

**THE WEATHER**  
For Wisconsin: Snow spreading over entire state Sunday. Slowly rising temperature.  
Local weather facts for 24 hours preceding 7 a. m.: Maximum 17; minimum -15.

# Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

A CONSTRUCTIVE NEWSPAPER

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Thirty-First Year—No. 9696.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Saturday, February 3, 1945.

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# BERLIN SMOTHERED WITH 3,000 TONS OF BOMBS

## Two U.S. Divisions Pouring Through Siegfried Line

### SURGE ACROSS OPEN COUNTRY BEHIND 1ST BELT

**BY JAMES M. LONG**  
Paris—(P)—First army doughboys, smashing into the final west-wall defenses today in the Monschau sector, reached points little more than a mile from the last concrete fortifications. They had burst completely through the first pillbox belt of the double Siegfried line.

The Americans punched their way into Bronsfeld, slightly more than a mile from Schleiden, which is on the eastern fringe of the Siegfried defenses. They occupied Bronsfeld, Berescheid and Dreibrunn, 7 1/2 miles east of Monschau, towns controlling the main highways to the communications center of Schleiden.

Gains of three miles and more were registered as the Second and Ninth divisions pushed through open country into the final Siegfried belt. They were two-thirds of the way through the whole defense system.

The German high command reported lively air activity and increasing artillery fire in Holland and on the front along the Roer river in Germany, amid rising indications of an impending all-out offensive.

Field Marshal von Rundstedt gave this crisp command to his troops: "Orders for what we have to do have been given. Comrades, now more than ever we must be watchful."

The battle was particularly fierce in the area 10 miles southeast of Monschau, where the 82nd airborne division seized Udenbreth and heights dominating the Siegfried line 1 1/2 miles into Germany.

**10 Miles Inside Germany**  
Fighting forward east of Monschau, the First army's Second infantry division had cracked the west wall at one of its widest points 30 miles southeast of Aachen, and driven 10 miles inside Germany. The Second division seized Schoensiefen and Harperscheid, three miles from the Siegfried fortress of Schleiden and 32 miles from Bonn, communications hub on the Rhine.

German forces fought as bitterly against the U. S. Third army's push farther down the 40-mile assault front, and hard fighting raged for Bleialf, 5 1/2 miles west of Prum, a supply center for the defense line.

American and French troops battled to throw Germans from a foothold in Colmar on the southern end of the western front, and broadened their grip on the Rhine south of Strasbourg to 35 miles.

**Found Rhine Bridge**  
Artillery pounded the Rhine bridge at Neurbisack east of Colmar, main escape route for perhaps 25,000 Germans in the Colmar area. Allied troops reached the Rhine near Kuenheim, north of Neurbisack.

French and American tanks and infantry had driven to the center of Colmar, meeting strong resistance only in the eastern sector. More than 25 French towns were taken yesterday.

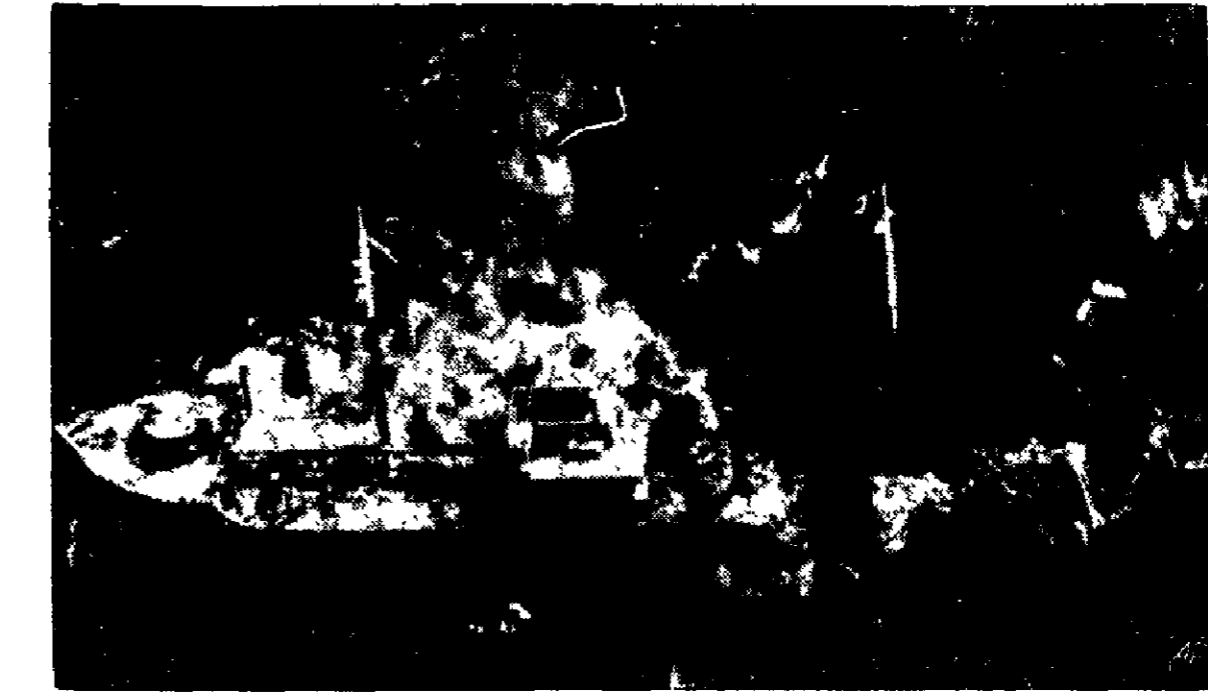
Americans of the Seventh army, aided at points by French units, advanced in the area 15 miles north of Strasbourg and doughboys pushed across the Moselle river on both sides of Haguenau.

Allied planes struck repeatedly in support of ground troops. They destroyed or damaged 64 locomotives, 1,312 railway cars, and 274 motor vehicles Friday.

The pattern of day and night attack began increasingly to seal off the whole battle zone from Dusseldorf to Coblenz, perhaps preparing for a breakthrough bid for the Rhine.



**YANKS PENETRATE SIEGFRIED LINE—ERASE BULGE**—American First and Third army troops, swinging forward on a 40-mile front from the area northeast of Monschau to Luxembourg, against unexpectedly light opposition, enter village of Losheim, Germany, and capture enemy weapons intact. First army Yanks lead back from the front, Germans captured as last trace of Nazis' hard-won bulge is erased.



**JAP TANKER GOES UNDER**—A Japanese tanker, burning fiercely, heads for the bottom of the South China sea stern first, after being attacked by American carrier planes off the coast of French Indo-China. On the bow gun platform is an old-fashioned field piece with wheels.

### RECORD BLOW IS DEALT CITY BY 1,000 BOMBERS

By Charles Chamberlain  
London—(P)—More than 1,000 U. S. Flying Fortresses blasted and burned the heart of Berlin today in the greatest air blow ever dealt the German capital, and not a single Nazi fighter opposed the deadly bomber runs.

Nearly 3,000 tons of bombs were poured down in 45 minutes on the capital teeming with refugees and now almost in the frontline of land war.

For the first time in a major attack, no German planes fought in the air over Berlin itself to disrupt the bombers' aim. But in dogfights near the city 20 Nazi fighters were shot down and 13 more were wrecked on ground.

The record attack was aimed directly at military and communications targets in the center of the city menaced by Soviet armies which the Germans say are only 40 miles away.

More than 400 Liberators, staging a diversionary attack that confused Berlin's defenders, pounded a synthetic oil plant and railroads on the outskirts of Magdeburg, 65 miles southwest of Berlin.

The U. S. Eighth air force bombers were shielded by more than 900 Mustangs and Thunderbolts which streamed from Magdeburg to Berlin in a swift, protective shuttle, cutting down fighter opposition to the bombers.

Today's attack lasted about 45 minutes, and the greatest weight of explosives and incendiaries ever unloaded on the city of Berlin fell at the rate of 66 tons a minute.

An Eighth air force staff officer said targets included important military and governmental office buildings, the Anhalter, and Potsdamer railway stations and Tempelhof rail yards.

"The attack was aimed at disrupting communications through the capital and disorganizing control of military forces within the Reich at this crucial time," he said. "Berlin is the hub through which flow vital communication lines between the Eastern and Western fronts."

**300-Mile "Skytrain"**  
First reports indicated generally good results, although bombardiers sighted through broken clouds. The RAF in its heaviest attack on Berlin, last Feb. 15, dropped 2,500 tons of bombs.

Berlin broadcasts declared the bombers and fighters formed a sky train stretching 300 miles from Berlin to the Dutch frontier.

Today's assault was more spectacular than the 1,000-bomber raid by the Eighth air force last June 21, which set the previous record, and more devastating to the core of the city. The strength of the June 21 formations was dispersed over a wide area of Berlin's outlying industrial zone, but today's blows were concentrated on the very center.

It was the 20th raid of the war on Berlin, and brought the total of bombs dropped there to nearly 50,000 tons—seven times the amount the Germans dumped on London during the aerial battle of Britain.

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## Nazis Say Soviet Attack At Oder River Is Repulsed

### Thrust Toward Stettin Would Isolate Area

London—(P)—Russian attacks on the Oder river have been repulsed, the German high command declared today as American air fleets rocked Berlin with 3,000 tons of bombs in aid to Soviet troops massing along the river 40 miles east of the capital.

