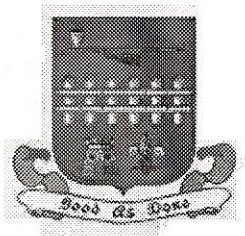




April 2001



Issue No. 45

# The "BULL SHEET"

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107th Engineer Association  
Ishpeming, Michigan

## GREETINGS:

Greetings and salutations to all members of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association. The 107<sup>th</sup> has always er a long, colorful, and successful history. As we prepare to celebrate this 40<sup>th</sup> reunion of our battalion, let us for continued success for the 107<sup>th</sup> for many years to come.

## AN INVITATION:

### WELCOME TO THE 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

The soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, Ishpeming, Michigan welco to the annual reunion of the 107<sup>th</sup> Association. Your mission this year is to conduct a recon and regrouping Ishpeming Armory on July, 27,28,29, 2001, to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our great Association!!

On Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, starting at noon, we encourage you to take advantage of the early registration and social. The bar will be open and hor d'oeuvres will be provided at 1900. An instrumental ensemble from the Negaunee school will provide the entertainment starting at 1800 till 2100.

Saturday will be very busy, as many events are planned. The day will start at 0800 with some mess hall fav SFC Steve Carlson and the mess section will cook you eggs to order, hash browns, sausage, toast, and the world famous, S.O.S! Cost will be minimal, so plan to attend.

At 1100, we will form up at the flagpole for the Memorial Service.

At noon, SGT Stan Hough and the Commo crew will be hosting a lunch on the lawn. This will feature burgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, beans, and all of the fixins' to doctor up your favorite selection.

SFC Mike Fraser is getting Casino packages for those wishing to go to the Casino on the bus at 1300. Please sure that you tell the troops when you register, that you want a casino package. They will be issued to indiv not the group. Casino packages will be reserved at the Casino in your name alone! They must be picked up courtesy desk.

At 1300, Roberta LaFreniere will be running 50/50 bingo on the drill floor for those wishing to do their gamb home".

The business meeting will be conducted in the vehicle storage area at 1300.

The evening banquet will culminate our festivities. Cocktail hour will be from 1730 to 1830, with the posting colors at the closing of the cocktail hour. The meal will be served after introductions are made. A short program will follow the meal. A local DJ will provide the evenings entertainment with most requests being honored. Bring dancing shoes!

Sunday Morning from 0930 to 1100, a delicious brunch will be served, compliments of SFC Dan Poirier and crew is a great opportunity to reflect on new friendships made; Old ones renewed, and a chance to say "See you in (

CW4 Joseph W. Floriano  
Association President

THANK YOU...

To Company B, Iron River, Michigan and SFC Jeffery Gibson, Committees, and personnel for the outstanding 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of last year. Beautiful decorations, great food, and an impressive Flag Folding Ceremony, prepared the stage for a wonderful reunion.

The addition of past members of the Iron River unit, headed by the late [Ret] SFC Robert F. Byczek [who passed away shortly after the reunion] was a good idea with an unforeseen benefit. Overall, a very nice job and well done, indeed.

REMEMBER WHEN.....

*THE LAST DAYS OF THE 254<sup>TH</sup>  
ACTIVE DUTY IN WWII*

This pregnant question was raised during an Iron River bull session; "That's the deal about our short time in THIRD ARMY near the end of the war?" A query clearly addressed by the Battalion's "After Action Report, May, 1945" here factually reproduced. The Bn's 6 May reassignment to THIRD US ARMY precipitated a same day southward motor march from NAUMBERG, Germany to PILSEN, Czechoslovakia, all in all, an unprecedented move mileage wise [about 200 miles] routed, in part, over the famed Reichautobahn, Germany's super highway net. Actually, V Corp, as then organized [1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 97<sup>th</sup> Inf Divs; 9<sup>th</sup> Armored Div plus attached subordinate units] transferred intact thereby beefing General George Patton's command to some 540,000 troops - the largest

US Army ever assembled - for an accelerated offensive into the National Redoubt, Southern Bavaria. A campaign soon determined as unnecessary because Germany threw in the towel on May 8<sup>th</sup>, PILSEN was occupied by a Polish Partisan Brigade, US troops and Russian units whose T-34 tanks and sand painted American contributed Studebaker 6 x 6 trucks were much in evidence. Actually, a T-34 manned by a nondescript crew took up position outside the PW compound gate for one week. For why after hostilities ended was a mystery. In fact, there was little contact between the erstwhile Allies here due to the language barrier and overall standoffish stance of men on both sides. After only 19 days in THIRD ARMY, the Bn was reassigned to the OISE INTERMEDIATE SECTION, France, as of 25 May resulting in a quick departure from PILSEN - famous for its Pilsner Style beer even then cheaply plentiful from intact underground storage tunnels under the destroyed brewery buildings. Tasty and

refreshingly chilled in wood barrels and a nice compliment to white/pink champagnes and assorted liquors from a liberated German liquor dump until, regrettably, secured by the MP's. For the enjoyment of rear echelon pukes, natch. By that time, victory celebrations had run their course anyway and it was back to work on the city's infrastructure. The ensuing 4 day, 510 mile, 15 miles-in-the-hour convoy movement toward France found the battalion overnighing enroute at bivouacs predetermined by a Recon Section advance party at: ANSBACH, Germany, 27 May [after 138 miles]; near KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany, 28 May [165 miles; MARS-la-TOUR, France, 29 May [106 miles]; and finally, MAILLEY-le-CAMP, France, 30 May [101 miles] where travel-weary men were immediately put to work on CAMPS MIAMI [Bn CP], ST. LOUIS and SAN ANTONIO, 3 of the 17 city-named redeployment camps being hastily constructed within the Assembly Area Command, REIMS area - expedient tented encampments now urgently needed for processing units and personnel in or out. German PWs [officers excepted] resignedly toiled as laborers and hard-nosed Polish DPs gladly did security duty. Outfits designated for retention were being restaffed with "low point" men [85 or fewer- as transferred in from units who, in turn, were designated as surplus in accordance with revised war requirements. Bn men whose service dated back to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division's [Mich-Wis NG] mobilization on 15 Oct 40, were credited with a minimum of 119 points based on: one for each month of active service, one for each month overseas and five for each of the 5 ETO campaigns in which the 254<sup>th</sup> participated. Additionally, 5 points were earned for each medal/Purple Heart award and dependents of record. Though somewhat controversial as one would expect, the Point System was generally accepted as a fair, equitable means of sorting out people. The high pointers final step homeward was through one of the 7 so-called cigarette camps [Phillip Morris, Pall Mall, etc] previously established for moving personnel in and out of the battle zone. After war's end,

the camps routed released GIs and liberated POWs back to the States through English Channel ports, chiefly LE HARVE. On a somewhat sorrowful note, however, CAMP MIAMI was the place where the combat experienced 254<sup>th</sup> was dismantled as it existed from NEWQUAY, England, October 1943, where and when an influx of 11 officers and 187 EM brought the Bn up to TOE strength for the Normandy invasion 7 months hence. Lt. Col. Loren W. Jenkins, Bn CO, the only pre-war 107<sup>th</sup> NG officer making the entire 107/254 tour, was one of the first departures for home. National Guardsmen likewise Federally activated with the 107<sup>th</sup> or 32<sup>nd</sup> Inf Div infantry regiments on 15 Oct 40 were also early departures. Other officers and EM with 85 or more points were temporarily shuttled to the 234<sup>th</sup> Eng. Bn [a few to the 148<sup>th</sup>] soon afterwards. A combat seasoned outfit, commanded by Lt. Col. Philip C. Satterthwaite, an ex-107<sup>th</sup> NG officer, the 234<sup>th</sup> was building CAMP SAN ANTONIO near CHATEAU THIERRY - a French town significant in 107<sup>th</sup> Eng. Regiment WWI history. Some 6 weeks or so later, these former 254 men were ordered Stateside. Conversely, 234<sup>th</sup> men with low points went to the 254<sup>th</sup> already "hand picked" for further Far East Duty, but before the battalion could be wholly reorganized, Japan unconditionally surrendered on 2 Sep 45. We were informed that the reconstituted 254<sup>th</sup> as a battalion, returned to the US through MARSEILLIES, France, in early December 1945. It was inactivated on 22 Dec 45 at CAMP MYLES STANDISH, Mass. after 5 years, 2 months and 7 days of distinguished duty variously designated as the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Regiment, Combat; the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, Combat; the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 112<sup>th</sup> Engineer Regiment, Combat; and the 254<sup>th</sup> Engineer [Combat] Battalion.

#### OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

*RETIRED NG VISITS WWII BATTLE SITES*

News of overall interest fortunately hits the fan from time to time under the long standing "you tell, we print" policy, and more often than not, quite unexpectedly. Such as this notable report: "Hi Ed: Good hearing from you. Here's Mark Bobula's (B/107 NG Bn) Ontonagon, MI, street address [not given at Iron River registration] as you requested for the Association's mailing roster. Sorry that I missed it which I really wanted to make. Just too many things going on during the summer weekends.

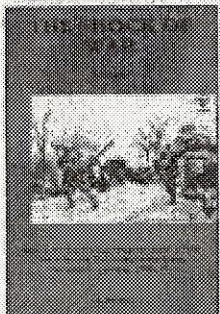
I went to Germany last April and visited the 254's VICTOR Bridge site on the RHINE RIVER. With the last "Bull Sheet" in hand, I went to BULLINGEN, Belgium, too, as you'll see from this photo."



This splendid message from the retired 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. of Co A 107<sup>th</sup> NB Bn, Donald J. "Bish" Bussiere makes a noteworthy and timely follow-up to last issue's broad summary about the battalion's Battle of the Bulge action, 12/16/44/ to 1/25/45.

It's an opening, too, for informing readers about two outstanding books ye' writer recently acquired. Though somewhat pricey, they're well worth the price especially for Bulge combatants and military libraries. The author, in amazing depth and detail, focuses solely on NORTH SHOULDER defense by valiant V Corps infantry divisions [veteran 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>; green 99<sup>th</sup>] supported by many identified sub-units, chiefly armor, artillery and engineer. During the ARDENNES campaign, the 254<sup>th</sup> worked closely with all 3 divisions, and the 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, in this hotly contested Bulge sphere of action. The two books [many maps] and separate picture annex, covers, in riveting detail, events

in and around named Belgium towns and terrain features - many prominent in this brief, but significant, chapter of 107/254 history and the battalion's prestigious Presidential Unit Citation award for its 17 Dec 44 action. "The Shock of War, book No. 5XQLB, is available from: The Scholar's Bookshelf, 110 Melrich Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512; Phone 609 395 6933. Absorbing. Great Study. Recommended.



**5XQLB. THE SHOCK OF WAR; Unknown Battles That Ruined Hitler's Plan for a Second Blitzkrieg in the West, December - January, 1944 - 1945**  
**J.C. Doherty**  
 Provides an exhaustively detailed account of the battles fought in the borderland forests and villages southeast of Liege between forces of the U.S. 8th Corps and the German 1st SS Panzer Korps and 67th Infantry Korps in December and January, 1944-1945, showing how these intense but largely unknown armored and infantry battles resulted in the defeat of the two German Korps in their attempt to reach the Meuse. Includes special material on the static war that followed the stalemating of the 6th Panzer Army at Eisenborn. Includes a special volume of photographs illustrating weapons, scenes, and actions of the conflict. 3rd Edition, 1997. 302 + 442 pages + 54-page Picture Annex, softcover. (Vest Mion Press)  
 Price per set of 2 volumes: \$34.95

#### WWII MUSICIAN TURNED COOK

Under country-wide mobilization directives established for staffing its military, industry, munitions, farm and other wartime requirements, most British men and women under austere rationing of all commodities, sought relaxation whenever, wherever. Diversions from harsh regimentation sorely needed for entertainment, morale purposes and momentary escapes from stressful living and working conditions. Two outlets universally enjoyed were the cinema and dances to the tune of scraping fiddle and pounded piano I hamlets small and 10-15 piece uniformly attired ballroom dance bands in cities large. Outlets in which the already homesick GIs

