to the Allied High Commands, signed by General Oberst Jodl in Rheims on 7th May, 1945.....	16
V. Act of military surrender signed by General Field-Marshal Keitel, General Admiral von Friedeburg and General Oberst Stumpf in Berlin on the 8th May, 1945.....	17



OTTAWA
EDMUND GEORGE C.M.G., P.C., F.R.S.
KING'S MINISTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
1945

ACTS OF GERMAN MILITARY SURRENDER

Signed April 29 and March 4, 7, and 8, 1945

I

INSTRUMENT OF LOCAL SURRENDER OF GERMAN AND OTHER FORCES UNDER THE COMMAND OR CONTROL OF THE GERMAN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, SOUTH-WEST, SIGNED AT CASERTA, ITALY, APRIL 29, 1945.

1. The German Commander-in-Chief, South-West, hereby surrenders unconditionally all the forces under his command or control on land, at sea and in the air and places himself and these forces unconditionally at the disposal of the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre of Operations.

2. All armed forces under the command or control of the German Commander-in-Chief, South-West, will cease all hostilities on land, at sea and in the air at 1200 hours (Greenwich mean time) on the 2nd May, 1945. The German Commander-in-Chief, South-West, undertakes to arrange accordingly.

3. The German Commander-in-Chief, South-West, undertakes to carry out the orders set out in Appendices "A", "B" and "C" and any further orders of the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre of Operations. Disobedience of such orders or failure to comply with them will be dealt with in accordance with the accepted laws and usages of war.

4. This instrument will enter into force immediately on signature, and the orders in Appendices "A", "B" and "C" will become effective on the date and at the time specified in paragraph 2 above.

5. This instrument and accompanying orders are drawn up in the English and German languages. The English version is the authentic text. If any doubt as to meaning or interpretation arises, the decision of the Supreme Allied Commander is final.

6. This instrument is independent of, without prejudice to, and shall be superseded by any general instrument of surrender imposed by or on behalf of the United Nations and applicable to Germany and the German armed forces as a whole.

SCHWEINITZ

VICTOR VON SCHWEINITZ, Lieutenant-Colonel in the General Staff of Army Group C, for Colonel-General VON VIETINGHOFF-SCHEEL, Commander-in-Chief, South-West, and Commander-in-Chief of Army Group C.

WENNER

FUGEN WENNER, S.S.-STURMBANNFUHRER and Major in the Waffen-SS., for S.S.-OBERGRUPPENFUHRER and General of the Waffen-SS. WOLFF, Supreme Commander of S.S. and Police and plenipotentiary General of the General of the German Wehrmacht in Italy.

Signed at Caserta, Italy,

29th April, 1945,

1400 hours.

MORGAN

W. D. MORGAN, Lieutenant-General, Chief of Staff, for Field-Marshal the Honourable Sir HAROLD R. L. G. ALEXANDER, Supreme Allied Commander of the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations.

APPENDIX "A"

ORDERS FOR GERMAN LAND FORCES

1. The term "German Land Forces" wherever used in these orders shall be deemed to include all German and Italian Republican military or para-military forces or organisations, under the command or control of the German Commander-in-Chief, Southwest, who is hereafter referred to as "the German Authority."

2. The term "Supreme Allied Commander" will be deemed to include all subordinate Allied Commanders.

3. The German Authority will send to HQ. 15 Army Group, as soon as possible after the signing of the instrument of surrender, senior representatives with full executive powers to carry out the following orders and such further orders as the Commanding General, 15 Army Group, may issue for compliance by the German Land Forces.

"Stay-put" Order.

4. All formations, units and sub-units of the German Land Forces, wherever they may be, will remain in their present positions and in their existing formations pending further orders from the Supreme Allied Commander. Only such local movement is permitted as is essential for the transmission of orders, the supply of food, water, forage and petrol and the treatment of sick and wounded. (See also paragraph 7.)

5. In particular, all large-scale road and rail movement between Italy and any point outside Italy is absolutely prohibited. Any movement east of the Isonzo River will be liable to air attack without warning.

Disarmament of German Land Forces.

