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The "BULL SHEET"

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REUNION SIDEGLANCES

Again - the oft repeated and well deserved compliment - a bang-up job by the 1972 reunion committee! Commanded by Maj Stephen J. Fraddo (46th Gp Hq) "duty roster" assignments were delegated to Robert W. Miller, Program Chairman; Fern H. Dahlgren, Program Director; Walter A. Mokszyke, Banquet Chairman; James E. Noel, Entertainment Chairman; Anthony J. Caron, Public Information and Gilbert A. Helgemo, Guest List. These "heads" were of course ably assisted by their troops - unnamed, faithful members of Company C. A post-reunion letter from Rans J. Blondo (Co F 107-112) is an expressive critique from the "ranks" well worth passing along: "Sure had a great reunion. I think they get better all the time. Everything went off to perfection, and I think we all should congratulate those people from Gladstone for a wonderful, successful reunion. My people are still talking about the wonderful food, the efficient service and excellent facilities. You people at Ishpeming to a hell of a target to shoot for to equal this past one. I'm sure you will do it because as I said, 'gets better all the time even tho it does not seem possible.'" Thanks for editorializing, Rans - and extremely well said! One additional quote from Ran's letter is particularly unique and interesting: "My guests at the reunion from South Wales have returned home and my daughter is visiting them until late September. Bland and Dorothy Williams are their names. They had never EVER dreamed that we had such get-togethers. He was a paratrooper with the British Army. Said they have never seen anything like our Association over there but he was going to try to get something similar going." Kinda confirms what we have known all along - we have a damn good thing going for us. But, lest we tend to get big-headed over our well executed "mission" remember this - HEADQUARTERS can formulate the battle plans and cut the orders - but it still takes the troops to execute.



MEMENTOS of the occasion are examined by Thomas W. Nurnberger, left, president of Northwest Bell of Omaha, and Willis Dickens, of McFarland, Wis., purchasing agent for the

University of Wisconsin. The red arrows are made for the reunion each year by association member John Mackin. Both Nurnberger and Dickens shipped out of the Soo with Co. B of the 107th in 1940.

The above is a "midnight" requisition" from the Calumet newspaper following that reunion. No. 1 for Tom by way of one plane, two pilots and a quick sortie away from a rigid schedule - Tom transferred out of Hq 254 in England for duty in G-3 Section, V Corps Hq with rank of Major. Dick made Gladstone his third reunion and of course is recalled as Major Dickens, S-4 for 1121st Gp Hq. Johnnie Mackin, also Co B 107 and a real Association vet of some 8 campaigns is well known for his reunion trademark - a supply of hand carved cedar mementoes appropriate for the occasion and Combat Engineering.the truly outstanding MC job by Nels "Rube" Sjoquist a 1970 NG retiree - the ex-1st Sgt of Co C hasn't lost his knack for barking

out orders.....and if thats what it takes and while on the subject of MC's how about this belated recognition to our 1971 Calumet MC whose picture also made the Calumet newspaper with this classic caption: "Master of Ceremonies Oral J. "Moose" LaCombe (Co C WWI) of Sault Ste. Marie lived up to the name of Oral and the nickname of "Moose" as he carried the program along with the stentorian voice of a drill master." Boy, the BULL SHEET could use a reporter like that!.....insisted he was coming in and by golly if he didn't all the way from Bryte, Cal. - first "battle star" for Tony M. Tvardek a Co B 254 Engineer still doing his thing in construction.....and surprising everyone as he has done all 4 times Aloysius "Al" Breton another Co B 254 vet boxed the compass by way of Jackson, Mich.....No. 1 in line at the registration desk was John J. Gazvoda (Co B WWI) for sole purpose of squaring up for dues during a quick stop while enroute to the Copper Country from his home in Rochester, Mich. Very sorry to learn that John lost his wife several months previously.....the rolling pup tent on wheels sporting New Jersey plates turned out to be a camouflaged pickup camper tooled in by Clarence J. "Bombsight" Forsythe (Co A 254) - for seconds after making the 1966 shindig in the Soo and a mighty welcome sight even with a nickname like that.....the 5th "hash mark" accumulated by Ralph F. Godfrey (Co A & H&S 107) came easy what with Gladstone being his base camp.....the excellent turnout of the hosting Co A Guardsmen at Calumet last year was matched by Co C again this year - very encouraging this indication of interest and support towards the Association... ..brother combinations in evidence - Rans and Stanley Blondo (Co F 107) both of the Detroit area were joined by Victor J. "Vic" Stevens, Livonia, Mich. and Edmund Stevens, Gladstone (bthh Co A 107). Ed owns the Edgewater Motel located near the armory so look him up when "camping" in the area. And joker "Vic" had us going for awhile with his "six skins" for Buddy Page and dues was forgiven Michigan Products full size in than one..... enthusiastic meeting - an ing and vital every reunion wonderful chow served up by Co C's Mess Sgt Walter Mokszyke - either a real talent or the Cooks and Bakers Schools have improved one helluva lot.....would you believe a WWI Recruiting Officer? No kidding either cuz "Corp" Arago F. Guck brought two guests with him,