joined enthusiastically with passes in hand and shillings in pocket. When posters went up in BALLYMENA, the 107<sup>th</sup> Bn's first N. Ireland overseas station, boldly advertising a British Legion Hall dance featuring a BIG American band, the astounding news swept the town like wildfire. Speculation within the 107<sup>th</sup>'s Nissen huttled encampment ran rampant. What BIG American band could that be? And was that possible at the time Ulster's first arrived 11,039 US troops [including the 107 and 112 Bns] were dependent on British Army rations [remembering yet the milkless porridge, mutton, Brussels sprouts in quantities somewhat less than US Army standards] and clothing items including socks [English wool, best ever], underwear [sleeveless tops, long drawers] and shoe repair [unaccustomed hob nails] because the US Quartermaster wasn't in place yet. The eagerly awaited evening arrived with doors opened to queued up numbers far in excess of hall capacity. And who do the expectant dancers find tuning up on stage? Five OD uniformed GIs - disappointingly not a BIG Band at all. It was, in fact, a combo dubbed "The Hungry Five" utterly unknown outside the 107<sup>th</sup>; a group of amateur musicians bonding at Camp Beauregard, LA, for kicks and the amusement of camp-bound men between monthly pay calls. Happily, all amused, bruised feelings were quickly forgotten once the sedate counter-clockwise dance flow commenced [the free-wheeling GIs had problems with that] as driven by the band's considerable talent. The "Fives" charter members were: Americo J. "Tiny" Metro, accordion [Band/B/H&S 107R-H&S 254]; Raymond J. Campeau, drums [D/107R-C/254]; George A. Lafkas, guitar [D/107R-1<sup>st</sup> Sgt HHC 1121 GP]; Leonard J. Sanchez, standup bass [F/107R-B/254]; and Merrill C. FitzGerald, trumpet [Band/107R-separated at Ft. Dix]. "Doc's" horn was replaced by Louis J. Suppa's [112 R & Bn] in Ireland. Metro, the only surviving member of the original group, now nicknamed "Amy," here pictured at age 80 pumping away at his grand-daughter's recent Sault Ste. Marie, MI,

wedding reception, is fondly remembered for his volunteered renditions at reunions past. Fifty-five years later, he laughingly tells us that with bodies urgently needed when the 107<sup>th</sup> Regiment was mobilized on 15 Oct 40, he was conned into signing up for a French horn slot in the Soo's Regimental Band by



promises conveniently, or deliberately, later overlooked in "Lousyana." In fact, he was summarily swapped for another \$21.00 a month cornet player recruit in Co B rostered as Samuel J. Skidmore [B/Band 107 R-separated at Ft. Dix], by reason - "unable to read music" - whereupon "Tiny" figured "to hell with that noise" and volunteered for Cooks and Bakers School which, upon completion, led to reassignment in H&S's mess section. Tec 4 [Sgt equivalent] Metro, did the France to Czechoslovakia combat tour as a H&S Co 254 First Cook combining culinary skills with a cheerfully dispensed running line of chatter [politely stated] as he slopped out the Mess Sgt's [S/Sgt Leonard J. Poquette [A/107 R-H&S 254 planned menu into WWI vintage mess kits. A tactic obviously intended to divert probing eyeballs from what was being dished out. Taken all

together - a fine cook, a company personality, a natural born raconteur and a talented musician - not necessarily in that order. Yes, the military has its twists and turns; sometimes good, sometimes not, but always eventful, especially for the individual.

**39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASSOCIATION REUNION OFFICIAL  
REGISTRATION—IRON RIVER, MI 2000**

Carleton W. Babb [B/HHC 107 NG Bn ], Gwinn, MI  
James E. Baker [A/107 NG Bn], L'Anse, MI  
Frederick E. Fontaine [A/107 NG Bn], Calumet, MI  
James E. Fredrickson [HHC/107 NG Bn], Livonia, MI  
Keith B. Freeze [B/107 R-B/254 Bn], Shepard, MI  
Danny J. Garceau [HHC/107 NG-HQ STARC], Bath,  
MI

