

THE WEATHER
For Wisconsin: Heavy snow north, freezing rain south tonight. Colder Thursday.
Local weather facts for 24 hours preceding 7 a. m.: Maximum 37; minimum 5.

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

Back em Up!
KEEP BUYING WAR BONDS

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U. S. Tanks Drive Through Hole in Main Nazi Front

7th Army Gains To Within Sight of Saarbruecken

BULLETIN
Paris —(P)— Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army advancing three miles at some points on a 55-mile front, captured 16 towns today and entered four more including the important one of Saarburg.

BY JAMES M. LONG
Paris —(P)— Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., hurled an armored division today through a hole gouged in the central German front in the Moselle-Saar triangle and the tanks smashed five and a half miles forward toward Trier through disorganized resistance.

Goch, strongly fortified road center between the Rhine and Meuse (Maas) rivers in the north, finally was captured by Scots of the Canadian First army which gathered momentum in its offensive toward the Ruhr valley, 16 miles away.

South of Patton's Third army, the U. S. Seventh army advanced to within plain sight of Saarbruecken, less than three miles away. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's shock troops invading the Saar again captured half a dozen border towns and broke into Forbach, large French rail center which is almost a suburb of devastated Saarbruecken. The Americans seized heights overlooking historic Spicheren and the Siegfried line fortification.

Patton, swiftly capitalizing on the breach in German defenses carved laboriously by Maj. Gen. Harry J. Matony's 9th division, sent his tanks clanking to within seven miles of Trier and two of Saarburg, both keystones of the German defense system in the Moselle valley leading to Coblenz and Mainz on the Rhine. Dispirited Germans surrendered by the hundreds.

All along a 55-mile assault front, the Third army was slamming the Germans back on their heels. The onslaught was in the Eifel mountains from the Pruem area to below the Moselle. Vandugars were within a mile of the northern fringe of the rich Saar district coal and steel region.

The attack overran 11 towns overnight and early today and reached to within three and a half miles of the confluence of the Saar and Moselle, just southeast of venerable Trier, oldest city in Germany.

Phillip Davis Listed Missing

S-Sgt. Phillip F. Davis, brother of Mrs. George Felot, Wisconsin Rapids, has been missing in action since February 2 in Germany, according to a war department telegram received by the soldier's sister.

Sergeant Davis was an infantryman with the First army.

He enlisted in the armed forces in September, 1942, and received training at Camp Livingston, La., Camp Pickett, Va., Southwestern college, Memphis, Tenn., Camp Gordon Johnston, Fla., San Antonio, Tex., and Fort George Meade, Md., from which station he was sent overseas.

Midnight Curfew Meets Varied Reaction in City

The midnight curfew for entertainment places was received with varied comment in the city of Wisconsin Rapids.

Several tavern proprietors and officials of clubs were interviewed. One owner thinks "it's the swellest thing that ever happened—and 12 o'clock is time for people to go home anyway." Another wanted everyone to know that he didn't like the new restriction and stated that no one he has talked to likes it either.

A few were non-committal but agreed that they would conform with the new closing "request." Still another proprietor appeared to be satisfied to close at 12 "for after that time there are only a few people drifting in and out anyway."

The general consensus of opinion seemed to be that they would abide by the new "request" but aren't getting too excited about it one way or the other.

"Primary responsibility" for administering the national midnight curfew for entertainment places today was formally assigned to the war manpower commission, an Associated Press report stated today.

War Mobilization Director James



FIRST MARINES TO DIE ON IWO JIMA—These two marines, slumped in death, lie where they fell on Iwo Jima, first victims of Japanese gunfire as American conquest of the strategic Nipponese island began. Marine officers report they are engaged in their toughest battle in 166 years. This photo was made by Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press photographer on assignment with the wartime still picture pool.

Thunderbolts Sweep Hitler's Berchtesgaden for First Time

BOMBERS BLAST NUERNBERG AGAIN

Rome—Rocket-firing Thunderbolts of the U. S. 12th air force made the first attack of the war yesterday on Hitler's private city of Berchtesgaden, the mountain hideout high in the snow-capped Bavarian Alps, it was announced today.

The planes, sweeping in from Italian bases, pumped rockets into rail yards at low levels, ripped rail tracks, cars and locomotives and smashed at other targets in and near Berchtesgaden, which may be the most heavily fortified spot in all the reich. They ran into intense flak and small arms fire.

