

THE WEATHER
For Wisconsin: Cloudy, warmer tonight, light showers north. Saturday cloudy with light showers before noon. Cold Saturday night.
Local weather facts for 24 hours preceding 7 a.m.: Maximum 44; Minimum 27.

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

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KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS

Thirty-First Year—No. 9749.

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Single Copy Five Cents

Philippine Bombers Blast Hong Kong In Heaviest Attack

Americans Cut Off Jap Escape Route on Luzon

BY FRED HAMPSON
Manila—(AP)—Nearly 50 Philippine-based heavy bombers with fighter escort blasted the South China sea for the second straight day to deliver the heaviest attack of the war on Hong Kong Tuesday, headquarters reported today.
The harbor and waterfront area of the former British crown colony, 7,000 miles northwest of Manila, absorbed 168 tons of bombs. Nine Japanese ships including a 7,000-tonner, were sunk; a destroyer and two other merchantmen were damaged.
Six freighters sunk
In addition, six small freighters were sunk in the China sea.
Hong Kong's shore installations, hard hit on the preceding day with 126 tons of explosives, received further damage. Burning oil storage tanks sent smoke columns 7,000 feet high.
Enemy fighter planes attempting to break up the formations of Liberators were driven off by Fifth air force fighters after a running fight.
All the attacking planes returned. Heavy neutralizing raids on Formosa continued with Liberators.
Sever Escape Route
In the Philippines, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's ground forces on southern Luzon cut the Japanese escape route to the east coast from the shores of Laguna de Bay. On Negros, 40th division troops pushed to the Imbang river north of captured Silay against "considerable resistance," front dispatches said.
The first Liberty ships tying up at Cebu city docks found the concrete structures relatively undamaged although warehouses on piers and moles suffered greatly when the Japanese razed the city before retiring to the hills.

Battle for Okinawa Is Shaping Up

BY LEIF ERICKSON
Guam—(AP)—The main battle for Okinawa appeared today to be shaping up on the southern end of the island where the Japanese were putting up increasing resistance among fixed positions in caves, gullies and ridges four miles north of the capital city of Naha.
Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz communique today announcing continued American gains on all Okinawa fronts reported remarkably low U. S. casualties for the first four days of a campaign only 325 miles from Japan itself; 175 soldiers and marines killed, 798 wounded.
No figures were given for U. S. naval casualties. Nor were Japanese casualties listed, although they are known to be considerably higher.
Stiffer Fighting
On the south end of the American line Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge's 24th See—OKINAWA—Page 7

Soldier From Auburndale Is War Victim



WILLARD BURKHARDT
Auburndale—Pvt. Willard W. Burkhardt, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Burkhardt, Route 1, Auburndale, was killed in action March 15 while serving with the infantry in Germany, according to the war department.

Memorial services will be conducted at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon, April 8, at St. John's Lutheran church at Auburndale, the Rev. S. E. Rathke officiating.
Private Burkhardt was born in Kiel, Calumet county, February 14, 1926, and eight years ago came to Auburndale, where he was valedictorian of the 1944 graduating class of Auburndale High school.
He entered service August 25, 1944, and trained at Camp Crowder, Mo., Camp Livingston, La., and Fort George G. Meade, Md., before going overseas early in February of this year, landing in England. He served in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.
Surviving besides his parents are two brothers, Cpl. Clarence of the army air forces now home on furlough, and Reuben, seaman first class, of the U. S. navy, serving on the Pacific, and four sisters, Marion, Leila, Linda and Joyce, all at home.

NEGOTIATIONS COLLAPSE IN COAL CONTRACTS

BULLETIN
Washington—(AP)—Wage negotiations between soft coal operators and John L. Lewis collapsed today with the producers announcing they will report a stalemate to the war labor board.
Washington—(AP)—A spokesman for John L. Lewis asserted today that the miners' union had not inspired a single work stoppage in soft coal mines. He predicted full production by Monday.
K. C. Adams, editor of the United Mine Workers Journal, said "no work stoppage in any mine has been inspired by the UMW wherever the operators and management has agreed to meet the terms and conditions of the extended agreement."
"We are not responsible for differences which arise locally and become aggravated between management and men," Adams added.
Adams made the statement as Lewis and soft coal operators faced their "last chance" today to agree on a new contract to replace the one extended last week-end until April 30. Government seizure of the mines loomed as a definite possibility.
The war labor board will take the case tomorrow if the negotiations fail to bring an agreement.
Adams said Lewis was still trying to get the men back to work 100 per cent and that the union was using "every measure" at its command to bring this about. Adams said the ending of work interruptions by Lewis agreed to a 30-day extension of the contract was attributable to a natural physical letdown on the part of the miners, who, Adams said, have broken all production records for the past year and a half.