John Gendzwill, Iron River, MI  
Jeffery A. Gibson [B/107 NG Bn], Stambaugh, MI  
Arthur J. Bibour [A/107 R-A/254 Bn], Waukegan, IL  
Kenneth G. Giese [HHC/107 NG Bn], Negaunee, MI  
Terry Girard, Iron River, MI  
Richard P. Gough [A/254 Bn], Atlantic Highlands, NJ  
David H. Greig, Iron River, MI  
Phillip S. Greig, Iron Mtn., MI  
L. Aurelia Hahka [Fred Gagne, 107E ], Deerton, MI  
George J. Hansen [B/HHC 107 NG Bn], Mission, TX  
Charles Hendricksen [C/107R -522 Engr Co],  
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Link Hibernig [1437-HHC 107 NG Bn ], Gaylord, MI  
David Honkala, Crystal Falls, MI  
James L. Hutcheson [HHC/107 NG Bn], Ishpeming, MI  
James G. Ihlenfeldt [B/107 NG Bn], Green Bay, WI  
Edwin J. Jachinski [HHC 107 NG Bn], Negaunee, MI  
Robert Jeannotte [A/107 NG Bn], Hubbell, MI  
Clyde H. Johnson [F/107 Regt ], Hancock, MI  
William R. Kangas [HHC/107 NG Bn], Negaunee, MI  
Michael L. Kapusta [B/107 NG Bn], Iron River, MI  
Keith Kopenski, Caspian, MI  
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Patricia D. Larsen [Bill, HHC/NG Bn], Big Bay, MI  
Mitchell R. LeClaire [Co 46 Engr BDE], Big Rapids,  
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Paul B. Lehto [B/107 NG Bn], Stambaugh, MI  
Phillip J. Lennert [HHC/107 NG Bn], Manistique, MI  
Lloyd A. Lessard [C/107 NG Bn], Gladstone, MI  
William E. Luokkanen [A/107 NG Bn], Mohawk, MI  
Melvin L. Makela [300<sup>th</sup> AAA Bn], Tucson, AZ  
Donald G. Maki [300<sup>th</sup> AAA Bn], Caspian, MI  
John R. Maki [A/C/D/HHC NG Bn], Ecanaba, MI  
John W. Mc Cormick [B/107 NG Bn],

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Robert K. McGuire [C/254 Bn], Centerville, IA  
Harold A. Menapace [D/107 R-C/254 Bn], Gwinn, MI  
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John A. Neno [HQ & Serv Co/254], Ithaca, NY  
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 James Petroff [300 AAA Bn], Iron Mtn., MI  
 Steven P. Pietila [B/107 NG Bn], Iron River, MI  
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 Robert Rucinski, Billings, MT  
 Larry Salmons [B/107 NG Bn ], Iron River, MI  
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MI

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 Norman Shamion [300 AAA Bn], Iron River, MI  
 Robert Shamion [300 AAA Bn], Iron River, MI  
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 Edward C. Vickstrom [D/107 R-B/H&S 254 Bn],  
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Garret A. Wall [B/107 NG Bn], Armstrong Creek, WI  
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 McLean, VA

Shannon T. Way [HHC/107 NG Bn ], Ishpeming, MI  
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 David R. Wesoloski [HHC 107/NG Bn], Grayling, MI  
 Michael G. Wheeler [B/107 NG Bn], Crystal Falls, MI  
 Richard H. Wills [D/107 R-B254 Bn], Negaunee, MI  
 Robert C. Wills [HHC 107 NG Bn], Rockford, MI  
 Timothy L. Zaenglein [HHC/107 NG Bn], Marquette, MI  
 Clarence A. Zastrow [B/107 R-B 254 Bn], Greenfield,  
 WI

#### 107<sup>TH</sup> COMMANDING OFFICERS

Col. Paul S. Bond

1917-1918

Col Harold Fiske 1918-1919  
 Col Ralph A. Loveland (MG)(TAPS 1966) 1937-1942  
 LTC Loren W. Jenkins (TAPS 1956) 1942-1946  
 LTC William F. Milford Jr. (TAPS 1971) 1946-1950  
 LTC Leonard C. Ward (BG)(TAPS 2001) 1950-1959  
 LTC Austin E. Lindberg (TAPS 1969) 1959-1969  
 LTC Richard L. Pascoe RET 1969-1971  
 LTC Donald R. Small (Col RET) 1971-1975  
 LTC Henry P. Ilenich (Col RET) 1975-1981  
 LTC Peter B. Injasoulian (BG RET) 1981-1983  
 LTC James P. Dougovito (Col RET) 1983-1987  
 LTC William A. Luoma RET 1987-1990  
 LTC James W. Lienau RET 1990-1993  
 LTC Phillip J. Lennert (Col RA RET) 1993-1995  
 LTC John A. Trotter (RET) 1995-1998  
 LTC Tibor J. Lanczy 1998-2000  
 LTC David R. Wesloski 2000-

