

KEEP FAITH with us—by buying WAR BONDS

# Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

Waste Paper is a vital weapon of war. Save it and save some boy's life! SAVE RECYCLED PAPER

Thirty-First Year—No. 9627.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Saturday, November 11, 1944.

Single Copy Five Cents

# PATTON'S SPEARHEADS CLOSE IN AROUND METZ

## Crucial Fight for Leyte

### BIGGEST BATTLE OF PHILIPPINES NOW UNDER WAY

General MacArthur Headquarters, Philippines—(P)—Japan's "Tiger of Malaya," whose do-or-die stand on Leyte has flamed into a savage battle involving more than 100,000 men, poured thousands of fresh Nipponese against the Yanks today, after landing them from a 19-ship convoy at a cost of three transports and seven destroyers.

Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, taking great risks with Japan's dwindling reserves of cargo vessels and escort warships, got reinforcements to Ormoc despite determined attacks spaced over a 24-hour period by American planes and patrol torpedo boats. A heavy rain squall, prolonging a previous cover of darkness, favored the gamble.

The reinforcements, which reasonably might exceed 10,000, buttressed 35,000 other enemy troops of three fresh divisions moved in on western Leyte to replace 35,000 casualties already inflicted by four American divisions.

**Most Crucial Battle**  
The biggest and most crucial land engagement since Gen. Douglas MacArthur returned to the Philippines Oct. 20 is developing.

Both sides are well equipped and backed by heavy artillery.

The enemy convoy of four 5,000-ton transports and 15 destroyers—the Japanese frequently use the swift destroyers for troop-carrying as well as escort duty—was spotted by U. S. airmen Thursday afternoon as it entered Ormoc bay.

Lightning fighters dovebombed with 1,000-pound explosives. Mitchell medium bombers went in at low level. Ships' guns dotted the skies with bursting ack-ack. The Yank fliers were in small force but left a transport smoking before breaking off the engagement.

**Enemy Warship Sunk**  
Thursday night, patrol torpedo boats darted in and out of destroyer searchlight paths, slipped by. See—WAR IN PACIFIC—Page 7

## Would Halt Sampson Co. Building Job

Approval by the city council Wednesday of a Sampson Canning company request to build a leanto on the east side of its plant on First street north was vigorously opposed in a petition circulated among First street residents Friday.

Copies of the petition which contains names of 26 householders and taxpayers were mailed to the city's 20 aldermen today by Mayor William T. Nobles. This suggests possibility that the council may rescind its action of November 8, may rescind the permission given the canning company to build on city-owned property.

At Wednesday's meeting the request from the Sampson company to erect the leanto on the east side of its plant, along the First street right-of-way, to house certain machinery was vigorously protested by Alderman Walter Parmeter, First ward, who said the extension would be too near the street, would be unsightly and would necessitate the removal of three large shade trees.

However, the council voted 19 to 1, Alderman Parmeter dissenting, to allow the Sampson company to build the structure, and aldermen agreed to lease the needed property to the company. The property constitutes part of the public right-of-way, but is unused for motor or pedestrian traffic since there is no sidewalk passing the Sampson property at that point.

**Tree Limb Falls; Yetter Is Injured**  
Roger Yetter, 28, 1311 Washington street city, was taken to Wisconsin General hospital by ambulance this morning after sustaining leg injuries late Friday afternoon when a tree limb fell on him while he was engaged in tree trimming operations at the cemetery in Wisconsin Rapids.

Yetter was taken to Riverview hospital by ambulance when the accident occurred and after examination was transferred to the Madison hospital. The large limb which struck Mr. Yetter fell a distance of about 20 feet.

## Bong Gets His 34th



MAC ARTHUR GREETES BONG — Maj. Richard Bong (left) of Poplar, Wis., top army air forces fighter pilot with the highest number of enemy kills to his credit, shakes hands with Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commanding U. S. forces in the Philippines, as the Badger flier arrived on a newly opened airstrip on Leyte island.

An American Base on Leyte—(P)—One pass at a Japanese plane and Maj. Richard I. Bong, Poplar, Wis., today increased his score to 34 enemy planes downed in aerial combat.

Major Bong's latest victory came during the 24-hour aerial battle over a Japanese convoy at Ormoc and represented one of 16 Japanese planes definitely downed. Five others were probably destroyed.

Bong is America's ace of aces in all war theaters.

Bong's latest victory, according to his own report, came when he met five new Japanese fighters head-on during a patrol. One of the Japanese planes zoomed up, rolled over—and came directly into Bong's gunsights. He said the enemy plane crashed in flames.

Bong's leading contender in this sector is Maj. Thomas B. Maguire Jr. of Ridgewood, N. J., who kept in the race today by taking off several hours after Bong. He spotted a single Japanese plane, forced it toward the ground, fired once, and the enemy plane crashed to give him his 26th victory.

## NANKING BOMBED BY SUPERFORTS

Washington—(P)—Japanese-controlled Nanking, China, felt the blows of B-29 Superfortresses today, while a Japanese broadcast claimed other formations of air giants had raided the islands of Kyushu and Saishu.

A war department communique said a large task force of China-based planes bombed docks and warehouses at Nanking. Details of the damage inflicted were not made known, but the war department said further information would be given as soon as available.

An imperial Japanese communique, broadcast by the Domei agency and recorded by the federal communications commission, asserted that 80 of the Superfortresses had struck at the two home islands about 10 a. m. Saturday (Tokyo time).

The bombers caused only "slight damage" and "fled after blindly dropping bombs from above the clouds," the broadcast said.

Kyushu is the southernmost of the Japanese home islands. Saishu, just below the southern tip of Korea, is about 150 miles to the west.

The Superfortresses flew through daylight to accomplish their mission against Nanking the war department said.

## Charles Treleven Is Now in Pennsylvania

Charles Treleven, native of Neokosa and a former member of The Tribune staff, has accepted the position of news editor of The Mercury at Pottstown, Pa. "Chuck" left here to be employed by a Milwaukee newspaper and later was associated with a Hyannis, Mass., daily.

Mr. Treleven has been at Pottstown for several weeks and his wife and two daughters were to join him there this week. He and his family, in their seaside home at Hyannis, were in the center of the storm that lashed the coast earlier this fall.

**WILL ADDRESS COMMUNITY CLUB**  
Wisconsin Rapids Community club members will meet at the Sugar Bowl cafe on Monday evening at 6:30 p. m. to hear Chief of Police R. J. Exner tell about the FBI National Police academy. Plans for community Christmas activities will be discussed.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE—Flight Officer Dora Fritzsche of Milwaukee, Squadron One of the civil air patrol, receives American Legion membership cards from Commander Frank Muehlstein, at the annual Armistice day membership pickup at the Tri-City airport this morning. Charles Hagerstrom post Number 9 went over the top by nine members in its membership drive. This short ceremony occurred after Armistice day observances at Wisconsin Rapids, in which the firing squad fired three volleys at 11 a. m., after which the Legion bugler blew taps. Flight Officer Fritzsche and Flight Officer Noble Lee, also of the civil air patrol, flew from Milwaukee this morning in the Piper Cub coupe plane. Left to right are Fred Bushnell, Eighth district Legion commander; Flight Officer Fritzsche; Frank Muehlstein, commander of Charles Hagerstrom post; Mrs. Gilbert Sandman, president of the local Legion Auxiliary and Mrs. A. J. Crowns of Neokosa, Eighth district vice-president of the American Legion Auxiliary.

## INVITE FRENCH TO JOIN EUROPEAN ADVISORY GROUP

Washington—(P)—The United States, Britain and Russia today invited the DeGaulle government of France to assume full membership on the European advisory commission.

This is the most advanced step yet taken toward reconstituting France as a great power.

The invitation was extended to the French provisional government at Paris, where Prime Minister Churchill is making an Armistice Day visit today.

The action was announced jointly here and in London and Moscow.

**U. S. Statement**  
Acting Secretary of State Stettinius issued this statement.

"At the Moscow conference a year ago the American, British and Soviet governments decided to reestablish in London a European advisory commission for the purpose of studying certain European questions and submitting joint recommendations thereon to the three governments.

"Among the matters which are receiving the close attention of the commission is the question of the surrender terms to be imposed on Germany, and the treatment to be accorded that country.

"Conscious of France's vital interest in the solution of the German problem and of the part which France will inevitably play in maintaining the future peace of Europe, the government of the United States is happy to join in extending to the provisional government of the French republic an invitation to full membership on the European advisory commission.

"Representatives of the three governments are today communicating this decision to the provisional government of the French republic at Paris."

**Fulfills DeGaulle Request**  
It was less than a month ago, Oct. 23, that the United States and Britain recognized the administration of Gen. Charles De Gaulle as a full fledged provisional government.

General De Gaulle insisted at the time that recognition was not enough—that France must be given a full share in deciding future European policies. His primary request was for membership on the European advisory commission.

## South Wood County Tops \$30,000 War Fund Quota

South Wood county, according to final reports from the Community War Chest headquarters, topped the established 1944 quota of \$30,000 and hit a final figure of \$30,798 in subscriptions. Actual cash received up to date is \$24,103.11 with \$6,115.55 in installments receivable as well as \$6,083.76 receivable from payroll deductions.

Other counties in the state which have gone over the top are Outagamie, Washington, Oneida, Dane, Trempealeau, Milwaukee, Marinette, Washburn, Taylor, and Waupaca. Counties which have raised be-

## 26 Years Ago Drive on Metz Was Stopped by Armistice

Paris—(P)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's tank-tiding infantry swept on today toward Metz, already well beyond the line where Gen. John J. Pershing's foot-slogging doughboys were poised for a similar attack on the fortress city when armistice came in 1918.

For the new American forces, this was the first Armistice Day on the western front, but the rising power of Patton's assault gave promise that before another rolls around they will have left the battlefields of Europe.

**Same Place, Same Target**  
In their muddy trenches before Metz the doughboys of the last war were preparing on Nov. 11, 1918, for just such an offensive as Patton has uncorked. Then, Lt. Gen. R. L. Bullard's American Second army was scheduled to push off just three days later—on Nov. 14.

The old second was lined up along the right flank of the First army on much the same front as the one Patton's Third army has now broken across. Reduction of the old St. Mihiel salient had put Bullard's army in position some 15 miles southwest of Metz and along a line which crossed the Moselle river near Pont-a-Mousson and extended northeast of Nancy. Today they are about nine miles south of Metz.

Down the road to Metz on this day a generation ago marched the 137th infantry regiment under orders to assault the fortress city, which never had been taken by direct attack.

**They Just Stopped Marching**  
Suddenly the word swept down the line, man to man, at first in an unbelieving undertone, and then—when somebody said it was official—the undertone developed into a yell:

"Armistice! Armistice!"

"We just stopped marching then and there," recalled Staff Sgt. Paul N. Hill, of Horton, Kas., back now where 26 years ago he was a 19-year-old mortarman.

Now a mess sergeant of Company E, same regiment, same division, he stood at almost the same spot as in 1918—and he is just one of the many for whom history is repeating itself.

Harold attended S. S. Peter and Paul Catholic school here and the Franklin school at Kellner. He was home on furlough this last August, after which he was transferred to Fort Meade and subsequently was sent overseas.

He saw combat service in Holland, Belgium and Germany, according to the last letter received from him, written in Germany three weeks ago.

## Paasikivi Becomes Finnish Premier

London—(P)—The Finnish radio announced today that Juho Paasikivi, veteran peace envoy and friendly to Soviet Russia, had accepted the premiership in a new Finnish government.

He succeeds Ehru Castren, whose government has been criticized for its handling of the Russo-Finnish Armistice problems.

## Tanks Sweep to Within 13 Miles Of Fortress City

**BULLETIN**  
With the U. S. Third Army—(P)—Tank vanguards of the U. S. Sixth armored division crossed the Nied river and swept through Han Sur Nied, 13 miles southeast of Metz, today.

London—(P)—U. S. tanks and infantry slugging well beyond the 1918 Armistice day battleline, deepened a broad wedge southeast of Metz today, and all but sliced the Metz-Sarrebourg railroad in fighting advances within 20 miles of Germany's Saar border.

Lt. Gen. George Patton's Third army had thrust as deep as nine miles in three days, and Berlin asserted 600 tanks were engaged in the offensive now, in its fourth day of earth-shaking battle.

## PARIS WELCOMES CHURCHILL FOR ARMISTICE DAY

Paris—(P)—Prime Minister Churchill, Britain's self-styled "wandering minstrel" of diplomacy, came from behind a 24-hour secrecy screen in Paris today and joined Gen. Charles De Gaulle in a traditional tribute to war dead at the Arc de Triomphe on the French nation's first Armistice Day observance in five years.

The British prime minister arrived in Paris by plane yesterday with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden for political and economic talks with the French.

Wearing the powder blue uniform of a marshal of the Royal Air force, Churchill laid a wreath on the tomb of the unknown and reviewed an hour-long parade of French forces down the Champs Elysees.

Small detachments of British soldiers and American army and navy base units also marched in the parade.

Despite the official secrecy thrown about Churchill's visit until his 12 o'clock appearance at the ceremony, the capital's main avenue was bordered by a tight jam of people. Thousands kept up an intermittent chant, "Vive Churchill, Vive De Gaulle, Vive Koenig," (Lt. Gen. Joseph Pierre Koenig, commander of French Forces of the Interior and military governor of Paris).

