

Clearing, Colder
Tonight; Fair,
Cool Friday

WINONA DAILY NEWS

RIVER
Stage Today 17.62
24-Hour Change +1.6

110th Year of Publication

TOMORROW — SUN RISES 5:22; SETS 6:51; NEW MOON MAY 1

WINONA, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1968

TEN CENTS PER COPY

TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

River Pushes Out at Record High

230 Planes Bomb Reds

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP) — An armada of 230 U.S. and South Vietnamese planes bombed a Communist stronghold near the Cambodian border "from dawn to dusk" today in the biggest air raid of the Viet Nam war.

U.S. Air Force and Vietnamese Skyraiders began the bombing attack at dawn.

By late afternoon a huge wall of smoke and fire obscured the Cambodian border. There had been six secondary explosions, presumably from Viet Cong ammunition caches.

U.S. spokesmen said ground fire was "surprisingly light considering that it is a dangerous area." Two Navy planes received one bullet hole each.

A spokesman said Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Viet Nam, had called for a "maximum effort" against the target, which lies in the Communist "C" zone.

"It appeared to be one of the more lucrative places we have seen," one spokesman said.

The U.S. Army contributed a platoon of armed helicopters which flew cover for Vietnamese spotter planes.

At Da Nang, 350 miles north of Saigon, a military firing squad publicly executed today a Viet Cong terrorist who tried to bomb a hotel filled with American GIs. Applause rippled through the crowd of 7,000 men, women and children as the young Communist slumped at the stake.

Le Dau, 24, showed no emotion as soldiers bound him to the stake in front of a sandbag parapet on the Da Nang soccer field.

A heavy military guard ringed the field.

Still awaiting execution is Nguyen Van Hai, 27, who drove the getaway motorbike in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon.

Hanoi Radio has announced that the Viet Cong will execute an American civilian prisoner, Gustav C. Hertz, if Hai is killed. There was no such threat in the case of Le Dau.

Le Dau walked into the Grand Hotel in Da Nang April 4 with a transistor radio packed with two pounds of plastic explosive under his arm. He had been loitering in the area three previous days and had aroused suspicions of hotel personnel.

LBJ Adds 3 States to Disaster Area

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson, misty-eyed at times during a tour of Midwest areas devastated by tornadoes and floods, has declared Indiana, Ohio and Michigan major disaster areas.

The President issued the disaster proclamations at the requests of governors of the three states. His action opens the way for the channeling of millions of dollars of federal aid to the stricken areas where more than 250 persons lost their lives.

The exact amount of the relief funds will be determined after damage surveys are completed.



GRIM PRESIDENT — His hat splattered by rain, grim-faced President Lyndon Johnson walks away after looking at the flood-swollen Mississippi River near St. Paul Wednesday. Johnson viewed the rampaging Mississippi as part of his tour of flood and tornado ravaged Midwest. (AP Photofax)

In the meantime, several federal agencies are giving help to the afflicted areas.

A disaster proclamation had been issued earlier for areas of Minnesota hit by floods.

The proclamations covering Indiana, Ohio and Michigan were issued Wednesday night shortly after Johnson returned to Washington following a hastily arranged trip through parts of Indiana, Minnesota and Ohio. After completing the trip, the President said.

"It's enough to bring tears to the eyes of anyone."

Only a few minutes before, Johnson's eyes had dampened and he had wiped his nose with the back of his hand as he talked with a grandmother in a tornado-leveled suburb of Toledo, Ohio.

The aging lady, gesturing to the scraps of wood and upturned kitchen range that had been home for her daughter, son-in-law and three grandchildren, said:

"It wasn't just being hit and hurt. That's all we have. There just isn't any more."

Johnson, who listened intently as the woman spoke, murmured words of sympathy.

The President, after driving back to the Toledo airport to take off for Washington and the end of a 2,200-mile trip, paused to tell a crowd of several hundred:

"Your government and your President will do everything conceivably possible to be of assistance under our laws."



LEVEE LAKE . . . Winona's Levee Park has been turned into part of the rising river. This view looking upriver from Center Street shows the pumping station, its water tank and the museum

steamer Wilkie. All streets leading to the river along the river front now are closed. (Daily News photo)

1,400 Desert Their Homes At La Crosse

By WILLIAM J. COLE
Daily News Managing Editor

A surging Mississippi River rose to 17.62 feet at noon today as Winona's flood fighters turned to reinforcing dikes in a long holding action against a 21-foot crest still expected here Tuesday.

This was only .3 of a foot from the all-time high of 17.94 on April 20, 1952.

The Weather Bureau announced the following expected levels for the next three days:

Friday 18.3
Saturday 19.3
Sunday 20.6

The 24-hour rise in the river here was the greatest since the start of the flood run and was measured at 1.61 feet.

If the predicted crest of 21 prevails it would bring 3.38 feet more of water to the Winona area.