Iron River, MI

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2000-2001

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 Vice President CPT Robert E. Sexton, Kingsford, MI  
 Secretary CWO William D. Sheldon [RET], Ishpeming,  
 MI  
 Treasurer 1LT Shannon T. Way, Ishpeming, MI  
 Historian SFC James Sertich[RET], Ironwood, MI  
 P.R.O. CPT Charles S. Emerson, Negaunee, MI  
 Permanent Director LTC David R. Wesoloski, Grayling, MI  
 4 Yr Director Col. Robert C. Wills [RET], Rockford, MI  
 3 Yr Director CWO Joseph W. Floriano, Ishpeming, MI  
 2 Yr Director CSM Michael J. Floriano, Quinnesec, MI  
 1 Yr Director Maj Thomas E. Perry, Roscommon, MI  
 \*Assoc. Chaplain LTC George J. Hansen [RET], Mission, TX  
 Past President SSG Jeffery A. Gibson, Stambaugh, MI  
 2000-01  
 Past President 1SG James E. Baker, L'Anse, MI 1999-00

\*Elected Office; not a member of the Executive  
 Committee as provided by By-laws

#### TODAYS 107<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER BATTALION

"Change" was the operative word for the Upper Peninsula's 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion during training year '99 / '00. On 1 September of 1999, the battalion converted from its familiar organization and mission as a CORPS Wheeled battalion and aggressively assumed its new battlefield mission as a Divisional Mechanized Organization. As part of the conversion, the battalion's training focus also changed with new emphasis being placed upon learning the skills required in order to operate effectively on today's modern, fast paced, lethal battlefield. This entailed the battalion's soldiers learning some new skills as well as maintaining proficiency on some old ones. A small representation of some of the skills trained on during the training year included: Conducting a tactical road march with

armored vehicles; The emplacement of protective minefields and, an increased emphasis upon the rapid emplacement of wire obstacles. This was also the year in which the battalion began to initiate training upon the newly developed Engineer Qualification Tables. Of particular note, from a training perspective, was the focus that was placed upon learning the skills required to breach enemy obstacles, which is paramount concern to the maneuver force commander who is receiving support from the battalion. This will continue to be a key focus for the battalion in the future.

Part of the change involved the assignment of new equipment and the battalion's participation in new training opportunities. During TY-00, the 107<sup>th</sup> was newly fielded with the "VOLCANO" mine delivery system. The initial training on this new piece of equipment took place in October of 1999 and will enable the battalion to rapidly emplace minefields at any point on the battlefield that the maneuver commander requires. Training on the Mine Clearing Line Charge [MICLIC] also continued throughout the year as the battalion's operators improve their proficiency on this critical piece of equipment. A new training experience for the 107<sup>th</sup> involved its successful participation in the 46<sup>th</sup> Brigade "Warfighter" exercise at Camp Atterbury Indiana during March of 2000 where the Battalion was able to demonstrate its skill and the value of the engineers as the new member of the brigade. Other training opportunities included the deployment of a battalion cell to Germany in support of the 125<sup>th</sup> Infantry and the deployment of battalion medics to California in support of the 507<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion as part of "Task Force Grizzly."

"Change" was also a key word for the word for the battalion's 1437<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bridge Company. TY-00 was the first year for the unit to assume its new designation as an FSP unit. The training intensity within the unit was greatly increased as the unit underwent two external evaluations; one during and IDT period and the second during the June Annual Training period. During each evaluation, the unit received positive remarks.

Amidst the rapid pace of the battalion learning its new role as Mechanized Engineers and the 1437<sup>th</sup> ramping up for their FSP mission, the battalion continued to hone its skills for state contingencies. Training was conducted by each element of the battalion at various points during the training year. Defense Readiness Exercise [CDORE]. The exercise was executed by HHC, Co B, and the 1437<sup>th</sup> during September of 2000. The larger exercise presented new challenges, but also created a more realistic environment. The event also involved the support of the Michigan State Police and the Marquette County Sheriff's Department, as well as substantial coverage by the local media.