Sgt. Conklin Is Killed On German Soil

KILLED IN GERMANY—Pvt. Quentin J. Yager, 23, was killed in action March 24 in Germany. He was a member of the 17th airborne division with the Third army. He was the son of Mrs. Rose A. Yager, 220 Sixteenth street.
Sgt. Douglas A. Conklin, 24, son of Mrs. Emma Conklin, Vesper, was killed in action March 19 in Germany, according to a war department telegram received this morning by the soldier's wife, Ruth, who resides with her mother, Mrs. Clara Irwin, 441 Oak street.
Sergeant Conklin was serving in the infantry with the Seventh army. His wife last heard from him early in February while he was in France.
He was born in Vesper, February 9, 1921 and attended grade school there. He graduated with the class of 1937 from Lincoln High school and was employed by the Rapids Beverage company, prior to his entry into service, September 30, 1942.
The sergeant received training at Camp Breckinridge, Ky., and San Bernardino, Calif., and then went overseas to England in June, 1943. He remained in England until January of this year, then was transferred across the channel to France and on to Germany.
In addition to his mother and his wife, he is survived by one sister, Geraldine, who lives at Vesper.

6 Naturalized In Ceremony

Six people were naturalized and two repatriated in a ceremony at the courthouse this morning by Judge Gerald J. Boileau, Wausau, who was substituting in the absence of Circuit Judge Herman J. Severson.
Judge Boileau gave a short talk emphasizing the duties and importance of becoming a citizen of the United States, especially at this time when the country is engaged in war, pointing out the benefits of living in this country and their duty in protecting such benefits.
Among those naturalized from Wisconsin Rapids are John Leikus, Route 2; Anton Stubalski, 310 Fourteenth avenue north; Annie Marie Balzer, 1321 Washington street and James John Drivas, 721 Third street. There also were two from Marshfield; Jacob Alexander, 100 North Vine street, Sister Mary Leonidas, and one from Nekoosa, Josephine Wilczynski, 300 Point Basse avenue.
Those repatriated were Helen Agnes Ward, Marshfield, and Pelagia Coia Rusch, 728 Market street, Nekoosa.
Fred L. Campbell, examiner from the Green Bay office of immigration and naturalization, assisted in the examination.

Scrap Paper Drive In Tri-Cities Saturday

There will be a scrap paper collection in the Tri-City area Saturday. It has been asked that the paper be placed, securely bound, on the curbs to facilitate the pickup.
This collection will include Wisconsin Rapids, Nekoosa, Port Edwards and Biron.

Marshfield Soldier Is Granted Divorce

Pfc. George J. Schubert, 24, Marshfield, serving with the armed forces in Germany, was granted a divorce yesterday from Geraldine Schubert, 22, Jackson, Miss., on grounds of adultery. The divorce was granted in the court of Judge Frank W. Calkins. The couple was married April 6, 1944, at Jackson, Miss.

