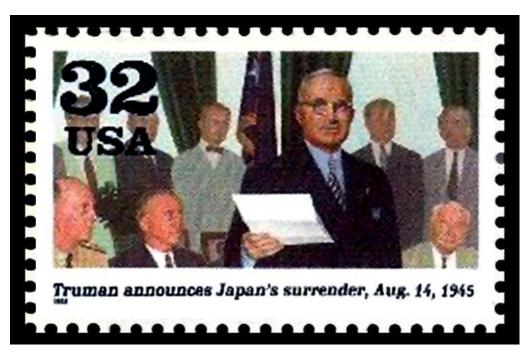
Japan's Surrender Press Conference Stamp

MSCNY ARTICLE No. 33

When Bro. Truman announced Japan's surrender on August 14, 1945, he held a press conference and photographs were taken. One of the photographs was used for a US postage stamp. From another photo taken of the same group, we are able to identify those with the President. Shown below are the stamp and a photograph "key." In addition to Bro. Truman, three other men are listed as Freemasons according to the Wikipedia "List"

of Freemasons." They are: James F. Byrnes, Fred Vinson, and Tom C. Clark. Vinson (#11), however, is not shown on the stamp. Their lodges are not listed, but I believe the Wikipedia listing has Masonic sanction (created by a Freemason or Freemasons) and this stamp can therefore be used for Bros. Truman, Byrnes, and Clark in a Masonic collection. (USA #2981h)



Note: The absence of Fred Vinson (#11) on this stamp is the result of the camera position when the photo was taken. Vinson is directly behind Truman and cannot be seen.



President Harry S Truman (standing at desk) announces the surrender of Japan to the media. The individuals in the photograph are identified as follows (Masons underlined):

- 1. Admiral William D. Leahy, Chief of Staff
- 2. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes
- 3. President **Truman**
- 4. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State under Franklin Roosevelt
- 5. Julius Krug, Chairman, War Production Board
- 6. Leo Crowley, Administrator, Foreign Economics
- 7. Major General Philip Fleming, Admin. Federal Works Agency
- 8. William **Davis**, Director Economic Administration

- 9. John Snyder, Director, War Mobilization and Reconversion
- 10. Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal
- 11. Secretary of the Treasury Fred **Vinson**
- 12. Attorney General Tom C. Clark
- 13. Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach
- 14. John B. Blandford, Administrator, National Housing Agency
- 15. Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan

Source: Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum