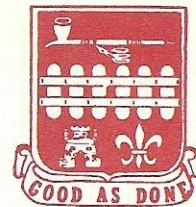




April 1982



Issue No. 25

# The "BULL SHEET"

Published by:  
Headquarters  
107th Engineer Association  
Ishpeming, Michigan

## CALUMET REUNION - 100th ANNIVERSARY

The Calumet story! Where to begin! How to cover a one in "our lifetime" occasion to commemorate a topnotch Combat Engineer outfit whose contributions to our beloved country in times of peace and times of unrest are to be cherished, recognized and proudly acknowledged by the thousands of finely trained men, past and present, rostered throughout the 100 years of the 107th history. An awesome task for a rank amateur. After many stops and starts, sheets of crumpled paper and increasing frustration trying to tell it the way it was came the brilliant, easy-way-out, solution. Say it with pictures and let each reader reach his/her own conclusions of what can only be humbly and gratefully stated as a "job extremely well done." So here is the Calumet story as seen through the camera lens of Rans Blondo (Co F-H&S 107-112th Regt) and Any Mezzo (107-112-H&S 254). Grateful thanks to both camera buffs for their efforts and contributions. Unfortunately due to space limitations, the photos had to be reduced in size thereby losing some of the detail.



What it is all for and about! Work detail preparing drill floor for banquet/dance.



Reunion CP - the Calumet Armory.

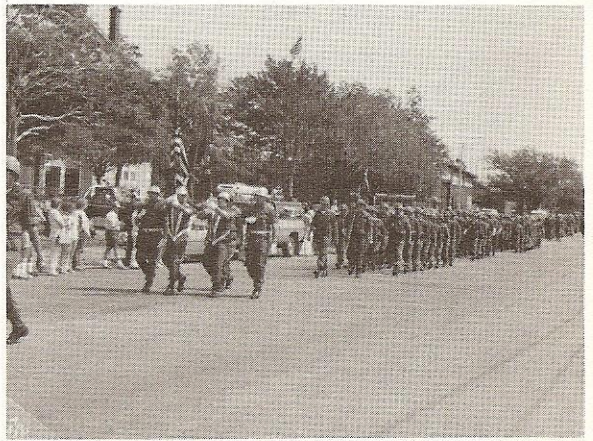
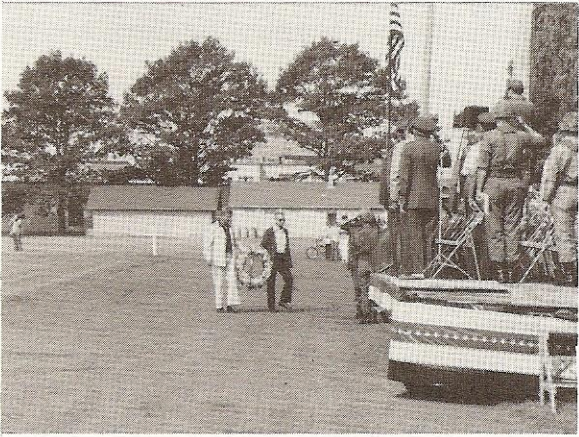
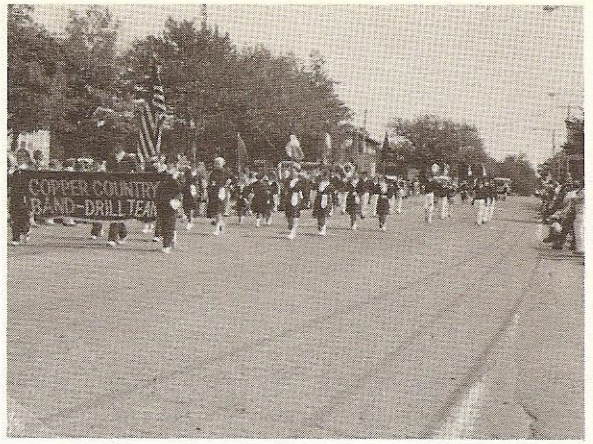
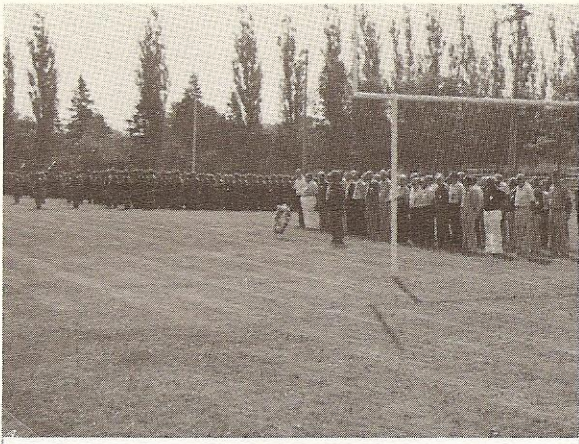


