

Proclamation of the Three Powers,
the United States, Great Britain and China.

(Potsdam, July 26, 1945)

1. We the President of the United States, the President of the National Government of the Republic of China, and the Prime Minister of Great Britain, representing the hundreds of millions of our countrymen, have conferred and agreed that Japan shall be given an opportunity to end this war.

2. The prodigious land, sea and air forces of the United States, the British Empire and of China, many times reinforced by their allies and ~~our~~ ^{our} allies from the West, are poised to strike the final blows upon Japan. This military power is sustained and inspired by the determination of ~~the~~ the Allied Nations to prosecute the war against Japan until she ceases to resist.

3. The result of the futile and senseless German resistance to

the might of the aroused free peoples of the world stands forth in awful clarity as an example to the people of Japan. The night that now converges on Japan is immeasurably greater than that which, when applied to the regaling Nazis, heretofore laid waste to the lands, the industry and the method of life of the whole German people. The full application of our military power, backed by our resolve, will mean the inevitable and complete destruction of the Japanese armed forces and just as inevitably the utter devastation of the Japanese homeland.

4. The time has come for Japan to decide whether she will continue to be controlled by those self-willed militaristic advisers whose unintelligent calculations have brought the Empire of Japan to the threshold of annihilation, or whether she will follow the path of reason.

5. The following are our terms:
We will not deviate from them. There are no alternatives. We shall brook no delay.

6. There must be eliminated for all time the authority and