Scores of RAF planes wheeled overhead in the dim sunlight, and a frigid breeze whipped the tongues of the eternal flame as Churchill placed the wreath and signed an American Red Cross guest book.

**De Gaulle Recedes Soldiers**  
Then the prime minister stood by as Gen. De Gaulle pinned decorations on a dozen soldiers and airmen, three of them British army officers.

The guests of honor included the widow of Marshal Foch, World War I French commander-in-chief, and severely wounded veterans of the last war, some of them in wheelchairs.

(Churchill and DeGaulle were to participate later in ceremonies in the Compiegne forest, scene of the signing of the French armistice with Germany in 1940, the London radio said in a broadcast over the Blue network).

## HONOR UNKNOWN SOLDIER'S TOMB

Washington—(P)—President Roosevelt stood without topcoat in a chilly breeze at Arlington national cemetery today to pay the nation's annual homage at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Standing beside War Secretary Stinson and Navy Secretary Forrestal, he watched Maj. Gen. Edwin M. Watson, his chief military aide, lay a large oval wreath of white and yellow chrysanthemums at the foot of the marble sarcophagus.

Rear Adm. Wilson Brown, naval aide, also stood with him in the minute of silence preceding the wreath laying. A small guard of men in the uniform of the army, navy and marines participated.

Just before the ceremony the band played "Hail to the Chief" and "The Star Spangled Banner," as several hundred spectators looked on. A bugler sounded taps at the end.

The customary presidential salute of 21 guns was fired out over the Potomac river as the presidential procession moved through the cemetery gates and out again.

## DONNELLS' LEAD DWINDLES

St. Louis—(P)—Gov. Forrest C. Donnell's lead in the race for U. S. senator dwindled to 3,955 votes today as his Democratic opponent, Roy McKittick, continued to gain in the count of absentee votes cast in Tuesday's election.

## 20 Miles From The Saar

Other doughboys drove nearly seven miles north of captured Chateau Salins to Haboudance, 24 miles southeast of Metz, and 20 miles from the Saar.

North of Metz, another Third army prong pushed slowly eastward from Maziere, occupying a woods about four miles above Metz. It was about 16 miles from the nearest columns battering into the German flank southeast of that fortress city.

Still farther north, Third army troops had established three bridgeheads over the Moselle river near Luxembourg on a curving battlefront that was as close as 10 miles to the frontier of the Industrial Saar.

**Resistance Is Stubborn**  
Rain, minefields and stubborn resistance slowed progress along the 75-mile Metz front. Two German counterattacks were beaten off near Maziere, and Koenigsmacher on Moselle sectors.

Elements of the Sixth armored division which took Luppy and fought astride the road from Pont-a-Mousson to Falquemont split German forces of undisclosed size. Some of the enemy retreated northwest toward Metz, and some fell back eastward.

On this 26th anniversary of the armistice of the first World War and Patton's 50th birthday at least six U. S. infantry divisions and two armored divisions were engaged along the line above and below Metz. They were advancing in two wings divided by the German defensive positions bulging out just west of Metz.

## Sweden Protests Nazi Baltic Sea Policy

London—(P)—The German radio today declared the Baltic sea an operational area in which every ship was likely to be sunk without warning.

Sweden immediately protested vigorously to Berlin against the German declaration, a Stockholm dispatch to the American-Swedish news exchange said today.

Sweden's protest, handed to the German minister in Stockholm, held the declaration unjustified and warned that the German government would be held responsible for any attacks on Swedish shipping.

## ARTILLERY AMMUNITION SHORTAGE

Columbia, S. C.—(P)—Demand for artillery ammunition is so great that hot shells are being loaded into freight cars for overseas shipment as soon as the TNT inside them hardens. War Mobilization Director Byrnes said today.

## THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Cloudy tonight with little change in temperature. Sunday fair south. Cloudy with showers north. Warmer Sunday.

Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 49; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 35; temperature at 7 a. m., 37. Precipitation, trace.



MISSING—Gordon Galloway, aviation mechanic's mate second class is missing in action in the Pacific area according to word received Tuesday evening by his mother, Mrs. Cora Galloway of this city. Galloway entered the navy in October of 1942, took his basic training at Great Lakes, Ill. and his aviation mechanic's training at Memphis, Tenn. He was sent to Seattle, Wash., and has been on active duty for one year. Gordon is a graduate of Lincoln high school with the class of 1941.



CONTINUED COOL