Brig. Gen. Leonard C. Ward, our own Len Ward, delivering his inspiring address as main banquet speaker. Assoct. Pres. and Reunion Chairman 1st Sgt Jack Calcaterra at Len's left.



Happy faces, ALL!







regulars, good turnout of first timers, many ex-Co E, F & Med Det members of the 1940 era Calumet outfits, numerous ex-Co A NG vets, State military officials and a fantastic registration out of the present day troops who combined duty with pleasure - considering moves to and from home stations, the pass-in-review for the memorial service and appearance in the community parade. This kind of new and increasing support bodes well indeed for the future of the Association.

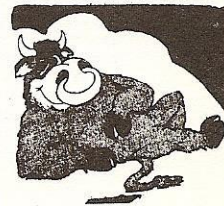
### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Banquet speakers, especially wong-winded ones, are not normally scheduled for reunions. However, Calumet was an exception - a special spit-and-polish occasion and because Gen. Leonard C. Ward agreed to come in all the way from Virginia to delivery the main address. And what a beautiful job. Tied in with his presentation, Len prepared and had printed the "Special Recognition of the 107th Engineer Battalion" which is reproduced as Page 6 for dissemination to everyone on our Association mailing roster. Most of us need no reminding that Gen. Ward's long and distinguished military career started as a 2nd Lt in Co A 107th Regt (Escanaba) in 1940 with successive assignments in the 107th until transfer to the 1121st Engr Gp Hq as its S-2. Postwar assignments included Bn CO of the 107th Bn and important National Guard posts on State and National levels.

### SHORT SNORTS

Seems that this feature always ends up sucking wind and so she goes again this issue. No platoon photos either but wothell, we'll just keep you hanging until next presstime.....To Whom It May Concern: "I thought I would let you know that my husband Edward Kozinski (Co B 254) passed away on 11-22-81. He was very proud of being a part of your lives. He told me, the children and grandchildren lots of his 'war stories'. He corresponded with an Eddie but I don't know his last name. I remember how proud he was when he was able to locate someone for the Association. Thank you for making Ed happy with all the news you sent him." Sincerely, Muriel Kozinski, Brooklyn. ...."Enclosing an obit on Robert L. Manninen (Co E 107). He was a Sgt in the company and went on active duty with us in 1940. Saw him at the reunion last August - first time I'd seen him in 40 years. That was some reunion we had - it was the talk of the town for quite some time. Missed a few people that couldn't get here because of the controllers strike." Bing Boberg (107, H&S 254, Co A NG Bn). Thanks, Bing, for this and all the other information you've pumped into Hq for many years - mostly death notices but very valuable nonetheless....."Have added dues for a couple more years. Am pushing 90 (maybe its pushing me) so don't expect too much anymore. Would have

liked to have made the Calumet reunion because I attended the college in Houghton and would have liked to look the place over. My class was 1915 and thats a long time ago." The beautifully handwritten note belies the age of George A. Koebke (Co B & C 107 WWI) who resides in Manitowoc, Wis.....readers of the January 1982 issue of the VFW MAGAZINE had to be stimulated into some serious thinking while reading an excellent article entitled: "Copperhead; Laser-Guided Artillery" by Lt Col Paul C. Rapp (USA Ret). The one and same on the rosters of Co B and Band 107 back in 1939=40. A letter from Paul reports that he is busy writing and selling magazine articles including a story on the origin of the Soo locks in the May 1981 THE RETIRED OFFICER MAGAZINE. Also, that he and wife, Edith, were off to Europe again to do some other pieces on European/NATO military preparedness, or lack of it. "Its a fun way to go", according to Paul....."I am retired now and taking it easy after undergoing 3 operations. Nice article about my old buddy, Ray Compeau - did my heart good to see that in the BULL SHEET. I belong to the Retired Officers Association and every once in a while I see an article written by another 107th vet, Col Paul Rapp." George Partanen (Co D 107) and a Calumet registrant.....A very welcome update on the 1st Platoon Co C photo in Issue No. 24 from regular correspondent Albert A. Tomassetti who writes: "In the 3rd row, the 5th person from the left identified as 'Pvt ? Marino - unlocated, New York' is actually Angelo A. Moreno of Pittsburgh, Pa. whose name and address I sent you a couple years back." Thanks to Al and apologies to Ange - helluva way to treat a new roster addition. Still somewhat puzzled and disappointed that there isn't more input on the far too many still carried as unlocated persons. Either the troops are sluffin' off or our missing persons research has been more effective than realized....update on the same photo is the present whereabouts of the Plt Comdr 1st Lt John H. Marten now holed up in Maitland, Florida. Lost John in '78 as a result of one of his frequent moves between and in Virginia and Florida ..... copped from the 22 July 81 issue of "Michigan Minuteman". Five veterans of Co C, Gladstone Company, recently retired with an accumulative service time of 161 years including: SSG John Sarault (31), SFC James Noel (30), 1st Sgt Robert Miller (34); SFC Fern Dahlgren (32) and SFC Walter Mokszycke (34). ....Surprise visit from Alexander Macinsky (Co B 254) last Aug. while Alex was passing through Ishpeming on a vacation trip out of Greene, N.Y. Timing was bad for Calumet but a copy of the 107 History eased his disappointment somewhat.....Reports out of Menominee confirm all systems are "go" - and sorry that this issue is a little behind schedule.



FINIS.



## SPECIAL RECOGNITION of the 107TH ENGINEER BATTALION

*I*n commemoration of the 100th anniversary of a distinguished unit of the United States Army.

*T*he 107th Engineer Battalion traces its lineage to the organization of the Calumet Light Guard in the Michigan State Troops on 8 August 1881. In its first 25 years, it served as a company in the 2d Battalion of Infantry, and in the 3d and 5th Infantry Regiments. After its first muster for Federal service, it fought at El Caney, in the only full-scale infantry battle of the Spanish-American War on 2 July 1898 as Company D, 34th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Michigan National Guard. Spanish-American War Campaign participation credit:

SANTIAGO

*O*n 1 June 1906, the unit became Company A, Michigan Engineer Corps. It trained at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in 1915 and was called to Federal service in a provisional engineer regiment under U. S. Grant III on the Mexican border in June 1916. Upon return the next year, it was called to guard the Soo Locks and then mobilized for Federal service in August 1917. After construction work at Camp Custer, Michigan, it joined new Upper Peninsula units as the 1st Battalion, 107th Engineers at Camp MacArthur, Texas, with the 32d Infantry Division (Wisconsin and Michigan). Company A served as demonstration troops at Fort Belvoir before the deployment to France. In four major offensives with "Les Terribles," the 107th Engineers repaired roads and bridges, prepared shelters, and working ahead of the infantry, breached barbed wire, and built assault crossings. World War I Campaign participation credits:

ALSACE 1918

AISNE-MARNE

CHAMPAGNE 1918

OISE-AISNE

MEUSE-ARGONNE

*R*econstituted in 1937-1939 entirely in Michigan, the 107th Engineer Regiment trained with the 32d Division on Second Army maneuvers in Wisconsin in 1940. The call-up of 18 National Guard divisions that fall was the organization's fourth muster for Federal service. The year of training at Camp Beauregard and Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, sharpened engineer skills in construction and destruction of roads, bridges and obstacles, and in combat as infantry. With Federal service extended by international unrest and Pearl Harbor, the 107th Engineers deployed to Northern Ireland after reorganization to a divisional battalion for the triangularized 32d Division. Heavy Construction of a General Depot replaced training. At the end of the project, one company was sent to England for the subsequent North Africa invasion and the battalion learned of the diversion of the 32d Division to the South Pacific. Inactivated and reconstituted as the 2d Battalion, 112th Engineer Regiment, intensive training resumed and the organization moved to Devizes, England.

