Dearest,

At 11 this morning, Admiral Halsey came rushing up in a weapon carrier. The Truman announcement had come through! The war will officially be over when the agreed to surrender terms are put down on paper. The radio has brought us full reports of the news and of the world-wide reactions and commentaries. There is no public expression of excitement here, the entire group - we are relieved that they will be no more death, they will be no more suffering, there will a return to the security of peace. But immediately we have nothing to celebrate, we have nothing to celebrate until our reactions will begin when we can see the results as they affect us here.

The surrender appears to be complete - the dreaded task of cleaning up all the by-passed tasks may well have to be undertaken. There is no time to argue the point of whether our use of the weapon has compromised our "unconditional surrender." Only the effectiveness of our control and enforcement measures will let us judge. Certainly we have the opportunity to destroy all the fire and in Japan, including the Japanese in the long run. We will not forget, although we use him as a medium of control, that the Emperor is one of the forces we have fought for the true liberation of the Japanese people from military, economic, social, and political feudalism.

War either or the chance - though I hope that Halsey gets his chance to ride down the streets of Tokyo.
in the Emperor's White House. Certainly Stilwell and
Wainwright deserve positions in the occupation force if they desire them.

We are entering the era of peace, we are fortunate that
through Yalta, Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam we
had evolved a working framework for Europe. Now we
shall have the same task in Asia - we shall have
new Islands and new debris, new starvation and
new unrest, but we will also work our way to
the solution of all the difficulties that lie ahead.

And to the European and Asiatic frameworks in world
reconstruction, we must add the solution for our
readjustment at home. We must combine our post-war
requirements with our post-war potential and evolve
the best answer consistent with all our standards.

We are entering an era of peace and it will
call for every man's initiative and bravery and intelligence
and sympathy and agreement and understanding than
did the years of war itself. We are called upon for
a great and continuing effort, the task before us
is a great peacetime one of great importance. We
can not fail, we can not become slack and
indifferent. We can not escape our responsibility and
our commitment. We can not be afraid. We can not
fail. We can not forget our honored dead, with peace
may God grant that the world will be blessed for
evermore, may man prove his greatness.

Our love.