While there was no official comment on the attack, it was speculated that the surprise strike was directed against the movement of top priority personnel, supplies and Nazi files from Berlin.

"It is supposed to be Hitler's hideout," an air force officer said, adding that if the raiders found railway cars there, "one guess is as good as another as to what they might contain."

The assault fit into a pattern with two attacks yesterday and today from British and French bases by the U. S. Eighth air force on the packed rail yards and locomotive repair shops at Nuernberg, 90 miles north of Munich, the center of former Nazi propaganda spectacles and an important rail junction. The extraordinarily heavy concentration of traffic at Nuernberg led to speculation that it might be a movement of government offices from Berlin, or a buildup for the defense of Vienna.

Hitler's retreat is at Obersalzberg (upper Salt Mountain) on the edge of Berchtesgaden. The only previous attack on the immediate vicinity (other top Nazi leaders have homes in the area, too) occurred several months ago when a force of American heavies hit Salzburg, Austrian border town just across from Berchtesgaden.

The Thunderbolts knocked out a locomotive and eight rail cars in the attack. At towns nearby they set fire to two passenger trains, destroyed a troop train estimated to have 150 soldiers aboard, and destroyed or damaged nearly 50 rail cars, some loaded with tanks.

(There was no indication that Hitler's retreat on Obersalzberg itself See—THUNDERBOLTS—Page 7)

Heads of Gas Co. Re-Named

All officers and directors were re-elected at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Rapids Gas and Electric company, held in the company's offices Tuesday evening.

Officers and directors returned were Lee H. Barker, president; Frank Henry, chairman of the board; Darwin Follett, Coloma, vice president; Robert S. Holcomb, Nekeosa, secretary; and John H. Peters, treasurer.

Reporting on the company's business in 1944, Mr. Barker pointed out that "in spite of wartime restrictions, the year was a successful one."

"Our current ratio of assets to liabilities has increased to 8.1 to 1, which is an exceedingly strong position," he reported. In looking forward in 1945, he said that much would depend upon the company's ability to obtain appliances and equipment now held up by wartime conditions.

Rapids Soldier Is Killed in French Area

Pfc. Clifford Cooper, 26, whose wife, Regina, resides at 410 Eleventh avenue north, was killed in action in France, January 12, according to a war department telegram.

Private Cooper belonged to the 314th infantry in the Seventh army. He had recently been promoted from the rank of private to that of private first class.

He was born in the town of Milladore, July 24, 1918, and attended the Mayflower and Stepping Stone rural schools and the Milladore Graded school. Prior to his entry into service he was employed by Consolidated Water Power and Paper company and later in a Seattle, Wash., shipyard.

The Wisconsin Rapids soldier received military training at Fort Sheridan, Ill., Camp Wheeler, Ga., and Fort Meade, Md., before going overseas to France in September, 1944. His last letter to his wife was dated December 20.

In addition to his wife, Private Cooper is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Cooper, 130 East Daly avenue; two brothers, Pfc. George Cooper, who is serving in India, and Albert at home; and six sisters, Mrs. Tony Catalano of Chicago, Mrs. Carl Weinfurter, Mrs. George Langer, and the Misses Florence, Marietta and Shirley Cooper of Wisconsin Rapids.

Memorial services will be held at 3:15 Sunday afternoon at the Krohn and Berard chapel with the Rev. A. W. Triggs in charge.

Donald W. Palay Wounded in Action

Pfc. Donald W. Palay, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Palay, 520 Eighth avenue south, was wounded in action December 23 and has been awarded the Purple Heart, according to word received by his parents. He was serving with the 44th division in the Seventh army.

The 21-year-old Wisconsin Rapids soldier entered service March 19, 1943 and went overseas in September, 1944. Shrapnel from a bursting shell caused his wounds.

Marines Lose 3,650 as Gains on Central Iwo Airfield Are Recorded

Battle Envelopes Entire Iwo Island

Advance Under Steady Hail of Fire

BY AL DOPKING
U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam —(P)— Approximately 3,650 marines were killed or wounded in the first 48 hours of the battle for Iwo Jima, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today as he reported the leathernecks made general advances ranging up to 1,000 yards on the island's central air field.

Nimitz listed approximately 3,500 enlisted men and 150 officers as casualties — killed, wounded and missing. He said 3,063 of the wounded have been evacuated, indication about 600 were killed or missing.

There was no estimate of Japanese losses.

