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STATE OF OREGON
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
Office of THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
SALEM

RFO/nr
9 August 1945

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Earl Snell

Following a conference held this morning with Mr. George Neuner, Attorney General, Mr. Charles P. Pray, Superintendent, State Police and the undersigned, the following recommendations are submitted concerning V-J day.

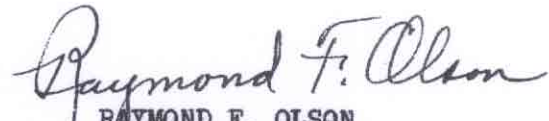
- a. That you issue a proclamation declaring V-J day a legal holiday. This, in effect, will put all the cities and towns of the State on the same status and will automatically cover the closing of all liquor stores and public buildings.
- b. That the citizenry be urged to a sober and patriotic behavior.
- c. That it would be declared a day for thanksgiving and prayer.
- d. That all churches be opened and conduct special services for the occasion.
- e. That all merchants be requested to close their places of business.
- f. That V-J messages be put out in advance, using the medium of the press and the radio for wide publicity covering the plans for V-J day and urging temperate observance.
- h. That the regulation and control of beer dispensing places within the city limits be left to the local officials.
- i. That the Liquor Commission request all taverns licensed and under their jurisdiction situated outside of the city limits to observe the proclamation by either closing or prohibiting the sale of beer during this period.
- j. That plans be formulated to mobilize the regular and auxiliary police in the various cities for duty should the occasion require.

k. That the State Police follow the instructions previously issued by Mr. Charles P. Pray, Superintendent, for use during V-E day, and which calls for the suspensions of all leaves or vacations and for the various officers to report to an assigned station.

l. That all State Guard personnel assemble at their respective Armories, being available on call should the occasion require. No action to be taken by the State Guard until directed to do so by your office.

I have talked to the Mayors of Corvallis, Albany, Salem, Oregon City, Bend, Klamath Falls and the City Manager of Eugene this date as to any plans they might have for V-J day. The majority of them have not arrived at any definite plan as yet. However, they all very strongly urged a proclamation being issued by you declaring it a legal holiday and that the Liquor Commission control the sale of beer in taverns outside the city limits, that they would give wide publicity to any arrangements desired and all are most willing to cooperate in any way possible with any general plan that might be developed. They figure that they can very nicely handle the control of the sale of beer in the local taverns most of whom will rely on mutual local arrangements with the proprietors concerned and the closing of all places of business. The City Manager of Eugene met with the Chamber of Commerce at noon today and the merchants agreed to close as follows:

If the announcement of V-J day is before 10:00 A.M., they will close that day. If announced after 10:00 A.M., they will close for the balance of the day and the following day. If announced over the weekend, they will close on the following Monday. All of the city officials said that they could give 100 percent cooperation to the press and radio in their local communities and did not anticipate any trouble in this regard.


RAYMOND F. OLSON
Brigadier General
Acting The Adjutant General

Portland RETAIL TRADE BUREAU

824 S. W. Fifth Avenue
PORTLAND 4, OREGON

August 10, 1945.
(Re-issue of July 30)

V-J DAY OBSERVANCE

The following V-J Day schedule has been adopted for Portland by your Bureau:

1. If the event occurs on a business day before 12:00 noon, stores will close immediately for the remainder of the day and will be opened for business the following day.
2. If the event occurs on a business day after 12:00 noon, stores will close immediately for the remainder of the day and will also be closed the following day.
3. If the news is officially announced on Saturday, stores will close immediately and will open Monday as usual.
4. If the news is officially announced any time after midnight on Saturday, Sunday or on a legal holiday, stores will remain closed the following day.

Food, bakery and drug stores will observe the following schedule:

1. Stores will close at 3:00 o'clock, if announcement is made before 12:00 noon, and open the following day.
2. If announcement is made after 12:00 noon, food stores, bakeries, and drug stores will remain open for the rest of the day and close the following day.
3. If the news is officially announced any time after midnight on Saturday, Sunday, or on a legal holiday, stores will remain closed the following day.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF V-J DAY IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OR AUTHORIZED WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN FOR THE PRESIDENT. IF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY PROCLAMATION ESTABLISHES A PRESCRIBED PERIOD FOR PUBLIC CELEBRATION, THEN THIS PLAN IS TO BE DISREGARDED AND STORES WILL REMAIN CLOSED DURING THE HOURS FIXED FOR SUCH CELEBRATION.