but all when his Aluminum check was more ways the quick, business interest-part of

namely; Louis Menard and Jack Grego, brothers of Alphonse and Dominic respectively both deceased members of Co C WWI as is Arago - Co C member that is, not deceased, because the ol' foot slogger is still fit and vigorous enuf for the NG recruiter.....after receiving and processing their mailed acts of participation for many years a real joy to see the "squad truck" carrying Eugene R. Hamlin, Dearborn, Mi. Nason F. Smith, Union Lake, Mich. and Elmer H. Borrusch, Detroit, take position in the convoy-all originally H&S 107 with W.O. Gene and Elmer ending up in the 112th Bn and Nason a member of 1121st Gp Hq.....1121st Gp Hq incidently was exceptionally well represented and that gang is gung ho. Come winter we hope to work over 1121st rosters and addresses sent in by (LT) Eugene J. Faber, Milwaukee, and Thomas P. "Tim" Harris, Scottsdale, Ariz. for the purpose of inviting them to "join up".....our Vice P., Capt Merton J. Lambert, hobbling in on a cane and against doctor's orders following a week in the dispensary - determination, official dedication or sumpin'.....a surprise somewhat of a shocker was the arrival of Francis A. Danis (H&S 254) during the height of the Sat. night ballroom swingin' & sweatin' - his has to be a new record of late registration! Happened to be in the U.P. all the way from Vancouver, Wash. with some ideas of resettling in the Calumet area. Last time we saw Fran was when he was evacuated from the bivouac area near BULLINGEN, BELGIUM after getting clobbered by the V-1 Flying Bomb ("Buzz Bomb" w/2000# of warhead) that glided into the bivouac area and detonated at tree top height - 60 or so Purple Hearts from that one but only one fatality - a stray dog taking temporary refuge in Fran's tent.....the 522nd well represented in spirit but not numbers - George J. Farkas, Allen Park, Mich. in for #3 and Melvin E. Francke, Walworth Wis. for a big #9 carried the load for the Africa/Italy campaigners - HELP!....just to prove they are fit and vigorous after heart-artery surgery as reported in Issue #12 the said Bing Boberg (H&S 254-Co A NG's) and Richard H. Wills (Co B 254) assumed their proper places in ranks again.....the Menomonee Falls, Wis. reppodeppo released Anthony W. "Tony" Wutkevicz (Co C 254) and Thomas C. "Butch" Bardowski (Co A 254) as fit for duty in Gladstone after both were "evuated" from the Calumet skirmish.....the heart-felt "thank you" during the business meeting from Lt Col (Ret) Richard L. "Dick" Pascoe for his Honorary Life Membership.....at long last the opportunity to verbally thank Raymond J. "Lou" Louis (Co C 254) for lots and lots of help on addresses - being gunshy of taxes of all kinds we were afraid to inquire but nonetheless figure his informative messages on

Dept. of Internal Revenue notepaper kinda pinpoints his civilian activities.....and nice to see Orlando Bongie (Co A 254) again who copped out from his Iron River, Mich. bowling emporium without a pass. "Bongie" goes down in 107/254 annals as the Plat Sgt of the only 254 detachment hitting Omaha Beach on H-Hour/D-Day..... other ex-Plat Sgts checking in and racking up their respective No. 4's were Joseph F. Clabots (Co B 254) practically in his back yard and Trygve "Big Pete" Peterson (Co A 254) out of Knife River, Minn.....Capt Henry P. Ilenich and 1st Sgt John Calcaterra relaxin' and taking in the show after ramrodding the Calumet reunion.at Calumet Thomas P. "Tim" Harris (Co A 107-1121 Gp Hq) found the line intact all the way from Scottsdale, Ariz. but failed to get his nickle's worth by getting himself hung up with a gassy B.S. editor. But persistent cuss he is, Tim cranked up his field phone again- and raised the Gladstone CP. Presto! the jackpot and this post-reunion note: "It was great talking to you last week end during the annual reunion. It was also a real thrill talking to Willis "Dick" Dickens (Co B 107-1121), Charlie Hanover (Co C 107-1121), Nason Smith (H&S 107-1121) and Gene Hamlin (H&S 107-Hq 112 Bn) and all the rest. When my phone bill arrives there goes my monthly beer allowance." Tim was present for the very first organizational reunion in 1961 out of Oshkosh, Wis. He has since retired as a Penney store manager and migrated to the Southwest for health reasons - says he'll be in Ishpeming for the 12th annual come hell, high water or his arthritis - and don't forget the beer allowance, Tim, just in case you then get stuck with a gassy, but dry, B.S. editor... observation that our WWI delegation was somewhat smaller (but no less enthusiastic) than prior years but from all reports this was just an "off" year for our "cootie scratchers" and they expect to mass a real frontal attack come '73.....first reunion and lone medic both in the person of Raymond A. "Doc" Anders (Med Det) 254) who came roaring in from Battle Creek, Mich. - must be still taking those cure-all GI pills cuz he looks just like the pill roller of old.....nice write-up in the Oct. 71 issue of "The Michigan National Guardsman" publication covering last year's 90th Anniversary doings in Calumet - thanks to an unknown but certainly dedicated Association reporter.....unexpected pleasure seeing Maj Edward Leask float in - the former Company CO of the 1437th Bridge Co and host for our two biggies in the Soo is now assigned to the 46th Engr Gp Hq in Flint - the next higher HQ for our 107th NG Bn incidently.seeing Raymond C. Luczyk (Co C 254) remind us that in some future issue we are to collaborate on a write-up about his experiences as