Tank led marines, holding firm control of more than a third of the island, began an enveloping drive against the fighter field, known as Motoyama No. 2. The Fifth marine division by-passed the southern tip of the field in a flanking move, preparatory to striking at it from the west, while the Fourth division pushed directly toward the center of the airfield.

Under Heavy Fire
Every yard of the advance was made under a steady hail of Japanese machine gun, mortar, rifle and rocket fire over wet, rocky slopes criss-crossed with revetments, pillboxes, blockhouses, and reinforced sniper holes. Mines and tank traps were plentiful.

The marine drive stemmed from Motoyama airfield No. 1, the island's prized bomber field captured yesterday noon 80 hours ahead of schedule.

About 700 yards separate these two fields, the only completed air strips on the island, 750 miles south of Tokyo.

Other devil dogs crawled 100 painful yards up the slopes of Suribachi volcano, a fortress mountain on the southern tip of the island from which Japanese guns dominate every inch of the dismal ground the Yanks control.

Tank Attack
Vicious Japanese defenders attempted one small tank supported nighttime counterattack and almost constant infiltration, both coordinated with mortar, rocket and artillery barrages.

All attempts were broken up by the marines, with the aid of illuminating flares fired throughout the night by the American invasion fleet lying offshore. The flares exposed virtually every Japanese attempt at nighttime maneuvers.

Naval guns, masses of marine artillery, carrier planes, tanks and individual marine units combined in pulverizing Japanese defenses which cover the entire volcanic island. But the marines still face an uphill fight.

The northern mass of the island rises about 50 yards above Motoyama airfield No. 2, which lies on a plateau. The marines had to climb slopes to approach it from any direction.

SIEGE TACTICS USED AGAINST JAPS IN MANILA

BY MORRIE LANDSBERG
Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands—(P)—(Via navy radio)—There is no front line on bloody Iwo. The whole of the small, gourd-shaped island is a battle zone, in the grey mist of day and through the chill blackness of night.

The front line may be the northern edge of the southern airfield captured by marines yesterday. It may be at the foot of Suribachi Yama, fortified volcanic cone under assault by other leathernecks.

Or it may be just anywhere on the bomb and shell torn beachhead.

There is no place on the five-mile long island one can point to and say "they can't reach me there." They can and do.

Commanding Jap Positions
Suddenly, unexpectedly, enemy fire streams down in an angry spasm from the commanding Japanese positions.

The Japanese have all of the cover—what little this island has, plus what they have built in pillboxes, blockhouses, caves, and even reinforced foxholes. It will be a great blow to their defenses when they lose Suribachi—the Americans won't have the Japanese to the rear as they do now. In addition to gun positions, the 550 foot high volcano has four underground entrances on the north side where supplies are probably stored.

Marine advances have been made against unrelentingly heavy opposition by the foe fighting savagely to save this rock and sand bastion intended to guard the home land, some 700 miles away.

Bombardment Continues
Continual naval and air bombardment pouring thousands of tons of explosives into enemy positions failed to lessen the ferocity of Japanese resistance.

American ground troops threatening the central airfield north of captured Motoyama No. 1 were facing a high volume of small arms fire and intense mortar, automatic weapons, rocket and artillery barrages. Minefields and pillboxes obstructed the drive.

Tanks, naval gunfire and carrier planes kept up a pounding assault against enemy installations to the immediate southern front of the central airfield, which has runways 5,835 and 4,425 feet long but no hangars.

On the third day of the campaign there were no doubts that Iwo, the rock, is by far the toughest battle of the Pacific. How long it will be before it is crushed nobody was inclined to say.

Manila—(P)— Medieval siege tactics in modern guise were employed against trapped Japanese garrisons in Manila's thick-walled Intramuros and on Corregidor today as Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the past week's fighting has cost the Nipponese 24,000 casualties.

Cannon and howitzers gnawed steadily at the 40-foot thick outer wall of the Intramuros to cut an entranceway for tanks and infantry seeking to eliminate the cornered enemy and liberate an estimated 7,000 civilians.

The Yanks could pulverize the Intramuros and everything inside with air power, but they are trying to save the civilians. Arthur Feldman of the Blue network termed this a possibly futile gesture. He was of the opinion the Japanese already have killed most of the civilians.

Only Small Area Left
Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in his communique today that the enemy garrison in south Manila, now compressed into an area only 1,200 yards by 800, "is acting with the greatest savagery in his treatment of non-combatants and private property."