The stage at St. Paul today was 28.5 with a long, slow rise to 26 Friday and 27 Saturday and Sunday.

At Hastings the stage today was 24.2 with the crest expected at 25 feet on April 17. Red Wing had a reading of 18.5 and was slated to see a rise to 20.5 late

on April 17 or 18.

La Crosse reported the stage at 14.7 and was warned to expect a rise to 18 feet on April 21.

At La Crosse, about 1,400 persons have been evacuated. The crest next week will cause at least 8,000 persons to be evacuated, flood control leaders there said.

Lake City posted a figure of 20 feet today and expected a crest of 22 feet on April 18.

Greatest 24-hour rise occurred in the stretch between Wabasha

Peace Corps To Pull Out Of Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — U.S. presidential envoy Ellsworth Bunker's mission to Indonesia ended today with agreement to pull out the American Peace Corps, long a target of Indonesia's Communists.

Bunker and President Sukarno issued a communique saying the corps will withdraw in the next few weeks because of "certain tensions" between the United States and Indonesia. About 35 American volunteers have been working in the sprawling island nation, most of them as athletic coaches.

The communique indicated that U.S. aid to Indonesia will be limited henceforth to technical assistance to a few Indonesian universities. American aid already has been slashed to less than \$3 million a year from a previous level of more than \$100 million.

Bunker has spent the past two weeks conferring with Sukarno and other officials on the deterioration in U.S.-Indonesian relations following American support of the Federation of Malaysia. Sukarno, backed by the powerful Indonesian Communist party, is pledged to crush British-backed Malaysia.

Withdrawal of the Peace Corps eliminates one of the last American agencies left in Indonesia.

The United States shut down its information services after Communist-led demonstrators attacked them and the Indonesian government halted their operations.

Special Insured Loans Available

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Special mortgage insurance terms will be available for flood victims in Minnesota disaster areas, the Federal Housing Administration reports.

FHA - insured loans of \$12,000 or less, without a down payment, will be available for families wanting to replace lost or damaged homes. Twenty-year improvement loans can be insured by the FHA in amounts up to \$10,000. The FHA also permits improvement loans of \$3,500 or less for up to five years, and these may be obtained through approved lenders.

Wilson in Washington To See LBJ

WASHINGTON (AP) — British Prime Minister Harold Wilson arrived today for a one-day meeting with President Johnson and other U.S. leaders.

Flying in at Andrews Air Force Base, Wilson was welcomed by Secretary of State Dean Rusk in a brief ceremony held in a driving rain.

The British chief then left for a meeting with Secretary of the Treasury Henry H. Fowler, the first of a round of appointments centering on economic issues.

High U.S. sources said Wilson and Johnson are expected to discuss Viet Nam and Malaysia, among other subjects.

Wilson also had a date with Secretary of Commerce John T. Connor.

U.S. Using Phantoms on Viet Raids

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force has started using the supersonic Phantom jet fighter to guard fighter-bombers from Communist MIG attack in raids into North Viet Nam.

Fifteen F4C Phantoms supported an equal number of F105 fighter-bombers on strikes against two radar stations Wednesday.

Sources said this was the first mention in reports of the appearance of the Air Force version of the Phantom in an escort role in the skies over Viet Nam.

A squadron of 18 F4C Phantoms arrived in Thailand about a week ago after a flight which reportedly began at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

The move was one of several made by the Air Force after two F105s were shot down by Communist MIGs during a bridge attack. In that first air combat between U.S. planes and North Vietnamese jets, the F105s were escorted by F100 Supersabre jets. The F100s are older and slower than the Phantoms.

WEATHER

FEDERAL FORECAST
WINONA AND VICINITY — Clearing and colder tonight, low 28-32. Mostly fair and cool Friday, high 44-48.

LOCAL WEATHER

Official observations for the 24 hours ending at 12 m. today:
Maximum, 57; minimum, 38; noon, 43; precipitation, .07.

Ice Moving Out Of Lake Pepin

The huge cake of ice floating on Lake Pepin started moving downstream this morning as wind blew from the north.

This was verified both at Lake City on the Minnesota side and at Pepin in Wisconsin.

THE WIND was described as strong.

A chunk of ice as wide as the river and one-fourth mile long started floating toward Wabasha this morning, but broke up before it did any apparent damage. This was ice believed to have been cut loose by the Ann King and Arthur J. Dyer in their unsuccessful attempts to get through Lake Pepin early this month.

Ice was gone from the lake as far up the lake as Maple Springs, a night club on Highway 61 about three miles upriver from Wabasha near the point where the lake starts its 90-mile widening of the Mississippi.

At noon a Pepin resident said there appeared to be no ice on the lake upriver from Pine Creek a mile below Maiden Rock. However, there still was ice at Lake City this morning and for some six miles upstream.

Whether the ice has sunk, disappeared or blown downstream was not known.