6. All German Land Forces will be completely disarmed. They will hand over their arms, ammunition, equipment and all war-like stores at places and times and in a manner to be further ordered by the Commanding General, 15 Army Group, or any of his subordinate Commanders.

Maintenance of German Land Forces.

7. The German Authority will, pending further orders from the Supreme Allied Commander, maintain its own forces from its own resources. Purchase or requisition from local sources is forbidden.

Status of Surrendered Personnel.

8. All personnel of the German Armed Forces shall be subject to such conditions and directions as may be prescribed by the Supreme Allied Commander. At the Supreme Allied Commander's discretion, some or all of such personnel may be declared to be prisoners of war.

Prohibition of Destruction and Damage.

9. The German Authority will prevent the removal, destruction of or damage to, and will safeguard in good condition at the disposal of the Supreme Allied Commander:

- (a) All arms, ammunition, explosives and war-like stores, equipment, vehicles, material of all kinds, fuel and oil stocks, and any items of supply used by or for members of the German Land Forces.
- (b) All military installations and establishments, including permanent and temporary land fortifications, fortresses and fortified areas together with all plans and drawings of the same.

- (c) All transportation and communications facilities and equipment, including all ports and port facilities and equipment, roads, railways, waterways, bridges, tunnels and telecommunications systems.
- (d) All civil and industrial factories, installations and plant, workshops, laboratories, experimental stations, stores, equipment, supplies, raw materials and finished products, buildings and civil property.
- (e) All cryptographic methods and equipment, cyphers, codes and call-sign systems, whether military, diplomatic or civilian.
- (f) All military, para-military and civil documents, records and archives.

Provision of Information and Facilities.

10. The German Authority will forthwith furnish to the Supreme Allied Commander:

- (a) Complete information regarding the German Land Forces and, in particular, such details as the Supreme Allied Commander may require concerning the numbers, locations, dispositions, stores and equipment of the German Land Forces wherever located.
- (b) Complete information concerning mines, minefields and other obstacles to movement and the safety lanes in connection therewith.
- (c) Such military, para-military and civil documents, records and archives as the Supreme Allied Commander may require.

11. The German Authority will:

- (a) Maintain in operation all public utility and essential civilian services.
- (b) Clearly mark and maintain safety lanes through all minefields and other obstacles to movement.
- (c) Remove or render safe all demolition charges and all booby-traps.
- (d) Make available for the Supreme Allied Commander such military personnel with the necessary equipment, as he may require, for the clearance of mines, minefields, and other obstacles to movement; and such labour as he may require for any purpose.

Disposal of Prisoners of War and of Persons in Custody.

12. The German Authority will release in accordance with the instructions of the Supreme Allied Commander all prisoners of war (naval, military or air) at present in their power, and will furnish forthwith complete lists of these persons with the places of their detention. Pending release of such prisoners of war, the German Authority will continue to protect them in their persons and property, and accord them such treatment and facilities as are prescribed under the Geneva Convention.

13. The provisions of paragraph 12 preceding will be applied by the German Authority equally to all other persons who are confined interned or otherwise under restraint for political reasons or as the result of any action, law or regulation originating from discrimination on grounds of nationality, race, colour, creed or political belief. Such persons as are not entitled to treatment in accordance with the Geneva Convention will be afforded comparable rights and amenities in accordance with their rank or official position.

14. Without prejudice to any other provisions in these orders, the German Authority will hand over to the Supreme Allied Commander, the control of all places of detention.

Radio and Tele-communications.

15. The use of military and civil radio and land-line communication systems is permitted with the proviso that:

- (a) All messages and signals will be made in clear.
- (b) All forms of scrambling and secrecy equipment will be disconnected and safeguarded intact.

Maintenance of Discipline.

16. The German Authority will remain responsible for the maintenance of discipline throughout the German Land Forces as defined in paragraph 1 above.*

Treatment of Allied Liaison Officers and Italian Government Forces in German-occupied Italy.