On Corregidor, both entrances of the main tunnel were blocked by explosives and Yanks swarming over the topside poked through rubble in search of the ventilation vent. When they find it the Japanese will be completely sealed off, their doom certain.

Liquid fire and explosives were killing the few Japanese who managed to dash from the few remaining crevices in banzai charges.

Fighting Still Bitter
MacArthur, describing the fighting in Manila as still bitter, underscored its severity by announcing enemy casualties of 92,000 for the six weeks of the Luzon campaign as against American casualties of 12,929—2,676 killed, 245 missing and 10,008 wounded.

This showed 24,000 Japanese and 3,246 American casualties in the last week alone.

MacArthur said a survey of Manila disclosed that the Japanese occupation army thoroughly looted all private possessions of value and apparently shipped the stolen goods to Tokyo.

ELKS ARE SHOWN PACIFIC PICTURES

Colored still pictures of Australia and other spots in the Pacific area were shown to Elks members by Lt. Henry Ford at their regular supper meeting Tuesday night.

Lieutenant Ford, an active member of the local Elks club before entering the service, has recently returned from the Pacific theater where he has been with a Seabees unit. The pictures, which he took himself, showed some of the beauty and color of that area as well as shots of interesting scenes from modern buildings to most primitive architecture. He recounted scenes of some of the buildings in which his unit was engaged. Unusual botanical shots were described in full color and he also showed difficult pictures taken from an airplane.

The lieutenant accompanied the showing of his camera studies with informative remarks.

J. Herbert Bunde, of the naval intelligence, another Elks member now in service, was a guest at the supper meeting.

Dignify Labor, Is Request of Rotary Guest

"Most of the labor problems of this country have been caused by the fact that we haven't placed labor on a dignified plane," stated J. E. Teppoorten, co-ordinator of educational service, Madison, at the weekly noon luncheon of the Wisconsin Rapids Rotary club at Hotel Witter today.

Speaking on "training for business and man's security," the Rotary guest pointed out that "business deals with human beings; business is human."

Mr. Teppoorten labeled work the "cradle of civilization," and said that people work for two reasons, conscience and appetite. If we dignify and honor labor, a great labor problem will be solved, he ventured. Attacking those persons who have called vocational training a fraud, the speaker stated that training people for job competence is the greatest security man can be offered.

A great post-war problem will be that of an educational system for all, he emphasized. "For too long a time we have felt that education is for the educator," he said. "It is for the masses; training for security is a 'we' job." He mentioned that poverty and ignorance are always cousins and that much training will be needed in the postwar era, because industry doesn't wait but quickly becomes more complicated and involved. The speaker also praised vocational education's role in the current war.

"If we get our appetite ahead of our conscience, we had better sing God Save America, rather than God Bless America," he concluded.

Argentine Issue Explodes At Mexico City Conference

Chapultepec Castle, Mexico—(P)—The Argentine issue exploded at the first preliminary meeting of the inter-American conference today with a demand by Paraguay that it be given immediate consideration.

The head of the Paraguayan delegation, Dr. Celso R. Velazquez, brought up the Argentine case as the first point in discussion of the conference agenda.

The meeting was a preliminary session of the heads of delegations to agree upon an agenda, elect a president, and pass on rules for the conference. Mexican foreign minister Ezequiel Padilla was elected president.

Paraguay demanded that the Argentine issue be given immediate consideration, which would have meant that it would take precedence over security, economic and political issues.

This was turned down, however, and Argentina is left for discussion after all the other points are cleared away, a procedure which Padilla said would contribute enormously to the success of the conference.

Pvt. Francis Faehling Wounded in France

Mrs. Francis Faehling, 860 Cliff street, was notified by the war department Tuesday that her husband, Pvt. Francis Faehling, was wounded in action in France February 2.

An infantryman, Private Faehling entered service July 21, 1944, and went overseas in December.

Nekoosa Soldier Is Wounded in Action

Mrs. Lawrence Hobart of Nekoosa has received the Purple Heart, which was awarded to her husband, Pvt. Lawrence Hobart, for wounds received in action January 23.

Private Hobart was serving in Luxembourg when he was wounded.

Close Thursday

In observance of Washington's birthday Thursday, both the Wood County and First National banks will be closed, as well as offices in the county courthouse and Wisconsin Rapids Building and Loan association.

There will be no rural or city mail deliveries and, although the postoffice lobby will be open, there will be no window sales. City hall offices will remain open and both city and county law enforcement agencies will be on duty, as well as the local fire department.