Ice has been breaking off from the solid cake and floating in chunks down the river past Wabasha since Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Willis Kruger, Reads Landing, is assigned to watch for the ice cake and give warning if it's coming en masse downriver to heavily damage Wabasha and the interstate bridge.

Traffic was one way across the Nelson dike road from the interstate BRIDGE TO WABASHA at 11:30 a.m.; water was up to the blacktop. It was over the blacktop in 1952, but the road was lower then.

In Wabasha, Mississippi River water is trickling over Highway 61 at the slough intersection north of the stoplights in Wabasha.

When Highway 61 floods between Wabasha and Kellogg, the main part of Wabasha will be an island, with Highway 60 already closed and traffic already reduced to one-way on the dike across the river.

A third of the population of Wabasha already is affected, according to Dan Foley, civil defense director.

The water rose 21 inches at Wabasha during the night. It is up to 18.4 feet. Expected crest is 20.5 feet.

The dike from Wabasha harbor to the river should be completed by 6 p.m. today, officials

said. A fireman will watch it day and night.

Sandbagging on HIGHWAY 61 in town was discontinued as ineffectual. No dynamiting of the lake ice will be attempted.

A fire truck has been placed on the west side for protection. Before all roads close to the west side, Sheriff Ed Lager will dispatch a radio car there for constant communication.

More city streets have been roped off today. Robert P. Passe is in charge of auxiliary police who will patrol the flooded areas, check vacated homes, and help with traffic. Cooperation between the CD, sheriff's department and other units has been set up.

Forty cots have been placed in the high school by the Red Cross. Five were used Wednesday night.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital, high and dry, is in no danger.

Roads still are open. If they are closed, two Coast Guard boats are here to take necessary personnel and patients to the hospital grounds, where station wagons will meet them. Jaycees with trucks are helping move people.

According to a report to Sheriff Lager, there were two inches of water over the Burlington tracks at Nelson this morning.

Pepin

AT PEPIN, the disposal plant is being sandbagged with help from high school boys. The plant is on the village side of the Burlington tracks.

With two more feet of water, the Mississippi will be up to the Burlington tracks here; it didn't reach them in 1952.

Wayne Martin moved out of his feed store on the lakeshore.

AT STOCKHOLM, Lyle Kessler moved from his home and cabins on Lake Pepin Wednesday.

Trempealeau

The inevitable happened at Trempealeau. Stand on the Burlington tracks leading to the cottage areas and all you see is water, with only cabin tops showing.

Joe Hill was the last to move out; he left the lake road Wednesday because he "thought he better get out or he'd get his feet wet."

The BURLINGTON RAILROAD has a patrolman on its tracks from East Winona to Onalaska 24 hours a day, according to Frank Jessesky, section foreman here. Crews will dump rocks in weak spots.

There is no clearance on the Burlington tracks on the Trempealeau Bay bridge — it's up to the girders.

Water was reported up to the tracks at ALMA this morning.

Governor Coming

Gov. Karl Rolvaag will make an inspection of Winona flood defenses today, Mayor R. K. Ellings said this noon.

Mayor Ellings said the governor's party will arrive in four planes at 5 p.m. They will land at Max Conrad field, he said.

The governor will be accompanied by Sen. Roger Laufenburger, City Rep. Frank Theis, Corps of Engineers and military personnel.

City cars will provide transportation and an escort will be furnished by Sheriff George Fort's officers.

and Winona, where the increase was more than a foot and a half. All tributary streams in the district were falling today.

The rise of the Mississippi during April has been steady. After a start at 5.39 on the first day of the month the rise has averaged nearly .8 of a foot per day.

HERE'S A rundown on the first 15 days:

April 1	5.39
2	5.95
3	6.58
4	6.94
5	7.38
6	9.02
7	10.11
8	10.85
9	12.08
10	12.60
11	13.33
12	13.96
13	14.52
14	15.71
15	17.62

Flowage over the Winona Dam was sharply higher today, rising to 182,500 cubic feet per second from Wednesday's mark of 153,000. Most to flow over the dam at any one time was 175,000 feet per second. This was when the river registered 17.9 in 1952. Normal flow during the summer months is 14,000 cubic feet per second.

A FAIRLY good weather forecast, for flood fighters, was issued by the Weather Bureau today.

Clearing and colder tonight is the prediction with a low of 28-32. Today's windy weather probably helped dry out some of the water-sogged areas, permitting a speedup of levee-building.

A high of 44-48 is forecast for Friday. Temperatures below normal and little or no rain is the outlook for Saturday.

The Winona temperature rose to 57 Wednesday, dropped to 38 (Continued on Page 13 Col. 4) RIVER



CROW RIVER RAMPAGE . . . The Crow River, cresting Wednesday at Delano, 25 miles west of Minneapolis, filled up the first floors of these houses along a residential section

of the Wright County community's main street. The river normally is a placid stream running behind these houses, but had flooded about half of Delano. (AP Photofax)