17. Italian Government forces in Northern Italy comprise all partisan formations and organisations owing allegiance to the C.L.N.A.I. which is the recognised delegate in German-occupied Italy of the Italian Government. Immediate control of these groups is exercised through Allied and Co-belligerent officers operating in conjunction with these forces in the field. Such officers are being instructed immediately to get in touch with local German commanders.

18. The German Command-in-Chief, South-West, and all German subordinate commanders will receive and afford all facilities to these Allied or Co-belligerent officers together with representatives of the C.L.N.A.I. for the purpose of establishing and maintaining, pending arrival of Allied forces, liaison with the following objects:

- (a) The general maintenance of law and order.
- (b) The maintenance of all essential civilian services.
- (c) The provision of communications and transport which may be necessary for the adequate distribution of supplies and the continuance of local administration.

19. For the execution of the above functions all Allied liaison officers will be considered as the representatives of the Supreme Allied Commander. They will be afforded complete freedom of communications by any means.

APPENDIX "B"

ORDERS FOR GERMAN AND GERMAN-CONTROLLED NAVAL FORCES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING

1. (a) The term "German Naval Forces" wherever used in these orders will be deemed to include all German and Italian Republican naval or para-naval forces or organisations under the command or control of the German Naval Commander, South or the German Commander-in-Chief, South-West.

(b) The term "German Authority" wherever used in these orders will mean the German Naval Commander, South, and the German Commander-in-Chief, South-West, both severally and jointly.

2. The term "Supreme Allied Commander" will be deemed to include all his subordinate commanders.

* Until such time as this responsibility is taken over by Allied troops, e.g. until German troops become prisoners of war, German commissioned officers and military police (Felder gendarmerie and Geheimfeldpolizei) will retain their hand weapons.

3. The German Authority will cause:—

(a) All such surface warships, auxiliaries and merchant vessels as are under his command or control, at sea at the time and date of surrender, wherever they may be, to return to their normal port or base. Armaments of these ships are to be trained fore and aft.

(b) All ocean-going U-boats at sea to surface and fly a black flag or black pendant by day and to remain undarkened by nights and show navigation lights. All ocean-going U-boats at sea to be ordered to proceed to Gibraltar, reporting on 500 kilocycles to the nearest Allied wireless station their estimated time of arrival at Europa Point. Small enemy submarines at sea in the Adriatic or Ligurian Seas are to be ordered to return to Pola or Genoa respectively.

(c) All such warships, including submarines of all types, auxiliaries, and merchant vessels as are under his command or control, which are in harbour, to remain there.

(d) All ships and vessels of the United Nations, whether or not title has been transferred as the result of prize court or other proceedings, which are at the disposal of or under German control at the time of surrender, to proceed at the dates and to the ports or bases specified by the Supreme Allied Commander's representatives.

4. The German Authority will at once cause all such warships, surface or submarine, auxiliaries, merchant ships and other craft in harbour, as are under his command or control, to comply with the following orders:—

(a) No ship, vessel or craft of any description including harbour craft, whether afloat, under repair or construction, built or building, is to be damaged or scuttled, nor is any damage to be done to its hull, machinery or equipment.

(b) Ammunition is to be retained on board until further orders.

(c) Armaments are to be rendered inoperative by removal of essential portions of the firing mechanisms, but such mechanisms, and the armament in general are not to be damaged or destroyed. Fire control equipment is to be maintained on board fully efficient. All weapons are to be trained fore and aft.

(d) All small arms are to be landed, and safeguarded.

(e) Ships are to remain undarkened by night.

(f) Colours are to be struck and not rehoisted.

(g) With the exception of minesweepers and harbour tugs and vessels, all warships, surface and submarine, and auxiliaries, are to be reduced to 20 per cent of their complement of officers and men, except such ships or craft as are required to remain in operation to comply with the instructions in paragraph 7 (h) (1). The officers and men removed are to be placed in shore barracks where they are to remain under naval discipline. The crews of merchant vessels are to remain on board their ships.

(h) Minesweepers are to be subjected to the degree of disarmament prescribed in sub-paragraph (c) above, but are to be prepared immediately for mine-sweeping service under the orders of the Supreme Allied Commander's representatives, and are to be complete with fuel.

(i) Wireless transmitting apparatus is to be rendered inoperative by removal of essential parts, but no wireless apparatus is to be damaged or destroyed.

(j) All callsign, code and cypher systems, including books, documents, files and cryptographic machinery, are to be removed from ships and placed under guard ashore. International code and callsigns are to be retained on board.

5. The German Authority will cause all such warships, surface or submarine, auxiliaries, merchant ships and other craft at sea as are under his command or control to be instructed to comply with the orders in paragraph 4 above immediately on return to harbour.

6. The German Authority will immediately ensure that German naval aircraft under his command or control:—

(a) Do not leave the ground or base or ship until further orders are received from the Supreme Allied Commander's representatives.

(b) Already in the air, land or alight forthwith.

7. The German Authority will immediately take action to ensure compliance with the following orders:—

(a) No demolitions are to be carried out to harbour or port facilities of whatever nature; to naval establishments ashore; to scientific or experimental centres or laboratories; to tele-communication and radar stations; to power and water installations; to stores and industrial equipment; to documents, records and archives of naval interest; which are to be preserved and kept free from damage or destruction pending receipt of further orders from the Supreme Allied Commander's representatives; All necessary steps are to be taken, and orders issued, to prohibit any act of sabotage, scuttling or contamination of fuels.

(b) All boom defences at all ports and harbours are to be opened and kept open at all times. Where possible, they are to be removed.

(c) All controlled minefields at all ports and harbours are to be disconnected and rendered ineffective.

(d) All demolition charges in all ports and harbour works are to be removed or rendered ineffective, and their presence indicated by appropriate signs.

(e) The existing wartime system of navigational lighting is to be maintained except that all dimmed lights are to be shown at full brilliancy, and lights shown only by special arrangement are to be exhibited continuously. Navigational lights which have been extinguished are to be exhibited as soon as possible with their former characteristics if practicable.

(f) All pilotage services are to continue to operate and all pilots are to be held at their normal stations ready for service and equipped with charts.

(g) All small arms, explosives, and war-like stores, in naval barracks and shore establishments, are to be placed in magazines, under guard.

(h) (1) German naval and other personnel concerned in the operation of ports and administrative services in ports are to remain at their stations and to continue to carry out their routine duties.

(2) German and German-controlled naval personnel employed seaward defence are to comply with the instructions given by the Supreme Allied Commander.

(3) A general order is to be given to all German and German-controlled naval and para-naval personnel that they are to carry out all orders and instructions given them by the Supreme Allied Commander. All personnel are to be unarmed at all times.

(i) A certificate that the required under sub-paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) above has been carried out, is to be rendered by the German Authority to the Supreme Allied Commander's representatives.

8. (a) Sufficient information is required immediately to enable rapid entry to be made into the ports of Venice and Chioggia. This information is to be delivered by the German Authority to the Allied Naval Authorities at the date and time at which the surrender becomes effective and by means which will be decided at the meeting held prior to the signing of the Instrument of Surrender.

(b) For each of the above ports the following details are therefore required:

(1) Limits, types and laid depths of all minefields in the approaches, and the positions, types and laid depths of all mines in the harbours themselves.

(2) Positions of obstructions dangerous to navigation inside the harbours and in their approaches.

(3) The safe routes, if any, leading into these harbours. If no safe routes exist to the harbours themselves, then details of the routes to the nearest suitable beach in each case are required.

9. The German Authority is forthwith to furnish the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief with certain information in respect of the undermentioned two special areas and subsequently of the whole of the Mediterranean and the Straits of Gibraltar. This information is to be delivered to the Allied Naval Authorities by means which will be decided at the meeting held prior to the signing of the Instrument of Surrender. The two special areas concerned are:

Ligurian Sea. Area bounded on the west by meridian of 8° E. South by parallel of $43^{\circ} 30'$ N. East and north by the coast of Italy.

Adriatic Sea. Area bounded on the north, east and west by the coasts of Italy, Istria and Jugoslavia. On the south by parallel of 44° N.