a German POW after his capture during the Bulge - this one was #2 for Ray by way of Akron, Ohioother registrants swelling the ranks of Co C 254, the best represented outfit at the reunion, were Eugene "One-Time" Leardi, Iron Mtn., Mich., Robert K. "Mac" McGuire, Centerline, Iowa, Freeling W. Peck, Coopersville, Mi. and Warren "Orv" Crow, Wellston, Mich.....and modestly stated at a barside bull session while the group was inhaling a round of "mild & bit- ters": "Made corporal once but it was all down hill after that." This comment contributed by a Park Avenue executive known to the WWII gang as a veteran shovel/M-1 toter -one of the "all- away'ers" whose military started in the Soo's Co B 107th Regt NG unit and continued to war's end some 5 years later in Pilsen, Czechoslova - kia. The 1945 roster of Co C 254 lists him as a Pfc just to prove his claim to military fame was not exaggerated. Our records, however, fail to confirm the corporal part of the state- ment but we'll let that ride. All so, a one- time seasoned, grizzled Combat Engineer to a present day distinguished corporate executive carrying the impressive credentials of Presi- dent, Chief Operating Officer and Director of the General Host Corp., a New York City based conglomerate whose 1971 sales were in excess of \$329 million. And just to prove we ain't beatin' our gums take a grizzle at this photo lifted from a General Host brochure. Ed and



EDWARD H. HOORNSTRA
President, Chief Operating Officer, and Director.
Formerly President of Li'l General Stores, Inc.,
acquired in 1968. Engaged in grocery field for
over 30 years. A chain of convenience stores he
founded was bought by Li'l General in 1963.

charming Alexandria, La. wife, Mickey, bust- ed the Gladstone reunion very much unexpectedly while on a mid-West recon trip for his company. Although this was his initial "field trip", Ed has enthusiastically supported the Association since '63 after we successfully bird-dogged him down to Pensacola, Fla. by way of the Soo and Pineville, La. He is presently fox-holed in the Stamford, Conn. bivouac area....guess after 9 reunions we can safely classify Sgt Lloyd A. Lessard as a dedicated Association vet who was right at home in Gladstone as a member of the local NG unit.....and how about Otis Kleaver, Sr. (HHC NG's) maintaining his absolutely per- fect reunion score and Sgt Bob Fraizer (Co B NG's) whose only "maggie's drawers" came about due to a miss in '71.....also first one for the unchanged Charles A. "Tex" Hanover (107-1121). Our S-2 report says he served with the 425th Inf Regt in Detroit from '46 to '56, retired from the military in 1966 with rank of major, retired in 1970 from the Warren Consolidated Schools as Associate Supt. of Schools and now

is enjoying "retirement" as Asst. Secretary of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce in Warren, Mich. - and by coincidence his street address of 31229 Lyons Circle E. is just four digits higher than the "pup tent" occupied by Theodore "Whitey" Rein (Co F 107) also checking in for his first platoon drill.....always in the midst of the action are two long-time dedicated Nat'l. Guardsmen one being Sgt Harold L. Barber (HHC), the culprit who takes particular delight plugging ye' editor's driveway and the winter created mismatch definitely in his favor - the back-breaking muck stick versus his professionally driven County snowplow - #7 for Harold and #10 for Sgt William C. Larsen (Co B & our '62-63 Assoc. Pres.) who does lots of promotional work for the Association in the NG area in addition to his own obvious participation.....nice addition to the archives in the form of colored photos taken and contributed by our unofficial but able photographer the said Rans Blondo. He also took it upon himself to send a beautiful 8 x 10 WWI group photo to those portrayed thereon including: John P. Rule (Co B), Iron Mtn. Mich.; Moose LaCombe (Co C), Soo, Mich.; Merle R. "Andy" Sweet (Co C), Bay City, Mich.; Eugene E. "Buck" Taylor (Co C), Bruce Crossing, Mich.; John R. Herron (Co C), Marquette, Mich.; Burney V. Reany (Co C), So. Milwaukee, Wis.; Louis H. "Lou" Giesen (Co C), Fountain City, Wis.; and Harvey J. Turcotte (Co B), Kingsford, Mi. Certain the aforementioned were surprised and very appreciative for this act of thoughtfulness. For the cost of reproducing, Rans will send colored prints of Gladstone to anyone interested - you can palaver with: Rans J. Blondo, Blondo Roofing, Inc., 1987 Riggs, Warren, Mich. 48091.lots and lots more but lack of space says "no way" so finally - a simple acknowledgement of "well done good and faithful troops" to the many other WWI, WWII and Guardsmen who "dug in" and made Gladstone another successful and memorable event. Now the long wait till Ishpeming!!