One Berlin broadcast said Marshal Gregory Zhukov's troops had won but later lost a bridgehead over the Oder near Kustrin.

The Moscow radio declared one of Zhukov's columns had appeared to within 11 1/2 miles of Stettin on the Baltic. A plunge to Stettin would lop off 18,500 square miles of north-eastern Germany, the Polish corridor, and the Danzig area.

Kustrin is on the Oder 40 miles east of Berlin. A huge battle was reported raging farther south, four miles east of Frankfurt on the historic Kundersdorf battlefield, first bloodied in the era of Frederick the Great.

**Could Attack From North**  
Zhukov's drive on Stettin, 74 miles northeast of Berlin, threatened to cut off great German forces, and to open Berlin for an attack from the north.

The Germans rushed fresh divisions up to the Oder river line.

The German military commentator Col. Ernst von Hammer declared the "western bank of the Oder has now been mopped up of Russian forces" after one spearhead had won a temporary bridgehead near Kustrin.

Moscow dispatches said Soviet artillerymen already were pumping shells into Kustrin, 40 miles northeast of Berlin. Kustrin and Frankfurt form the last major barriers before Berlin.

South of Kustrin other Russian vanguards plunged forward from captured Drossen, 14 miles north-west of Frankfurt and 51 miles due east of Berlin. The fall of this communications hub represented the greatest gain yesterday for the Russians with a 15-mile plunge straight through the heavily reinforced German lines.

**Bring Up Reinforcements**  
The midnight Russian war bulletin said the nazis were constantly replenishing their shattered forces east and northeast of Frankfurt, but despite a stubborn resistance were losing one position after another under blows.

Another column of Zhukov's men, coiling northwest around Kustrin, reached the Oder river at a point of 30 miles from Berlin, the Germans announced. This advance threatened to outflank Kustrin and take it from the rear.

Moscow's communique did not concede that fighting was in progress at Kustrin, itself.

**CHECKS MISSING**  
Two checks, amounting to about \$50, were reported taken from the cash drawer in Fey's Photo Art Shop Friday morning, the theft presumably occurring soon after the store opened, at about 8:30 in the morning.

Police are investigating the case.

## City in Ohio Is Without Lump of Coal

Hillsboro, Ohio—(P)—There wasn't a lump of coal for sale in this thriving little city of 4,600 today—and a lot of people were cold.

They bundled up a little more, putting on an extra shirt as they dressed this morning, and those with no coal in their bins gave thought perhaps to finding wood to burn.

Two churches, the Presbyterian and the Episcopal, indicated they might not be services tomorrow. The Highland county courthouse's coal bin was empty, and the city's three grade schools and one high school probably will be closed Monday.

Said H. Duckwall, editor of the city's weekly newspaper, the Press Gazette:

"We've got a seven month old baby at home. I got down on my knees to a coal dealer last Monday—and got a little coal, but not much. But there isn't a lump to be had today, and may not be until late next week."

Harold A. Predmore city solicitor said there are coal mines, 80 to 100 miles to the east in Jackson county, but "the trucks have quit. They don't have tires and gasoline any more. Their trucks are worn out, and they themselves have taken war jobs."

## DEFER ACTION ON MANPOWER BILL

Washington—(P)—The senate military committee today was reported to have deferred decision on a limited national service bill until Monday.

Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.), emerging from a closed session, said he had a number of objections to the bill as tentatively amended by the committee. Not the least of his criticisms was the placing of overall control of the manpower program in James F. Byrnes' office of war mobilization and reconversion.

The legislation passed the house in such form as to give local selective service boards the say about who would be shifted to war jobs. Under the senate committee's first draft, Byrnes' office would be in charge, but could delegate the actual placement authority to any other agency of government.

O'Mahoney said today's papers told of two events illustrative of the mistakes that can be made by government agencies. One, he said, was the loose wording of the natural gas conservation order which resulted in the shutdown of some war plants in the Detroit area. The other instance involved the purchase of a searchlight for \$31 and its subsequent resale to the government for \$235.

"Mistakes like that can be made involving inanimate objects," O'Mahoney said, "but to make them with men would be to destroy the effectiveness of the whole bill."

## Marquette County School Leader Dies

Westfield—Samuel Long, superintendent of Marquette county schools for the past 26 years, died about 10 o'clock Friday night at his home here, following a stroke.

He is survived by his wife, a son, William, who is serving overseas, his aged father, a sister, Mrs. Herbert Thalacker, and two brothers, John and Robert, all of Westfield. Robert is assemblyman for Marquette and Adams counties.