The information concerned is:—

(a) Positions of all minefields, both moored and ground mines, independent and controlled, laid by the Italians or Germans, by all types of minelaying craft including aircraft. Details of each mine or group of mines laid is to include:—

(1) Type of mine.

(2) Number of mines laid.

(3) Spaces between mines.

(4) Depth setting.

(5) Date laid.

(6) Number and type of anti-sweeping devices laid.

(7) Types of anti-sweeping devices, if any, including chain moorings, fitted to the mines themselves.

(8) If snag lines have been fitted to mines.

(9) Polarity, delay, and number of actuations set on all ground mines.

(10) Details of the mines themselves, including drawings and photographs of all types of mines and mine-fittings.

(b) Details of convoy routes, searched channels and approach channels.

(c) Details of—

(1) Navigational lights which have been destroyed.

(2) Navigational lights which are in operation, giving details of operation, and by whom controlled.

(3) Navigational lights which can be put into operation at short notice and their characteristics.

(d) Details of buoys, indicating:

(1) Buoys remaining in place. If light buoys whether light is working and its characteristics.

(2) Additional buoys laid, with reason for laying and details including lights, if any.

(3) Buoys removed.

(e) Details of booms and obstructions, including wrecks dangerous to navigation.

(f) Details of all radio and radar navigational aids including all shore radar stations which could be used for this purpose.

(g) A complete and up-to-date set of charts corrected to the latest information available, and showing all minefields, convoy routes, searched channels, approach channels, buoys, lights, navigational aids, booms, wrecks, obstructions and radar stations.

(h) A complete and up-to-date set of navigational publications corrected to the latest information available.

10. Pilots equipped as in paragraph 7f, and in addition, provided with the information required by paragraph 8b, are to be stationed at suitable rendezvous, at the time and date at which surrender becomes effective, in readiness to meet and lead-in Allied warships to the ports of Trieste, Venice and Pola. These rendezvous are to be communicated to the Allied Naval Authorities by means which will be decided at the meeting held prior to the signing of the Instrument of Surrender.

11. The German Authority is to send to the Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, at Caserta, forthwith upon the surrender becoming effective, a Senior German Naval Officer from his staff. This officer is to be granted full executive powers by the German Authority to act on his behalf in conformity with any orders and instructions given him by the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, or his representatives.

The route and method by which this officer is to present himself at the Headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, will be notified to the German Authority at the meeting held prior to the signing of the Instrument of Surrender.

12. The German Authority is to furnish forthwith, exact information with regard to the disposition of German and German controlled naval formations and units under his command. Such information is to include the following:

(a) Present locations of all Naval Staffs and Headquarters.

(b) Full details of organisation of German Naval Command in the Mediterranean.

(c) Disposition, state of readiness, and crew lists of all warships, auxiliaries and merchant shipping.

(d) Details of defence plans, including plans and drawings of all naval fortifications, installations and establishments.

(e) Detailed lists of fuel stocks including furnaces, Diesel, petrol and coal.

13. The German Authority will cause all Naval Shore Wireless Stations under his command to comply with the following orders:

(a) All wireless transmitting apparatus is to be rendered inoperative by removal of essential parts, but no wireless apparatus or shore station equipment is to be damaged or destroyed.

(b) All call sign, code and cypher systems, including books, documents, files and cryptographic machinery, are to be safely stored and guarded.

14. Detailed directions as to how and where the information required by the foregoing paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 is to be delivered to the Allied Naval Authorities will be notified separately to the German Authority.

15. The German Authority will, pending further orders from the Supreme Allied Commander, maintain his own forces from his own resources.