Yanks 90 Miles from Berlin, Nazis Say; Encircle Vienna

Germans Fight For Every House In Austria City

Moscow—(AP)—The Germans were fighting for every house in Vienna today, shooting from windows and rooftops and from well placed street corner barricades, but the Russians were firmly entrenched in the southern district of the Austrian capital.
Soviet forces were driving toward the western and eastern sectors of the city threatening to surround Vienna with a ring of tanks, men and artillery from which no German army has broken out in this war.
Time and again from the days of Stalingrad to the encirclement of Breslau and Budapest Russian armies have been succeeding with this maneuver over the Germans, causing Adolf Hitler's dwindling forces great losses in captured and killed.
The going was not easy for Soviet storm units—many of them veterans of Stalingrad and Budapest—for the Nazis were laying down a tremendous mortar fire.
A deep black canopy of smoke hung over Vienna. Numerous buildings in the southern and southeastern sectors of the city still blazed today from the furious fighting which went on last night as Soviet tommygunners drove deeper into the capital.
The biggest Russian guns were not yet put into play in the immediate Vienna fighting and there still was no indication that the city was being shelled.
Await Infantry
The great Russian push into the heart of the old city will undoubtedly commence when the bulk of the Russian infantry and mortar units catch up with the storm groups already inside Vienna's southern areas.
From heights overlooking Vienna on the north shore the Germans rained an incessant hail of shells on Russians pouring into the suburbs. Front dispatches said that at some places the Nazis were firing on their own men, the battleship had become so close. The long-prepared artillery positions gave the Germans a great vantage point.
Numerous hand-to-hand clashes took place throughout the night and early morning.
A large Russian tank army rumbled toward Vienna today, although it is doubtful if the armor will be thrown into the street fighting. It probably will be employed instead in outflanking movements to either side of the city.



ALLIES DRIVE FOR HANNOVER; REDS ENTER VIENNA—Four American and British divisions have smashed up to the Weser river, within 23 miles of Hannover, on a 40 mile front. The Germans appear to be evacuating Hannover in a retreat to the Elbe river which flows within 50 miles of Berlin. The U.S. 3rd army has rolled up from the southwest to within 87 miles of Berlin's home province of Brandenburg. In the east the Russians have taken Bratislava and have entered the outskirts of Vienna. (NEA Telephoto).

Allied Units Are Closing On Hannover

BY JAMES M. LONG
Paris—(AP)—The famous Hell on Wheels (Second) armored division fought five miles past the Weser river today possibly to within 18 miles of Hannover while the British Desert Rats of the Seventh tank division closed to within 25 miles of that Prussian metropolis.
A wholly unconfirmed broadcast by the official German news agency DNB said other American troops had been re-inforced in "the area of Eisleben," 90 miles from Berlin.
This was 40 miles beyond last reported positions of the Third army at Schlotheim, 130 miles from the capital. There was no confirmation at supreme headquarters of the operation, which the Germans suggested was by airborne forces.
"Light tanks have been landed from the air," the enemy agency said.
The tanks were said to be fanning out toward Arnstadt, Hamelin and Muehlhausen, 55 to 100 miles behind Eisleben.
The U. S. Ninth army fought through the streets of storied Hamelin on the Weser and walked at leisure through the vast rail yards of the Ruhr terminal city of Hamm, where resistance collapsed suddenly. Launch New Drive
The American First army launched a powerful new drive which carried a total distance of 32 miles eastward beyond the Ruhr pocket and smashed through the Hessian gap—historic military gateway to the east which Napoleon once trod—to the upper reaches of the Weser river ten miles northeast of Kassel.
The British on the north German plains posed an increasing threat to the great naval base and shipbuilding center of Bremen, less than 85 miles away. The Desert Rats menacing both Bremen and Hannover raced 54 miles in 24 hours past the Dümmer lake to within nine miles of the Weser in the general area between the cities.
The Canadian First army, wheeling 25 miles northward in yet another breakthrough, moved within 12 miles of the last German land escape route from Holland—the Zwolle-Greeningen railroad—virtually trapping enemy troops remaining in that unhappy land.
The second armored division of the Ninth army was probing the foothills past the Weser for the shortest route to Berlin, 150 miles See—WESTERN FRONT—Page 7

Assembly Called Upon to Put in Five-Day Week

Madison—(AP)—Donald McDowell (R-Soldiers Grove), speaker of the assembly, called upon its members today to start putting in a five-day week to hurry the end of the present legislative session and the house indicated it was willing to go along with the idea if given some advance notice.
"The legislative hopper now is filled with bills and it is time we get down to a five-day week," McDowell said in support of a motion that the house adjourn until Monday. Usual weekend adjournments have been until Tuesday afternoon or night.
The motion set off a tempest of debate, with several members declaring that it was "unfair" to call for a session Monday without advance notice. The house adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Blood Donors Go to Milwaukee Thursday

Reservations have been completed for the blood donor bus to go to Milwaukee Thursday, April 12, but the chairmen will welcome additional reservations to cover possible cancellations. Mrs. F. W. Voss and Mrs. Purl McKenzie of Nekoosa have charge of the registrations.
Morning departure hours are to be the same as for previous buses, at 7:30 from the First National Bank corner here and at 8 o'clock from the Nekoosa bank corner.