Not only did the 107<sup>th</sup> lead the way in training during TY-00, but the battalion's various companies were prominent in their respective communities across

the Upper Peninsula, as well. Many and varied were the local events in which the 107<sup>th</sup> was present, either actively participating or rendering highlights including support for the I-500 snowmobile race, support for the construction of a new community playground and the delivery of food goods to needy families during the holidays in support of St. Vincent DePaul and the Salvation Army as well as active participation in the annual "Toys for Tots" program. Support of, and participation in, the March of Dimes, Easter Seals and the national Cancer Society campaigns also received notable support from elements of the 107<sup>th</sup> from tip to tip across the Upper Peninsula. Of special note was the support provided for the Vietnam "Moving Wall", which was in South Range for a Brief period.

Multiple youth organizations were supported during TY-00 to include local scouting organizations, the YMCA, Special Olympics, and the community school districts. Many of the armories were also utilized to support a multitude of various groups, including the US Census Bureau, the Michigan Department of National Resources, MDOT, the US Olympic Committee and various high school JR ROTC programs. Finally, on a festive note, few were the local parades and county fairs at which representation of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion could not be found.

Training year 01 is now well underway. At present, the battalion is scheduled to execute a project on Isle Royale in July as well as participate in the 46<sup>th</sup> BDE WARFIGHTER exercise. Annual Training is right around the corner and will be conducted in Grayling from 11-25 August. Upon return from Annual Training, the battalion will stand-down for maintenance, inventories, and then begin Training Year 2002 on 1 October. As always, present future missions and challenges are "Good As Done".



**A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR:**

As with everything in life, change is inevitable. Ed Vickstrom, longtime organizer, supporter, and literally the pillar of the 107 Engineer Battalion Association, has passed his torch [though not totally extinguished] to new personnel. Gone now is the old, faithful "Underwood", which, I'm sure, has typed every previous Bullsheet since its inception, is being replaced in favor of the new technology and power of today's Pentium III computer.

With that transition, however, we are sure to see some noticeable changes and differences. Please try to bear with us during this transition and offer your suggestions and improvements for the "Bullsheet" and the continued success and future participation of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association.

A very special "Thank You" goes out to those who unselfishly helped get this year's publication of the "Bullsheet" ready in a somewhat timely manner. It could not have been done without your help. Your support and patience is greatly appreciated.

Hoping to see everyone at the Reunion.....

**SFC JAMES [STRETCH] SERTICH [RET]**  
James Sertich



*CPT Doug White leads members of CO A in their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Road March. The march raised donations for the WWII Veteran's Memorial and the 107<sup>th</sup> Memorialization. (Photo by J. Hendra)*



*The insignia of the 38<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division recently replaced the Michigan Griffin insignia on 107<sup>th</sup> uniforms. The division became known as the "Cyclone" Division following a hurricane which killed a unit member.*