APPENDIX "C"

ORDERS FOR THE GERMAN AND GERMAN-CONTROLLED AIR FORCES

1. The German Commander-in-Chief, Southwest, hereinafter referred to as the "German Authority", is hereby held responsible for the execution of the following orders.
2. The German Authority will forthwith cause all aircraft of any kind or nationality, whether military, naval or civil, under the control of the German Authority, or operating in or over the area he controls, to alight at once and remain on the ground, on the water, or aboard ship pending further instructions from the Supreme Allied Commander. The term aircraft includes gliders and balloons.
3. All German or German-controlled aircraft in the air will be treated as hostile.
4. The German Authority will prevent sabotage or destruction of any equipment or installations, and will maintain all airfields in readiness for instant use by the Allied Air Forces.
5. All aircraft will be cleared of runways and parked in recognized dispersal areas.
6. All aircraft will be disarmed and all wireless equipment rendered inoperative without damage. The guns, bombs, pyrotechnics, ammunition and wireless equipment will be stored under guard in the appropriate storehouses or hangars.
7. All aircraft will be immobilized by removing the elevators, disconnecting the fuel and oil supply (to each engine, in the case of twin or multi-engined aircraft) and draining all fuel and oil tanks into suitable containers.
8. All aircraft together with the removed elevators, fuel and oil, spare parts, hangars, storehouses, airfield administrative and living accommodation, general airfield equipment, including lighting installations, will be safeguarded intact.
9. The German Authority will send forthwith upon the surrender becoming effective, to the Headquarters of the Air Commander-in-Chief, M.A.A.F., at Caserta, a Senior German Air Force officer from his staff. This officer will be granted full executive powers by the German Authority to act on his behalf in conformity with any orders and instructions given him by the Air Commander-in-Chief, M.A.A.F., or his representatives.

The route and method by which his officer is to present himself at the Headquarters of the Air Commander-in-Chief, M.A.A.F., is to be notified to the German Authority at the meeting held prior to the signing of the Instrument of Surrender.

10. The German Authority will forthwith furnish to the Supreme Allied Commander complete information regarding German and German-controlled Air Forces and, in particular, such details as the Supreme Allied Commander may require concerning the numbers, units, locations, dispositions, stores and equipment of the German and German-controlled Air Forces wherever located.

11. *Balloons.*

All balloons will be hauled down, deflated, packed and safeguarded intact. Fuel pumps and carburettors will be removed from all winch motors and safeguarded.

12. *Explosives.*

Information concerning all booby-traps, mines and other explosive devices on and in the vicinity of the airfields will be furnished immediately on demand to the responsible local Allied authorities. All explosives, including bombs, will be rendered safe by the removal of fuzes and detonators.

13. All self-destroying devices, whether in aircraft, signals equipment or in any Luftwaffe equipment or installation will be removed.

14. *Personnel.*

All personnel of the Luftwaffe and associated air forces will be disarmed and will remain in their camps or at assigned sites until directed otherwise by the representatives of the local Allied Commander. The orders or instructions of any representative of the local Allied Commander will be obeyed.

15. *Motor Transport.*

All transport tracked or wheeled, will be collected together and maintained in good condition in recognised M.T. parking areas under guard.

16. *Fuel and Oil.*

Fuel and oil supplies and installations of all types will be safeguarded and handed over to the local Allied Authorities without contamination.

17. *Anti-Aircraft.*

All anti-aircraft guns, heavy and light, under control of the Luftwaffe will be rendered inoperative by the removal of an essential part of the fire mechanism. The whole equipment will be safeguarded intact.

18. All parts removed from A.A., under paragraph 17 above, will be properly prepared for storage, labelled with the number of the appropriate gun, segregated from guns, and safeguarded intact.

Any spare parts for A.A. guns held at Luftwaffe units will be segregated from guns and safeguarded intact.

19. *Fire Control Equipment.*

Instruments, directors and computers, including radar and all fire control equipment, will be concentrated and stored intact.

20. *Searchlights.*

All carbon rods will be removed from the projectors. The fuel pumps will be removed from the generators. The carbons and fuel pumps together with all carbon and fuel-pump spares will be stored and safeguarded intact.

21. *Small Arms.*

All small arms will be collected and safeguarded intact.

22. *Gas Bombs and Equipment.*

Normal precautions will be taken against leakage of gas from any gas bombs.

All gas equipment and decontamination material will be preserved and handed over to the Allied representatives on demand.

Gas spray containers will be collected and guarded, and where such containers are filled with gas, the normal precautions will be taken against leakage.