STELLA SNIDER DIES

Miss Stella Snider, 66, died unexpectedly following a heart attack Tuesday evening at her home, 210 Eleventh street north. The body is at Baker Mortuary.

Woman Puts Torch to Self and Three Children

Deep River, Iowa—(AP)—A 28-year-old farm woman, apparently worried over the possible drafting of her husband, fatally burned herself and three children yesterday. Powsheik county Coroner W. R. Phillips said today.
Phillips said the woman, Mrs. Elsie Krakow, poured gasoline and set fire to her six weeks old baby, Michael, Carol, 2, and Mary Ann, 5, and then ignited her gasoline-soaked clothing.
The tragedy was discovered by the husband and father, Carl Krakow, who was working near the farm house three miles from here. Phillips said Krakow related that Mary Ann, her clothing aflame, ran screaming from the house: "Mother poured oil on us and set us on fire." Mary Ann died about six hours later. The bodies of the others were found in the house, which did not burn, the infant in a buggy and Carol on a kitchen table.
Krakow, who recently passed his draft examination and two weeks ago received a six months deferment, said his wife had been worried about his being drafted when his deferment expired.

New Nepco Pulp Supply in Canada

To assure a continuous supply of raw material, the Nekooa-Edwards Paper company announced today that it has recently acquired cutting rights on extensive timber areas in Canada where cutting of high quality pulp wood is now in progress.
The Spence area, one of the larger limits, is located about 200 miles northeast of Port Arthur and contains spruce and jackpine pulpwood. The wood will be trucked to the northern end of Long Lac, towed down the lake and the Aquashon river to Lake Superior. It will then be made into rafts of from eight to ten thousand cords each and towed to Ashland where it will be loaded on cars for shipment to Nepco's woodyards.

FORESTS URGED AS MEMORIALS

Memorial forests, a new phase of the "Trees for Tomorrow, Inc." program, were described by M. N. Taylor, Merrill, executive secretary during the April meeting of the Consolidated Foremen's club at the Golden Gate last night.
Dedicated to servicemen, memorial forests are being introduced as community projects in which all can participate and from which all can benefit, Mr. Taylor said. He stated that as a "living memorial," they are preferable to the statuary of past eras and serve many interests." Longtime values such as encouragement of wild life, recreation, education, revenue, flood control and practical demonstration of forest management were cited by Mr. Taylor.

The speaker also reviewed the work of "Trees for Tomorrow" since its organization a little over a year ago by the Wisconsin river valley papermaking industry and described the depletion of forests in Wisconsin and the restoration efforts now in effect. The organization soon will begin distribution of the two free seedlings for each one cut by farmers in this area and also is to award \$2,500 in five scholarships to deserving high school seniors in Vilas, Oneida, Lincoln, Marathon, Portage and Wood counties.

MacArthur Gets 'On to Tokyo' Marching Orders; Hitler on Spot

(By The Associated Press)
Washington—General Douglas MacArthur had his "on to Tokyo"

Hold Everything



Marching orders today, hard on the heels of Russia's denunciation of her neutrality treaty with Japan.
With the Pacific war thus portending possible new and startling developments, Allied military leaders were in agreement on the quickest way to end the fighting in Europe.
Kill or capture Hitler.
In brief, this was the picture in this war capital:
1. The joint chiefs of staff assigned MacArthur, together with Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, to command the final massive offensives against Japan.
2. Disclosure that General George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, told the senate military committee that death or capture of Hitler would contribute tremendously to a collapse of the already faltering Nazi military machine.
3. General belief among lawmakers that President Roosevelt had extracted from Premier Stalin at the Yalta meeting a promise that the neutrality treaty would be denounced and that Russia would enter the war against Japan.
4. Belief, too, that Russia's action may smooth some of the rough spots out of the path to the United Nations conference at San Francisco April 25.
The joint staff, composed of the top uniformed men of the war and navy departments, decided that turning the (all offensive power of the United States on Japan was a job to be directed by two men. Accordingly they announced last night that:
1—MacArthur will command all army forces in the Pacific theater.
2—Nimitz will command all naval forces.
3—Strategic direction (the broad plans for the war) will be retained by the joint chiefs of staff. The nature of a specific operation (whether essentially sea or land) will determine which man directs it.
The command assignments came in an announcement that spoke of "the large forces to be redeployed from Europe" and the "rapid advances" up through the southwest and central Pacific "which have brought us into close proximity with