*S*elected as demonstration troops again, the Michigan Engineers proved the speedy construction of British Bailey bridging for long floating spans as well as dry-gaps and shorter spans which resulted in the manufacture of this equipment for coming operations in Europe.

*I*n a general reorganization for more flexible and self-sufficient units, the Michigan Engineers became the 254th Engineer Combat Battalion in the 1121st Engineer Combat Group with the 112th and 146th Battalions. The group prepared for close support of the 29th Division on the right of V Corps' assault over Omaha Beach. Without common knowledge, the Michigan Engineers rehearsed tasks to be performed in France: breaching the seawall, clearing beach exits, building the Isigny/Carentan bridge, and crossing flooded areas. The battalion turned from its own training to construction of mock-ups of ships, landing craft, aircraft, and other construction simulating the target landing areas in France. The battalion sustained casualties in accidental detonations of weathered, displaced, or lost British beach mines in clearing beaches for joint invasion rehearsals by army, naval, and air forces.

*I*n the assault landing on Omaha, the Michigan Engineers performed the preplanned tasks to move and link invading forces and block the enemy through the breakout at St. Lo. Then, in successive campaigns, the battalion moved 1,372 miles in close support of numerous armored and infantry divisions clearing obstacles, debris, and mines; providing roads, bridges, and potable water; producing rock, timber, and other engineer materials; and on several occasions fighting as infantry by design or necessity.

*T*he battalion (then 254th) was twice decorated for extraordinary heroism on 17 December 1944 in resisting several vicious attacks by armored infantry and tanks, denying vital routes and supplies of gasoline and rations, sorely needed by the enemy for his counterattack. Both the United States and French governments recognized this gallant and courageous action.

*I*n another singular action, at Honningen, Germany, on 22 March 1945, the battalion bridged the Rhine in spring flood in 12 hours with floating steel trestle equipment. The vital V Corps bridge permitted reinforcement of forces beyond the collapsed Remagen Bridge.

*R*elieving the stresses of final rapid advances, the battalion restored and operated 100 miles of railroad in eastern Germany hauling supplies forward and prisoners back.

*T*he battalion met Russian forces near Leipzig and again in Czechoslovakia. At war's end using PW labor, the battalion restored traffic ways, utilities, and essential services in Pilsen, and later constructed redeployment facilities in France. World War II Campaign participation credits and honors:

NORMANDY (with Arrowhead)

NORTHERN FRANCE

ARDENNES-ALSACE

RHINELAND

CENTRAL EUROPE

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (Army), Streamer embroidered BELGIUM

FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE with Silver Star, World War II, Streamer embroidered BELGIUM

*F*ollowing 22 December 1945 inactivation of the battalion, the 107th and 254th consolidated and reorganized as the 107th Engineer Combat Battalion, 46th Infantry Division, Michigan National Guard. Reorganized and redesignated the 107th Engineer Battalion in 1953 and again non-divisional, the battalion continues exemplary peacetime performance in training and readiness for Federal service with significant State and community service in forest fires, traffic assistance, floods, storms, riots, and other emergencies. A fifth muster to Federal service occurred on 24 July 1967 for 9 days of riot duty in Detroit.

*H*ome stations: Ishpeming, Marquette, Calumet, Baraga, Ironwood, Iron River, Gladstone, Kingsford, and Menominee in the Upper Peninsula.