SHORT SNORTS

In addition to his physical presence at Gladstone, Robert K. "Mac" McGuire, Centerville, Iowa, brought with him a real believe-it-or-not tale. But let Mac tell it: "Some very good friends moved to Washington, Iowa, in '63. Their son, David, and our son, Robert, grew up together and are very good friends. In 1969 David married the very lovely Mary Jo Birney of Washington and our son was his best man. At the wedding and following reception I made the acquaintance of the bride's father, Bob Birney - both of us theretofore unknown to one another. Then I saw the Name of Robert O. Birney in a BULL SHEET and realized for the first time we were both 254 - Bob from Co B and myself

from Co C. I have since visited Bob and you can be sure we did some reminiscing. But for the BULL SHEET we might never have known."..... and equally as strange is this informative but sad report from Tim Harris (Co A 107-1121) accompanying the newspaper obituary which announced the death of Phillip Cohen: "I ran into



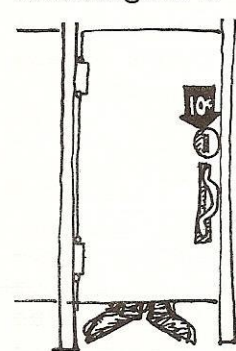
Phillip Cohen

Phil in March 1970 at the Phoenix PGA Golf Tournament and we spent some time together following the action. I didn't know he was down here and he didn't know me when I spoke to him, so it is a small world." The one-time T/Sgt Phillip Cohen, Personnel Sgt for the 254 out of H&S Co., moved to Phoenix from St. Louis & started a shoe business there in 1958. He sold his chain of 13 Phil's Shoe Stores in 1965. According to prior information received from Mrs. Cohen, Phil was stricken

in Nov. '71 and at best would have remained an invalid because of sustained brain damage..... welcome letter from Adrian W. Anderson (Co BWVI on official stationery of the Veterans of World War I, U.S.A., Inc., Dept. of Florida, Office of National Aide de Camp conveying Adrian's dues check and program book covering a recent conference of that organization. Dunno how he engineered it but on page 47 of the booklet appears an ad "Best Wishes, 107th Engineer Association-Headquarters, Ishpeming, Mich." The outstanding program book will be very interesting to WWI members - shoot in your requisition and we'll forward same for your perusal on a loan basis. ..and still another of our distant outposts finally managed to get word back to HQ to allyfears it had been overrun. Outpost St. Albans, Vermont manned by Ivan E. Gonyeau reports: "Here is a check for back dues; have enjoyed the B.S. very much and hope you keep it coming. I plan to make next year's reunion if things go as I hope P.S. Old outfit is Co C 254!..!!It is with great sorrow that I inform you of the death of Willis R. Hale (Editor's note: CO of 522nd Engr Co) on March 8, 1972. As you know, he had been severely crippled with arthritis for sometime. I took him to the hospital on Feb. 29 with congestive heart failure. That week it was discovered that he had lung cancer. It was in such an area that it quickly eroded into the vasculatory system and he died of a massive lung hemorrhage. He was relatively free of pain, cheerful and concerned with others till the end, as he had been all of his life. He was very much interested in

writing the history of the 107th and had a fairly complete draft written. Bill Gates (Lt 522) kindly offered to finish it, therefore I am sending all of Bill's work on the subject to him. Bill leaves three adopted children (mine from a first marriage) all married and our 16 year old son. We had a very happy marriage and I have always considered it a privilege to be his wife. Sincerely, Jean S. Hale...

.....aware that the preceding, sad news that it is, would be of particular interest to the 522nd gang. In attempting to tie down some loose ends and ends, we turned to ol' faithful Lynn "Mac" McDonald (Co B 107-522) to clarify the situation who did his usual fine job, to-wit: "I have contacted a couple of the boys on this so it should be right. Lt Hale served under Capt Cecil F. Clark (Co C 107 & later Lt Col Clark as Bn CO, 146th Engr Bn one of the 3 Combat Bn's assigned to the 1121st Engr C Gp and now of Dearborn, Mich.) as a Plt Cmdr in Louisiana in Co C 107 Regt. Then when the Regt was reorganized into the 107th Bn at Fort Dix Co's. B & C became Co B 107 Bn and went to N. Ireland with Capt Clark, Lt Hale and Lt Willis Dickens (McFarland, Wis.) as our company officers. Subsequently Co B became Co F 112th Engr Regt going to England (and then Africa less Lt Saam who trfd to the Rangers) with Capt William J. Karas commanding and Lt Hale, Lt Frederick J. Saam (Indio, Cal.), Lt William F. Gates, (University Heights, Ohio), Lt Timothy D. Nulty (Chicago, Ill.) and Lt Metsger (unknown) as platoon commanders. After Capt Karras transferred to Allied Force Hq in Algiers where he made Major, Capt Hale took over the company & stayed with the 522 through Africa and Italy as did the aforementioned officers. Thanks, Mac, for this historical background which is as enlightening to HQ as it will be to many readersagain a joker in the crowd and dunno what



impression George (Co A 254 and now Major in the Reserves) was trying to convey with his "personalized stationery" but his

