

From the New Britain Herald

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The long-awaited news that Japan had surrendered was the signal for all of Plainville to “blow off its top” last night in the wildest demonstration of unrestrained joy that the town has ever witnessed.

Within seconds after factory whistles let loose with full force blasts to inform the public that the war had officially ended, almost every house was emptied as the happy populace, many of them in cars, raced to Central Square. Auto horns, church bells and noisemakers added to the maddening din as overjoyed men, women, and children let loose with their pent-up emotions, yelling, screeching and singing at the top of their voices. Many strangers thumped each other on the back, pretty girls were kissed, and men in uniform were cheered to the heavens.

Although it seemed that everyone in town had gathered in the center, hundreds of persons, especially those with family members in the armed services, visited the churches and gave thanks to Almighty God that peace had again been restored ...

The celebration ... finally reached its climax when a parade got under way, with the Plainville Fife and Drum Corps furnishing the music. This was the signal for a fresh outbreak of cheering but at no time did the overflow crowd get out of control ...

Plainville had real reason to greet the glad tidings for this town has responded to the call of its country wholeheartedly. More than 900 men and women joined the armed forces, every war bond campaign was oversubscribed, every Red Cross blood drive met with success, and every other war effort received 100% support.

The two day general holiday proclaimed by President Truman and Governor Baldwin, is being observed here by all factories, the bank, and practically every store.