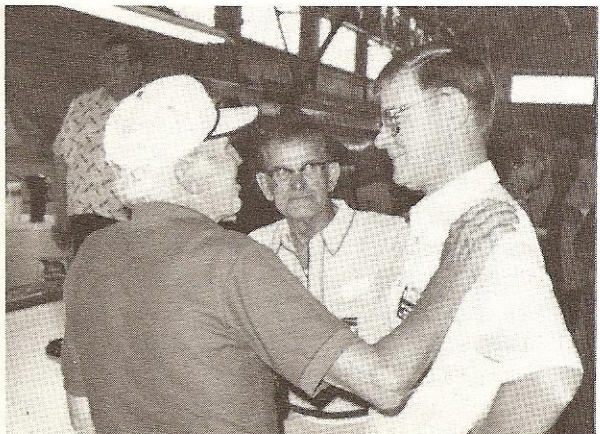




\* \* CALUMET'S PRIME MOVERS \* \*

**TWENTIETH ANNUAL 107th REUNION COMMITTEE**

- Chairman & Booklet ..... John L. Calcaterra
- Assistant Chairman & Publicity..... James W. Lienau
- Special Invitations ..... Eugene J. LaRochelle
- Liaison Officer Bn..... Edwin J. Jachimski
- Protocol ..... Henry P. Ilenich
- Parade ..... Donald J. Bausano
- History Book..... Frederick Stonehouse
- Memorial Service ..... Anthony J. Julio
- Refreshments..... Joseph C. Bonenfant
- Registrations..... James R. Rowe
- Noon Mess ..... Edward L. Lutz, Alan P.R. Dompier
- Finance Advertising .. Emery W. Brown, Lawrence P. Sapino,  
Clem Cassette
- Entertainment & Banquet ..... Earl H. Kangas
- Decorations ..... Gary W.R. Mattson, William E. Luokkanen
- Set Up & Clean Up..... Kenneth Hyrkas
- Finance ..... William Eckloff
- History Room ..... Bing Boberg, John W. Haischer,  
Clem Cassette, Lawrence Ellenich





DUTY ROSTER FOR NEXT REUNION

The 1982 reunion will be held in Menominee, Mich on the dates of August 8-9-10. We will bivouac at the VFW Club located near the junction of US-41 and M-35 coming into town from the north. This is a change from Iron River, Mich. - the site selected during the 1981 Calumet business meeting. Menominee is home station for a detachment of Co D 107th established there just a couple years back. Lots to do and lots to see in the Menominee, Mich - Marinette, Wis. area located as these cities are on Lake Michigan. Good convoy route for our Wisconsin people and not too bawd a jaunt from Lower Michigan. And no sweat for the UP-ers per usual. The Menominee gang came through for us in an emergency situation and are to be commended for this dedicated effort. No real need to promote this or any reunion what with 20 such events under our belts and past Association history. Still, it takes troops to hold maneuvers but as usual we'll have plenty of volunteers. Hope you can be a part of our 21st Annual Reunion.

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* T A P S \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

- \* \* \* \* \*
- \* ADAMS, Capt John N. (Co B 107 Regt), Soo, MI\*
- \* BENNETS, Wilbert A. (Co C WWI), Muskegon, MI \*
- \* BESTLER, George M. (H&S 254), Minneapolis, MN\*
- \* BLONDO, Stanley M. (Co F 107 Regt), Detroit;\*
- \* BRANSTROM, Hjalmer J. (Co A 107 Regt), Felch,\*
- \* Mich; BUCKMASTER, Lloyd L. (Co E WWI), Mesa,\*
- \* Ariz; BUTALA, John J. (Co B WWI), Royal Oak\*
- \* Mich; CADY, Leslie J. (Co D 107 Regt - 522),\*
- \* Trenary, Mich; CAPPS, Fred J. (Co A 254),\*
- \* Eros, Ia; DANIELS, Roy R. "Wabash" (Co C\*
- \* 254), Bruce Crossing, Mich.; DOXTATOR, Rim -
- \* ton L. (522), DePere, Wis.; HRDLICK, Joseph \*
- \* Co F WWI), Milwaukee, Wis.; KIERCZAK, Wal -
- \* ter J. (H&S 107 Regt), Dearborn Hts., Mich.;
- \* KOZINSKI, Edward J. (Co B 254), Brooklyn, NY;\*
- \* KUNSMAN, Irving L. (522), Gallitzin, Penn.;
- \* LEWIS, Milton H. (522), Holly Mich.; LEWIS, \*
- \* Stanley J. (Co C WWI), Ontonagon, Mich.;
- \* LOVERING, Harry D. (Co C WWI), White Bear\*
- \* Lake, Minn.; MacDONALD, Theodore J. (Co A\*
- \* WWI, Lake Linden, Mich.; MANNINEN, Robert, \*
- \* (Co E 107 Regt), Union Lake, Mich.; MICHAUD, \*
- \* Edward J. (Co B WWI), Grafton, Wis; RUSSELL, \*
- \* Lloyd E. (Co C NG Bn), Gladstone, Mich.;
- \* SUSON, Robert H. (Co C 254), Alvord, Texas;\*
- \* SZYNAL, Walter A. (Co B 254), Chicago, Ill.;
- \* \* \* \* \*