..FROM THE
PRIVATE OFFICE
OF *George C. Anderson*

many and very informative recon reports have been both accurate & mighty helpful - maybe just to needle HQ, George?..... 1972 was a banner year for newly constructed armories and dedication programs for same. The new home for Co C was dedicated in May and those attending can attest to the fact it is a fine building beautifully located on a site overlooking Lake Michigan. It was indeed appropriate that the main address at Gladstones

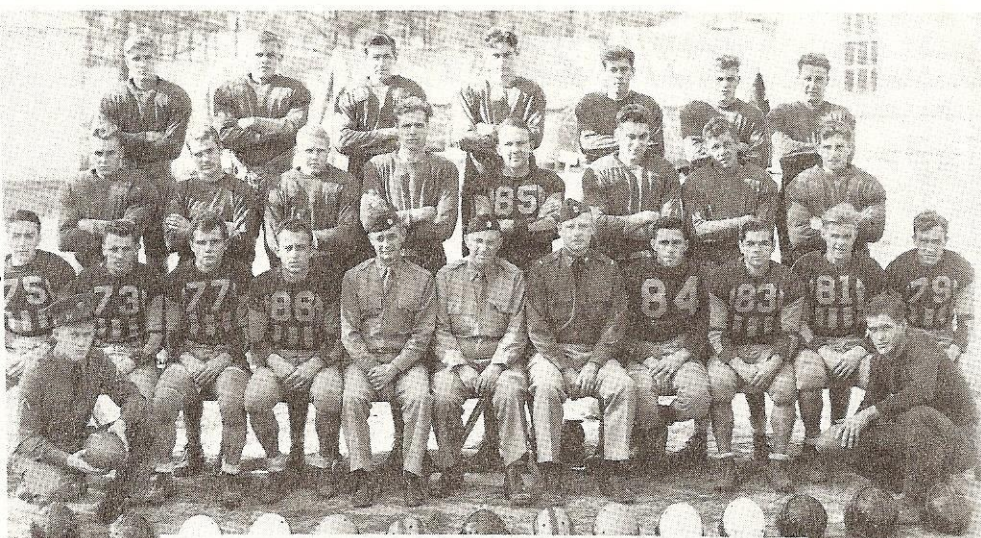
dedicational banquet was given by our very own Brig Gen Leonard C. Ward, Assistant Chief of



the National Guard Bureau for the Army National Guard, Washington, D.C. who returned "home" for the auspicious occasion. Then on Oct. 7th, Detachment 1 of Co D held its dedication program to commemorate the completion of its new military home with a program in which municipal, political and military dignitaries participated. Hopefully,

the "old sweats" will be invited to rally in Manistique for a good ol' Association dedication sometime in the near future..... Issue #12 made note to the effect that Combat Engineer units now have helicopters as authorized T/E. Per Edition IV of the 107th Guard's Newsletter: On Saturday, 19 August two helicopters landed at the Calumet football field. 1SG Y. "Bing" Boberg (retired from Calumet - H&S 254) poured a mug of "Engineer Milk" (Bosch Beer) over the UH-1 Chopper as it was christened the Village of Calumet. The second "bird" was earlier and appropriately christened the City of Ishpeming during a fly-in and ceremonies at Bn Hq in Ishpeming.....suppose we'll christen a few "birds" of our own come reunion time in Ishpeming next August.....thanks to Lawrence R. "Larry" Ellenich (Co A 254) and wife, Betty, for chowing down some hungry Combat Engineers at Calumet - invited for a "catch as catch can" snack but more like a smorgasbord than a snack."Nice to get the BULL SHEET. Lots of news. There's one man whose name I've never seen, Bob Robertson of Plankington, S.D. Sure he'd be glad to hear from the gang. Would like a copy of letter from Engr Training Center about the VICTOR BRIDGE. Our kids are studying WWII and my print of the Bridge now hangs in school. The five is for dues and what have you." Ashton P. St. Romain, New Orleans, La. Note: James H. "Bob" Robertson was located in '67 by way of an address from Garland F. Seabright, Fall Church, Va. and Bob promptly reported in by way of a phone call from Plankington where he is wheat farming (all Co B 254).....apologies for keeping our readers handing in anxious anticipation (???) an extra month for B.S. #13 normally scheduled for mailing in Oct but high school football and priority jobs on the homestead kinda cut into the extra time needed for our BS'ing. Brings us that much closer to the Holiday season and this opportunity to wish one and all a Happy Holiday Season plus Good Health & Fortune in 1973 - even maybe joining the gang in Ishpeming on August 3rd & 4th for Reunion No. 12!

Oklahoma Sooners they were not nor do we suspect, albeit respectfully, that Coach Hanover was a complete 1941 counterpart of Sooner coach Chuck Fairbanks - but the pride and joy of the 107th Engr Regt all the same while doing battle with other regimental teams of the 32nd Div on the red clay gridirons of Louisiana. Memories long forgotten but awakened when Elmer H. Borrusch (H&S 107) brought the photo to Gladstone and subsequently entrusted to the B.S. staff for timely publication this football season. Identifying comments are applied to the best of our knowledge and extent of present records - corrections/additional identifications/present addresses will of course be much appreciated.