\*\*\*\*TAPS \*\*\*\*

BAKER, Merlin H (B/107 R)	Soo, MI
BYCZEK, Robert F (B/107 B)	Iron River, MI
CHAPMAN, Robert S (E/107R-A-107Bn)	Sarasota, FL
CONNOLLY, Augustine J (A/254B)	Atkinson, NH
DHINDT, Francis J (107R-F/112R-522EG)	Rumely, MI
FITZGERALD, Merrill C (107R)	GA
FOTH, Gordon P (522E Co)	Waukesha, WI
HEIKKINEN, Charles E (E/107R-LA)	Iron Mountain, MI
HERCEK, Stephen F (32d Div/128 Regt)	Berwyn, IL
HEROUX, Marius (Bones) (107R/B/254)	Oconto, WI
HOWE, Joseph F (F/522-112-107E Regt)	Milwaukee, WI
HUTCHENS, Edwin R (D/107R-E/112R-C/254)	Marquette, MI
KANGAS EARL H (A/107E)	Lake Linden, MI
KILLIN, Arthur M (107R)	Cleveland, OH
KOEHLER, John A (107R-107Bn-H&S/254)	Manitowoc, WI
KOVACHICH, John (F/107-112-254-H/107B)	Calumet, MI
LAURICH, Joseph F (B/107B)	Marquette, MI
LOWE, William B (A/107 Bn)	Clarkston, MI
MASKOVYAK, George (H&S/112-H&S/254)	Parma, OH
MASLANEY, John (D/107R)	Cullman, AL
McLAUGHLIN, Robert P (A/254)	Bristow, VA
METRO, Americo J (107R-112-H&S/254)	Soo, MI
MUSTEN, William C Sr. (C/254)	Winston Salem, NC
NEIBAUR, Gene E (Hq Co 107E)	Marquette, MI
OGEA, Walter M (B/107E)	Marquette, MI
O'NEILL, John F (B/107E)	Marquette, MI
OSMAR, Walter (B/107R)	Freemont, CA
PODNAR, Paul (E/107R-112-A/254)	Crystal Falls, MI
PECK, Freeling W (A/107R-112R-C/254)	Grand Rapids, MI
PEPIN, Theodore J (H&S/107B)	Ishpeming, MI
PHILLIPS, Roger D (C/254B)	Bridgeport, IL
PONTOTOSKI, Eugene (C/254)	PA
PROPHET, Richard (A/107E-E/107R)	Lexington, KY
RAPIN, Alton W (107R)	Soo, MI
REDDEN, Samuel W (B/107R)	Soo, MI
RIGGS, Clarence Jr (B/107R)	Soo, MI
SANDERSON, Howard G (B/107B-1437 Co)	Soo, MI
SEPPALA, William E (B/107R-522E-F/112)	Soo, MI
SKIDMORE, Samuel J (B/107R)	Soo, MI
SLOAN, Gideon G (A/107-H&S 112B)	Cornell, MI
SMITH, L.V.E (D/107R-112-C/254)	Mancelona, MI
SWEENEY, James M (C/107R)	Trenton, MI
TERZAGHI, Martin (D/107R-E/112B-107B)	Negaunee, MI
VIATOR, Oswald N (A/146B)	
WALL, David R (B/107B)	Caspian, MI
WARD, Leonard C (Hq 107E)	McLean, VA
WHITE, Herman G (E/107R)	Ontonagon, MI
YAVORSKI, Michael (C/254 B)	Dravosburg, PA
YOUREN, George A (107 E Bn)	Marquette, MI

# RECOMMENDED ISHPEMING HOUSING

*QUARTZ MOUNTAIN MOTEL	791 US 41 NEGAUNEE, MI	906-475-7165
*BEST WESTERN COUNTRY INN	850 US 41 ISHPEMING, MI	906-485-6345
*JASPER RIDGE INN	850 US 41 ISHPEMING, MI	906-485-2378
*TRIANGLE MOTEL	US 41 WEST ISHPEMING, MI	906-485-5537
*WONDERLAND MOTEL	US 41 ISHPEMING, MI	906-485-1044
*STARLITE MOTEL	US 41 EAST, NEGAUNEE, MI	906-475-6608
BRENTWOOD MOTOR INN	2603 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-228-7494
CEDAR MOTOR INN	2523 US 41 WEST MARQUETT, MI	906-228-2280
COMFORT SUITES	2463 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-228-0028
DAYS INN	2403 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-225-1393
HOLIDAY INN	1951 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906 225-1351
IMPERIAL MOTEL	2493 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-228-7430
LAMPLIGHTER MOTEL	US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-228-4004
RAMADA INN	412 W. WASHINGTON AVE, MARQ.	906-228-6000
SUPER 8	1275 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-228-8100
VALUE HOST MOTOR INN	US 41 & McLELLAN, MARQUETTE, MI	906-225-5000
WESTWOOD SUITES	2782 US 41 WEST MARQUETTE, MI	906-226-2314

ISHPEMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 661 PALMS AVENUE ISHPEMING, MI  
906 486 4841

\* Indicates within five miles of Armory

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

REUNION DETAILS: 27-29 July 2001 Ishpeming Armory US 41 Ishpeming, Michigan

906 486 8741 / 906 486 8921

To make, change, or cancel banquet reservations, kindly call the Ishpeming Armory at 906 486 8741 or 906 486 8921.

PLEASE CLIP AND RETURN THE BELOW SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE

ISHPEMING REUNION. This will be very helpful for address verification, for one-on-one contact purposes and, hopefully, an open pipeline for information that you will contribute.

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1. I will, I will not be present for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association at Ishpeming, Michigan.

2. Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me for the banquet / dance on Saturday, 28 July 2001.

3. My guests for this event will be: \_\_\_\_\_

4. My Association dues of: \_\_\_\_\_ [\$2.00 per year] are enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ Years.

5. My Name and Address is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. I joined the 107 / 112 / 254 / 522 at: \_\_\_\_\_

7. I left the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_

***RSVP no later than 1 July, 2001.***