ROSTER ADDITIONS

A. L. "Lorimer" Stannard (Mich Engrs 1917-18),  
1111 Pierce St., Wakefield, Mich. 49968 (\*\*Re-  
union Publicity\*\*); Fred W. Lewis (522), Rte 2

off 5th St., Etowah, Tenn. 37331 (\*\*Lynn Mc-  
Donald\*\*); Reino Kangas (Co D 107 Regt), Box  
224, Mass, Mich. 49948 (\*\*Leland Harde\*\*); Ed  
Miller ( ?? ), P.O. Box 82, Marinette, Wis .  
54143 (\*\*Jack Calcaterra\*\*); Isom W. Lewis (H&S  
254), 840 Norbert St., Bridge City, Texas 77611  
(\*\*John Heaton\*\*); Wendell Shuman (H&S 107 Regt)\*  
88231 Ingalls, Swartz Creek, Mich. 48473 (\*\*Hom-  
er Brow\*\*); Lt John H. Marten (Co C 254), 1128  
Pheasant Circle, Maitland, Fla. 52751 (\*\*James  
Steele\*\*); Earl G. Bonnie (H&S 254), 2000 Hunt-  
ington Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22303 (\*\*Jimmie  
Steele\*\*); Robert J. Dwyer (H&S 254), 17391  
Rock Creek Rd., Thompson, Ohio 44086 (\*\*Howard  
Gauthier\*\*); Raymond J. Koskela (Co F 107 Regt)\*  
6013 Princess, Clarkston, Mich. 48016 (\*\*Calumet  
Reunion\*\*); Irving R. Pelto (Co F 107 Regt),  
1620 Laurium St., Calumet, Mich 49913 (\*\*Calumet  
Reunion\*\*); August J. Stuckel (Co F 107 Regt),  
227 1/2 W. Main St., Lock Haven, Pa. 17745 (\*\*Cal-  
umet Reunion\*\*); Earl J. Talvensarri (Co F 107  
Regt), 106 Third St., Calumet, Mich. 49913 (\*\*  
Calumet Reunion\*\*); Joseph L. Wickman (Co B &  
522), 201 Harrison, Pueblo, Colo. 81004 (\*\*Cal-  
met Reunion\*\*); Brynolf Rautila (Co C 107 Regt),  
1407 Poplar St., Hancock, Mich. 49930 (\*\*Enoch  
Saaranen\*\*); Joseph Devine (Co A WWI), Lake  
Linden, Mich. 49945 (\*\*Rans Blondo\*\*).

"107th ENGINEER HISTORY"

As reported in Issue No. 24, the History prepar-  
ed by Capt Fred Stonehouse as a tie-in with the  
100th Anniversary Calumet reunion was timely  
completed for sale at that event. Needless to  
say Fred's masterpiece was a hot item. Ye edi-  
tor was quite overwhelmed by Fred's effort and  
his tremendous grasp of a situation encompassing  
100 years and the several units of the 107th of  
record all contributing to a century of disting-  
uished service and events. Due to the many many  
expressions of interest heard during the past  
years regarding such a publication, the History  
needs no promotional comments here. Details for  
ordering copies are found on the "Will or Will  
Not Attend" back sheet.

REUNION ROSTER

As normal procedure and a regular part of each  
BULL SHEET, we run the name, city and unit of  
each reunion registrant. But no way this issue  
as a followup on Calumet because of the mass of  
people officially registered and the many, many  
others who otherwise actively participated in  
one significant way or another who may be over-  
looked on the roster and that we don't want. But  
what a listing that would make because the offi-  
cial registration alone totaled 301 (not includ-  
ing spouses, friends, etc.) - more than twice  
the number checking in for any one of the prior  
29 conventions. The numbers included the annual