107th ENGR'S REGIMENTAL FOOTBALL TEAM - 1941
 Left to right last row: J.O. Steele (Manager D Co.) H. Fischer (Trainer H&S Co.)
 End row: A. Ambalagi (D Co.) F. LaMuth (A Co.) L. Paquette (Med.) R. Germer (A Co.)
 Col. H.H. Loveland (Commanding 107th Engr's) Lt. Col. Arthur Knowles (Executive Officer)
 Lt. Lt. Charles Hanover (Coach) J. LaFave (A Co.) W. Glidden (F Co.) K. Olson (A Co.)
 G. Herstrom (Med.)
 2nd row: T. Barrowski (A Co.) L. Lapinski (H&S Co.) G. Sloan (F Co.) J. Jones (H&S Co.)
 J. Anderson (G Co.) A. Parrant (A Co.) K. Olson (A Co.) V. Alenski (G Co.)
 3rd row: G. White (H&S Co.) R. Johnson (A Co.) G. Barker (A Co.) G. Smith (H&S Co.)
 R. Johnson (H&S Co.) G. Herstrom (H&S Co.) M. Hydo (H&S Co.)

Lt Col (RA Ret) James C. Steele (Co C 254), Springfield, Va.; Richard E. Fischer, last known at Lincoln Park, Mich.; Armando Ambalagi, trfd to Air Corps and died in service; Joseph "Beanie" LaMuth (Co A 254), Manistique, Mich.; Lionel Paquette, unlocated; H. Germer, died in N. Ireland; Maj Gen Loveland, deceased; Lt Col Knowles, deceased; Maj (AUS Ret) Charles Hanover (1121), Warren, Mi.; John J. LaFave, Escanaba, Mich.; W. Glidden, unlocated; K. Olson, unlocated; Clifford C. Herstrom (Med Det 254), died 1972; Thomas Barrowski (Co A 254), Menomonee Falls, Wis.; Leonard J. Lapinski, deceased; Gideon G. Sloan (H&S 112), Gladstone, Mich.; James Jones, unlocated; James E. Anderson (522), Southfield, Mich.; Albert C. Texmunt, Marquette, Mich.; Robert G. Olson, Escanaba, Mich.; V. Alenski, unlocated; Clarence White, unlocated; Roy J. Johnson, Escanaba, Mich.; Carl M. Barker (Co A 254), deceased; George Smith, unlocated; Kenneth O. Thorbjornsen, Escanaba, Mich.; Charles P. Porod, Menominee, Mich.; Mike Hydo (H&S 254) Sterling Heights, Mich.

 *** T A P S ***

BARBIERE, Bruno M. (Co D 107), Ishpeming, Mi.; COHEN, Phillip (H&S 254) Phoenix, Ariz.; HALE, Capt. Willis R. (522), Chagrin Falls, Ohio; HERSTROM, Clifford C. (Med Det 254) Southgate, Mich.; ROHRMOSER, William O. (Co C WWI) Scottville, Mich.; SEACAT, Gohman (WWI) Paoli, Ind.

- PROMOTIONS -

Newly elected Association officials for term Aug. 1972 to Aug. 1973: President, Maj Frank E. LaBelle (Bn Exec Off), Marquette, Mich.; Vice President, Sgt Charles E. Nault (Bn Sgt Major), Ishpeming, Mich.; Director for 4 years, Lt Col (Ret) Willis D. Dickens (Co B 107-1121). Remaining positions will be manned by incumbent officials for another year - frozen in rank!

SNEAK PREVIEW OF 1973 REUNION DATES & SITE

Armory at Ishpeming, Mich. on August 3-4, 1973. If you haven't seen and enjoyed the beautiful armory of Hq & Hq Co here is your chance - see next April's BULL SHEET for all the details. Important note: Resolved at the past business meeting - future reunions will automatically be held on the first weekend of each August unless otherwise dictated by the Guard's summer encampment dates.

ASSOCIATION TROPHY FOR NG BN

By action of the membership at the '71 Calumet reunion the Association approved a trophy program for the NG Bn at an expenditure of approximately \$30.00 towards a floating trophy plus ten bucks each year for a smaller trophy for permanent possession purposes. The program was finalized in Gladstone and henceforth will be known as the Association Community Service Trophy

which will be awarded annually to the 107th unit/section rendering outstanding community service during the prior year. The determination and selection will be made by a 5-man committee picked by the Association's Executive Committee which will convene and make its determination just prior to each year's reunion. (Extra page again - treasury looks good so we'll blow some! Finis!

FORWARD: The following is a continuation (Part 2) of "Combat Operations", 8 June 1944 to December 1944 of the 254th Engineer Combat Battalion. See Issue No. 12 of BULL SHEET for Part 1.

III. S-2 SUMMARY (cont'd)

G. The security of the battalion bivouac areas is the responsibility of the S-2 Section. This has been accomplished by requiring each company to submit their security plan to S-2 as soon after arrival at the new area as possible. The S-2 checks, coordinates them and then makes a check on the ground of the positions. Each man in the companies is then required to dig himself a fox hole on the line of the Battalion perimeter defense. If possible, Battalion Headquarters is located in the center of the three companies who assume a third each of the defense perimeter. This system has worked well with the minimum number of guard or listening posts, ordinarily not over three (3) per company.