## Move Police Radio Equipment to Bluff

Victor Nickel, Wood county communications engineer, announced today that transmitting equipment of the Wood county police radio station has been moved from the county courthouse to the new tower at Powers Bluff park. Control equipment remains at the sheriff's office and the city hall.

Equipment tests, as permitted by the federal communications commission, have started at the new location. Actual operation will begin next week.

## CARS COLLIDE

A collision occurred at 3:15 Friday between an unknown car traveling north on Third street south, and D. K. Shannon, 341 Drake street, going east on Franklin street. Minor damages resulted.

## Fall of Manila Without Major Fight Imminent

### Expensive "Squeeze" Play

Washington—(P)—The Japanese army on Luzon, engaged in a strangely listless battle with American forces, may be using this occasion for a showdown with the Tokyo admiralty before the hour comes to defend the homeland.

This is suggested by an American naval spokesman in discussing the mystery of the relatively light enemy resistance to General MacArthur's advancing land forces on Luzon.

He recalls that high Japanese army commanders, both in the field and at home, have been urging the navy to come out and fight.

"We think," said the spokesman, "that General Yamashita is waiting for support from the navy and air forces."

But the navy, he said, has shrunk to "the size of a task force." He did not elaborate. But it was evident that he implied that the Japanese navy does not now even approach its peak size.

## Leland Heller Dies in Action in Belgium

Marshfield—Pvt. Leland Heller, 28, a veteran of the Italian and Sicily campaigns before taking part in D-Day operations, was killed in action in Belgium December 26, 1944, according to word received by Mrs. Roy Schoelling, an aunt of Private Heller.

Before entering service, the soldier had lived most of his life with his grandparents. His grandmother, Mrs. Ida Heller, formerly of Pittsview, resides here.

Private Heller, a member of the army paratrooper division, went overseas June 1, 1943, landing in North Africa. He was hospitalized for several weeks after being wounded in the battle of Salerno, Italy, and then was transferred to England, from where he left for action on the mainland of Europe.

The paratrooper, whose birthday was June 4, was employed for several years at Rockford, Ill., by a motor company before enlisting July 19, 1942, at Camp Grant, Ill. His training as a paratrooper was received at Fort Benning, Ga., where he was awarded his wings and boots in March, 1943.

## Authority on Far East Will Speak At Forum Meeting

A forum meeting on world problems, first in a series of two, will be held at the Lincoln High school music room at 8 o'clock Tuesday evening. Harry Paxton Howard, author of "America's Role in Asia," will be guest speaker.

Mr. Howard lived in the Far East for 24 years and worked in close association there with democratic movements. He was deported from Japan for his work on the trade union movement and the publication of his book, "The Socialist and Labor Movement in Japan." He went to Shanghai and finally was forced to flee from there in the early summer of 1941. He gives and authoritative picture of the needs and aspirations of our allies in the Orient, the policies to be pursued.

These public forums are sponsored by the Wisconsin Rapids school of vocational and adult education and are open to the general public free of charge. Wm. L. Miller, history instructor at Lincoln High school is chairman of the Tuesday program.

## Mercury Will Go Up Sunday

The temperature fell from 17 degrees above zero Friday afternoon to 15 below early this morning in Wisconsin Rapids to mark this city as one of the coldest spots in the entire state during the past 24 hours.

At 7 o'clock this morning, the thermometer still registered -10, then started to rise slowly during the day.

Rising temperatures, snow and cloudy conditions made up the weather situation throughout the state today, with the same conditions indicated for Sunday by the weatherman.

The Associated Press reported that Wausau was the coldest spot in the state yesterday, recording a -15.

## Child Is Killed in Coasting Accident

Kenosha—(P)—Robert Hanson, 10, died yesterday of injuries suffered Wednesday in a sledding mishap near his home. The boy was sliding down a hill and the sled struck a car.

### Hold Everything



"Better button it than button soldier—you're driving them out!"

## Wholesale Nazi Slave Farm Found

Moscow—(P)—A dispatch in the army newspaper Red Star said today Soviet troops who captured a baronial estate in Silesia had discovered a huge slave farm where Russian women were held in reserve for Nazi officers.

Several thousand girls and women were placed in a large barbed wire enclosure as landowners, factory managers and rich housewives arrived in picnic style to select their slave workers, Red Star related.

## Asked to Prove that Canadian Draftees Threw Guns Overboard

Owen Sound, Ont.—(P)—John Bracken, national leader of Canada's official opposition party, faced a challenge today to substantiate his charge that draftees threw away rifles and ammunition while en route overseas.

"This campaign of slander against the Canadian army has got to come to an end," Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton, defense minister, declared last night. "I'm going to see that he (Bracken) does substantiate that statement or pay the penalty for it."