23. *Flying-Bombs.*

All stocks of flying-bombs will be immobilised by the removal of fuses, detonators, and fuel pumps. The items so removed will be segregated from flying-bombs, concentrated and safeguarded intact, and all flying-bombs and their equipment, spares and launching sites and facilities will be safeguarded intact.

24. *Rocket-Propelled Weapons.*

All weapons and projectiles propelled by rockets or similar devices will be immobilised by the removal and segregation of essential parts of the mechanism. The parts so removed will be segregated from such weapons and projectiles, concentrated, and guarded, and the weapons and projectiles, their equipment, spares, launching sites and facilities will be safeguarded intact.

25. *Signals Equipment.*

(a) In addition to the requirements of paragraph 6 above, all communications equipment used for code, voice, teletype or other electrical transmission will be rendered inoperative without damage and safeguarded.

(b) All ground and airborne electronic transmitters and receivers of whatever nature or design, whether used for air warning, tracking, identification or flying control will be rendered inoperative without damage and safeguarded.

26. *Call and Code Signs.*

All call and code sign systems used by Germany and/or her Allies in operating Luftwaffe telecommunication systems will be withdrawn from use, and all documents and/or associated coding devices will be stored and safeguarded intact.

27. *Code and Cyphers.*

All code and cyphers systems, including books, documents and cypher machinery, employed by the Luftwaffe will be withdrawn from use, stored and safeguarded intact.

28. *Secrecy Equipment.*

All forms of scrambling and secrecy equipment in use on any Luftwaffe telecommunication system will be disconnected and safeguarded intact.

29. All other Luftwaffe equipment, including that in experimental stations and laboratories, military or civilian, photographic equipment, furniture, will be preserved intact and maintained in good condition. Special care will be taken to ensure the preservation of all documents, including technical manuals, files, plans, maps, card indices, identity documents.

30. *Maintenance of Luftwaffe.*

The German Authority will, pending further order from the Supreme Allied Commander, maintain its own forces from its own resources.

II

INSTRUMENT OF SURRENDER OF ALL GERMAN ARMED FORCES IN HOLLAND, IN NORTHWEST GERMANY INCLUDING ALL ISLANDS, AND IN DENMARK, SIGNED ON 4th MAY, 1945.

1. The German Command agrees to the surrender of all German armed forces in HOLLAND, in northwest GERMANY including the FRISIAN ISLANDS and HELIGOLAND and all other islands, in SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, and in DENMARK, to the C.-in-C. 21 Army Group. This to include all naval ships in these areas. These forces to lay down their arms and to surrender unconditionally.

2. All hostilities on land, on sea, or in the air by German forces in the above areas to cease at 0800 hrs. British Double Summer Time on Saturday 5 May 1945.

3. The German command to carry out at once, and without argument or comment, all further orders that will be issued by the Allied Powers on any subject.

4. Disobedience of orders, or failure to comply with them, will be regarded as a breach of these surrender terms and will be dealt with by the Allied Powers in accordance with the accepted laws and usages of war.

5. This instrument of surrender is independent of, without prejudice to, and will be superseded by any general instrument of surrender imposed by or on behalf of the Allied Powers and applicable to Germany and the German armed forces as a whole.

6. This instrument of surrender is written in English and in German. The English version is the authentic text.

7. The decision of the Allied Powers will be final if any doubt or dispute arises as to the meaning or interpretation of the surrender terms.

B. L. MONTGOMERY

Field-Marshal

4 May 1945

1830 hrs.

FRIEDEBURG.

KINSEL.

G. WAGNER.

POLECK.

FRIEDEL.

III

**ACT OF MILITARY SURRENDER SIGNED BY GENERAL OBERST JODL
IN RHEIMS ON 7th MAY, 1945.**

1. We the undersigned, acting by authority of the German High Command, hereby surrender unconditionally to the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and simultaneously to the Soviet High Command all forces on land, sea, and in the air who are at this date under German control.