H. The prescribed map issue is adequate and the maps have proven to be very accurate and reliable. Company officers prefer the 1:50,000 map to the 1:100,000 and 1:25,000 scale maps because it is much easier to read. The issue of a water proof map board to each officer is invaluable.

SECTION IV

OPERATIONS SECTION

IV. S-3 SUMMARY

A. The personnel and equipment of the S-3 Section landed on D plus 2. The Section was split into two skeleton operating groups and attached to separate companies for the channel crossing. This resulted in three groups coming across in separate ships, but all landed without incident and the complete section was regrouped on D plus 3. Due to planning, a year prior to the invasion to achieve a mobile as well as compact operation set-up, no great difficulty was encountered in being able to function immediately upon landing.

B. One 3/4 ton truck is the only vehicle authorized for transportation in this section and while this has not been adequate to carry all personnel and equipment, it has been made to serve quite well. Only equipment which is absolutely necessary for operation is carried in this vehicle. This equipment is all readily dismountable thus enabling operation functions to be carried out directly from the vehicle or on the ground under tentage. When a move was necessary this equipment was all carried in the vehicle plus seven (7) personnel consisting of driver, S-3 Construction Supervisor, S-2 Intelligence Sergeant, Draftsman, Mechanic Foreman and Carpenter. It was found that these personnel could carry out any function in the operations section in the event that remaining personnel became separated from the section for an extended period of time. The remaining personnel and equipment were transported in a supply vehicle of the S-4 Section. The skeleton crew with the 3/4 ton vehicle were able to get into operation any-time while on the move or immediately upon a halt.

C. S-2 and S-3 Sections have always worked in close cooperation since the landing and little or no difficulty has been encountered between the two sections.

1. The Construction Supervisor was in direct charge and supervision of the personnel and was responsible for all equipment and disposition of such. He also assisted in any major construction work and aided directly the S-3 in the execution of operations.

2. The Mechanic Foreman, during the first few months, operated almost exclusively with the heavy equipment, but due to the small amount of this in operation at one time, it was not deemed necessary for him to act in this capacity so he was given the job of consolidating operations reports, keeping situation maps, and acting in a clerical capacity for the S-3. This has worked out quite well since most heavy equipment is drawn from sources outside of the battalion and has adequate care and supervision from this source.

3. The Demolition Technician has rendered valuable services in his work of disseminating new developments in enemy mines and explosives. He also has been used on special jobs of investigating reported mines and mine-fields, testing captured equipment, explosives and ammunition.

4. The Gas NCO carried out his duty very satisfactory by keeping the Battalion informed on developments old or new along this line as well as keeping everyone conscious of the fact that although gas warfare has been nil to date, constant alertness and preparedness are necessary.

5. Other key personnel include two carpenters and an electrician. These men are indispensable as all equipment is kept in good operating condition at all times by these men. Many construction and carpentry jobs calling for an above the average skill were handled by these men.

D. This section has operated almost exclusively in the field under canvas throughout the period and at no time were any major difficulties encountered. Equipment has served very well and while it is becoming old through wear, tear and exposure, it is constantly maintained and improved with a little improvisation and substitution.

SECTION V

SUPPLY

V. S-4 SUMMARY

A. The training period this organization spent in Ireland and England studying proper Supply Procedures and practicing Supply Discipline has proven very valuable. As a result, even under the stress of fast movement, enemy contact and loss of equipment and personnel, correct supply records were maintained and correct report submitted. Replacement of supplies due to these combat losses, salvage and statement of charges were accomplished with a minimum of confusion and delay.

B. The supply procedures as set up in the SOP's of the various supply services were complied with and have proven their worth as replacements of combat losses, especially in Ordnance Service, have been obtained within twenty-four (24) hours after the loss. Except for the first few days after landing all requisitions for critical and controlled items of supply required the approval of the Chief of Service at Headquarters, First United States Army. Other items of supply required only the approval of the depot commander.

C. Replacement of Class I, III and V supplies have been exceptionally good as the SOP's for the procurement of these items is very simple except when excess T/E amounts are required. Difficulties were at times encountered, on one rapid advance through France, when Class I and III Truckheads were located approximately one hundred and twenty miles (120) to our rear.

D. Use of enemy engineer supplies proved very valuable as these supplies were used to construct one Class 70 permanent timber and I-beam bridge over the VIRE RIVER and three Class 40, prefabricated, laminated, wooden I-beam bridges over L'AURE INFERIEURE RIVER. In addition, enemy engineer supplies were captured and used in all types of engineer construction and special projects.

E. The only time the organization's operations were curtailed, due to the shortage of supplies, was at the time of the gasoline shortage. For approximately a three-weeks period, gasoline was issued by S-4 only on special approval by the Operation Section. This issue was direct to the vehicle and, on some occasions, as little as two (2) gallons was issued. Some drivers, particularly drivers of reconnaissance vehicles, obtained additional amounts by draining empty gasoline cans stacked along the roadsides by other units.