Please file this where it will be handy when V-J Day comes.

A. W. Molin, President

Edw. N. Weinbaum, Manager

V-J Day

STATE OF OREGON
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
Office of THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
SALEM

RFO/nr
11 August 1945

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Earl Snell

I attended a conference held at the Police Station, Portland, Oregon, Friday afternoon, August 10th at 2:00 P.M. concerning V-J Day, the following being in attendance: Chief of Police, Harry M. Niles; Chief of Inspectors, Leon V. Jenkins; Captain W. A. Tyler, Police Reserve; Captain Elmer G. Wendling, Veteran's Guard Patrol; Sherrif Martin Pratt; Commander E. F. Gallagher, U. S. Navy; Lieutenant F. J. Beegan, U. S. Navy; Lieutenant (jg) D. E. Puhlke, Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Barracks; Captain Tom A. Firth, Coast Guard, Captain, Port of Portland; Captain V. C. Finney, U. S. Navy; Captain D. C. McDougal, Portland Area, Northern District, Ninth Service Command; Lieutenant G. E. Armstrong, Assistant Provost Marshall, Portland Area; Mr. A. W. Molin, President and Mr. Edward M. Winebaum, Portland Retail Trade Bureau; Mr. F. H. Coffey, KGW; and the undersigned.

Discussion as to the control on V-J Day centered primarily around the arrangements previously agreed upon for V-E Day, and which are covered in my memorandum to you under date 3 April 1945. Everyone present agreed that the plan in effect at that time was entirely satisfactory and should be followed for V-J Day. There is attached a bulletin put out by the Portland Retail Trade Bureau covering the V-J Day observance as adopted by the Bureau. They were also going to put out an additional bulletin last night requesting that all merchants remove things from their display windows and where possible either pull down a blind or shade the windows at such a height that people from the street would not be able to glance in over the blind and see anything that might be on display. Also to have a representative on duty in each store who would be able to handle any disturbances in case they should arise.

Sherrif Pratt reported that he probably would have a number of surplus officers available on call which he would be happy to dispatch from their headquarters in case he had a request for same.

The Veteran's Patrol will immediately put from two to five men in plain clothes in each of the hotels and also have a patrol around the various theaters to handle the situation.

Chief Niles reported that he felt sure that Mayor Riley would issue a proclamation calling on all the dispensers of beer within the city limits to suspend the sale thereof during the period of observance.

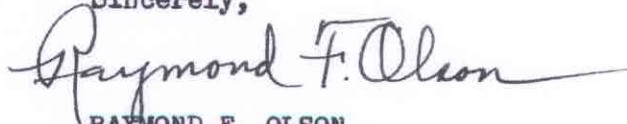
Mr. Winebaum reported that while they do not belong to the Retail Merchants Association, they do have an association of their own and that he thought it could be handled in that manner.

I explained to the members of the conference your intention of issuing a proclamation declaring a legal holiday and everyone present was very much in accord with the idea and thought it was a wise thing to do. Mr. Coffey of KGW reported that they had received word that when the announcement of V-J Day came that all the radio stations would immediately come in on the air and read your proclamation.

The Portland Police Bureau figures on maintaining a heavy patrol in the Albina area to take care of the Negro situation and Sherrif Martin Pratt figures on a very rigid patrol of the Vanport area.

Orders were issued last night in Portland for all State Guard personnel to report at the Armory there and be held available for call pursuant to your wishes. Orders to all the other units over the State are being forwarded this date for the troops to assemble in their respective Armories.

Sincerely,



RAYMOND F. OLSON
Brigadier General
Acting The Adjutant General

Incl

V. J. Day

Let us give profound thanks to Almighty God that this terrible and most devastating war that man and history have ever known has finally come to an end.

Let us offer a prayer of comfort to the parents and relatives of those brave men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice in behalf of the great cause of liberty, justice and freedom.

Our thoughts, our deeds and our actions must now be directed toward the future.

The recent and amazing development of the atomic bomb with its unlimited potentialities of death and destruction - that alone brings forcibly to our attention the absolute necessity for the success of a world peace organization in which the United States must exercise a continuing, active leadership. It is clearly evident that another world war would not only mean the destruction of nations, but very likely of civilization itself.

This time it must not be in vain.

Our reconversion and postwar programs must be activated with all speed and dispatch. America's vast resources, its latent potentialities, its skill and leadership must be marshalled in support of programs that mean jobs, employment and prosperity. America must go forward.