2. The German High Command will at once issue orders to all German military, naval and air authorities and to all forces under German control to cease active operations at 2301 hours Central European time on the 8th May and to remain in the positions occupied at that time. No ship, vessel, or aircraft is to be scuttled, or any damage done to their hull, machinery or equipment.

3. The German High Command will at once issue to the appropriate commanders, and ensure the carrying out of any further orders issued by the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and by the Soviet High Command.

4. This act of military surrender is without prejudice to, and will be superseded by any general instrument of surrender imposed by, or on behalf of the United Nations and applicable to Germany and the German armed forces as a whole.

5. In the event of the German High Command or any of the forces under their control failing to act in accordance with this Act of Surrender, the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and the Soviet High Command will take such punitive or other action as they deem appropriate.

Signed at Rheims, France, at 0241 on the 7th day of May, 1945.

On behalf of the German High Command.

JODL.

In the presence of:

On behalf of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force.

On behalf of the Soviet High Command.

W. B. SMITH.

SUSLOPAROFF.

F. SEVEZ,
Major-General, French Army

(Witness).

IV

UNDERTAKING GIVEN BY CERTAIN GERMAN EMISSARIES TO THE ALLIED HIGH COMMANDS, SIGNED BY GENERAL OBERST JODL IN RHEIMS ON 7th MAY, 1945.

It is agreed by the German emissary undersigned that the following German officers will arrive at a place and time designated by the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, and the Soviet High Command, prepared, with plenary powers, to execute a formal ratification on behalf of the German High Command of this act of Unconditional Surrender of the German armed forces:—

- Chief of the High Command.
- Commander-in-Chief of the Army,
- Commander-in-Chief of the Navy,
- Commander-in-Chief of the Air Forces.

Signed:

JODL,

Representing the German High Command.

Dated 0241, 7th May, 1945,
Rheims, France.

JODL

In the presence of:

(On behalf of the Soviet High Com-
mand)

(On behalf of the Supreme Com-
mander, Allied Expeditionary Force)

0241 May 7

SECRET

W. B. SWINSON

F. SEVER

Major-General, French Army

(Witness)



V

ACT OF MILITARY SURRENDER SIGNED BY GENERAL FIELD-MARSHAL KEITEL, GENERAL ADMIRAL VON FRIEDEBURG AND GENERAL OBERST STUMPF IN BERLIN ON THE 8th MAY, 1945.

1. We the undersigned, acting by authority of the German High Command, hereby surrender unconditionally to the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and simultaneously to the Supreme High Command of the Red Army all forces on land, at sea, and in the air who are at this date under German control.

2. The German High Command will at once issue orders to all German military, naval and air authorities and to all forces under German control to cease active operations at 2301 hours Central European time on 8th May, 1945, to remain in the positions occupied at that time and to disarm completely, handing over their weapons and equipment to the local allied commanders or officers designated by Representatives of the Allied Supreme Commands. No ship, vessel, or aircraft is to be scuttled, or any damage done to their hull, machinery or equipment, and also to machines of all kinds, armament, apparatus, and all the technical means of prosecution of war in general.

3. The German High Command will at once issue to the appropriate commanders, and ensure the carrying out of any further orders issued by the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and by the Supreme High Command of the Red Army.

4. This act of military surrender is without prejudice to, and will be superseded by any general instrument of surrender imposed by, or on behalf of the United Nations and applicable to Germany and the German armed forces as a whole.

5. In the event of the German High Command or any of the forces under their control failing to act in accordance with this Act of Surrender, the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force and the Supreme High Command of the Red Army will take such punitive or other action as they deem appropriate.

6. This Act is drawn up in the English, Russian and German languages. The English and Russian are the only authentic texts.

Signed at Berlin on the 8th day of May, 1945.

VON FRIEDEBURG.

KEITEL.

STUMPF.

On behalf of the German High Command.

In the presence of:

A. W. TEDDER.
On behalf of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force.

On behalf of the Supreme High Command of the Red Army.

ZHUKOV.

At the signing also were present as witnesses:

F. DE LATTRE DE TASSIGNY,
General Commanding in Chief First French Army.

CARL SPAATZ,
General Command United States Strategic Air Forces.