the Japanese homeland and the China coast."
One effect of the directive apparently was to remove the navy from MacArthur's sphere of command. In the southwest Pacific, where MacArthur had been supreme Allied commander, naval forces were under his jurisdiction. Nimitz now appears to have direct command of all that is afloat, including such Allied sea forces as British naval units now in the Pacific.
General H. H. Arnold retains exclusive control of his 20th air force, operating agency of the growing B-29 fleets.
The Moscow announcement did not make clear immediately whether the USSR considers its treaty with Japan ended now or whether the non-aggression pact runs for another full year to its original maturity date. Many in official circles believed the Russians would strike when they felt the situation most militarily propitious.
That time, these circles suggested, undoubtedly would await end of serious resistance in Germany.
Disclosure of Marshall's views on

the latter subject came from two sources who declined to be quoted by name. They said the general contended that Hitler, as a symbol if not the man, is the chief inspiration for the fanatical resistance about which Gen. Dwight Eisenhower spoke in a letter to President Roosevelt.
Continued Resistance
Eisenhower sounded the same note in expressing the conviction that "so long as any of the Hitler gang retains a semblance of political power, I believe the effort will be to continue resistance not only throughout Germany but in all of the outlying areas, including the western port areas of France and Denmark and Norway."
A reduction in the fighting to the status of guerrilla warfare, however, would release substantial portions of Allied troops. It is then that most legislators believe the Soviets will drive on the Japanese.
Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) foresaw the closing of an Allied pincers on Japan, with the possibility the Russian announcement might

push the new Japanese government—relatively "moderate" compared with its predecessors—toward a peace bid that might bring a speedier end to hostilities in the Pacific than in Europe.
Senator Magnuson (D-Wash.) talked enthusiastically about a two pronged attack on the Japanese home islands. Russia could move from Siberia, he said, while the United States leap-frogged from the Aleutian chain.
Sharing the belief that Mr. Roosevelt extracted a twin promise from Stalin at Yalta, administration supporters advanced this as an explanation for the highly conciliatory attitude the United States appears to have taken on Russian diplomatic proposals. These include the Soviet demand for three votes in the proposed World Peace league assembly and the agreement on veto power for each of the "Big Five" on the security council.
Senator Pepper (D-Fla.) pointed this up with the observation that the Soviet action bore out what he had

been saying all along—"that Russia will enter the war against Japan because she knows the Axis will not be defeated until the whole mob is crushed."
Anti-administration sources continued to wonder, nevertheless, if any additional commitments might have been made at Yalta. While Secretary of State Stettinius has said all of the diplomatic agreements of Yalta now are public property, there undoubtedly were military arrangements to be disclosed only as the war progressed.
Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.), a San Francisco delegate, observed that the Russian action "is undoubtedly a preview of vitally important things to come."
There seemed little doubt that by denouncing the Japanese treaty the Russians had scored a propaganda strike here, where official and public opinion has shown irritation at the various issues they have raised in connection with the coming United Nations conference.
If Russia is to help beat the Japanese into submission, observers be-

lieve there possibly will be more charity in this country toward her demands for establishment of a Polish government friendly to her views. Citizens of Polish extraction will continue to be divided on the issue, but its importance to others is likely to be diminished.
Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) of the senate foreign relations committee, another conference delegate, remarked that "the prospects for a successful conference at San Francisco have been enhanced and advanced" by the Russian move.
The state department said: "The United States government, of course, welcomes this development."
Lest We Forget
Washington—(AP)—Today is the 28th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I.