SECTION VI

MAINTENANCE

VI. MAINTENANCE SUMMARY

A. Throughout the six (6) months of combat the maintenance section has functioned smoothly and efficiently. This has been borne out by official reports rendered by Ordnance Teams. The main contributing factor behind this excellent record is the fact that during the activation and training period spent in England prior to D-Day the section instituted and carried out a vigorous maintenance program which has certainly paid off in combat.

B. In the fast move across France and Belgium not a single vehicle was dead-lined for lack of maintenance. Vehicles lost due to enemy action were quickly replaced through the cooperation of the supporting ordnance units. This rapid replacement aided greatly in keeping up the efficiency standard of the Battalion.

C. The supply of parts procedure as set up in the Corps and Army SOP's were complied with and has proven very satisfactory in replacing worn out parts. During the period when the shortage of parts was critical, various Ordnance Collecting Points were contacted and needed parts were salvaged from wrecked vehicles.

D. A program of tire preservation and maintenance was started early in the campaign before official directives ordered it done consequently no trouble has been encountered because of the present tire shortage. It has not been necessary to deadline any 1-ton trailers for tires. The program as now outlined by Corps has and will prevent tire waste.

E. The use of captured enemy engineer and ordnance equipment has proved very valuable. The maintenance section has constructed shower units, road drags, sand spreaders, snow plows and two (2) electric light plants from such material.

F. The Maintenance Section is rightfully proud of their reputation and ability. This pride in their work is responsible for their record and for the fact that the Battalion vehicles keep rolling.

SECTION VII

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

VII. MEDICAL SUMMARY

A. During this six (6) months period the Medical Detachment has functioned as a Battalion Aid Station, bivouacing in the field in various parts of France, Luxembourg and Belgium. The aid station has been either under a pyramidal tent or in an underground dugout. Sleeping quarters have been outdoors at all times. The means of transportation is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck with a 1-ton trailer.

B. In reporting the functions and the approximate statistical data occurring during this period, the following subdivisions will be made:

1. Supplies - supplies have not been entirely adequate. Medicines especially for upper respiratory conditions as expectorants for cough are not available to the Battalion Aid Station, nor are stomachic remedies available. Men in the field seem to suffer from these ailments a great deal. Dental supplies have been inadequate and dental alloy of an inferior quality.
2. Sanitation - the sanitation and sanitary conditions of our men have at all times been satisfactory. Showers have always been available. Our mess sanitation in the field is very good and under inspection and scrutiny of the Battalion Surgeon.
3. Immunizations - men of the Battalion have received all required immunizations.
4. Statistical Report:
 - a. Casualties - during this six (6) month period the Battalion suffered 165 casualties of which 61 were evacuated, 86 returned to duty, 15 killed in action and 3 missing in action. One hundred and sixty-two (162) were awarded the Order of the Purple Heart.
 - b. Venereal Diseases - six (6) cases of gonorrhoea and one case of syphilis.
 - c. Common Respiratory Diseases - six (6) cases have been reported during this period.
 - d. Trench Foot - two (2) cases.
 - e. Dental Survey - conducted during this period and unable to obtain prosthetic service for members of this Battalion.
5. Evacuation - our means of evacuation by ambulance to collecting stations has been adequate and satisfactory during this period. During emergencies, however, when casualties are expected, means of evacuation have been fair, and had there been available an ambulance at all times to the Medical Detachment, evacuation might have been speeded up. A notation of this shall be placed in the recommendations. However, our services by collecting companies have always been satisfactory.

C. Recommendations:

1. Since the work of the Battalion Surgeon in an aid station is limited, first aid treatment and evacuation are paramount. Speedy evacuation is so very essential that I believe that an ambulance should be available to the Medical Detachment.
2. Since the majority of our men in the field complain of upper respiratory conditions and digestive disturbances, medicines to combat these should be on hand at the aid station.
3. Another recommendation which is primary issue to all Battalion Surgeons working in aid stations is a rotating plan to rear echelon installations. A Battalion Surgeon who has been in the field for at least six (6) months should have an opportunity of applying his medical knowledge and skill in a hospital on a rotation plan.
4. Dental materials of the right quantity and quality be provided for the Battalion Dental Surgeon.
5. Prosthetic service should be made available to front line troops.

SECTION VIII

OPERATIONS

VIII. BATTALION OPERATIONS SUMMARY

A. Assignment

1. During the period 8 June 1944 to 8 December 1944 the 254th Engineer Combat Battalion was assigned to the First United States Army and attached to and in support of the following units:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Attached to</u>	<u>In Support of</u>
8 June - 14 June	1121 Engr Combat Group	29th Infantry Div
14 June - 26 June	1104 Engr Combat Group	30th Infantry Div
26 June - 16 July	1121 Engr Combat Group	2nd Infantry Div
16 July - 28 July	2nd Infantry Division
28 July - 1 Aug	1121 Engr Combat Group	2nd Infantry Div
1 Aug - 9 Aug	1121 Engr Combat Group	35th Infantry Div
10 Aug - 19 Aug	1171 Engr Combat Group	2nd & 29th Inf Divs
20 Aug - 24 Aug	1121 Engr Combat Group	90th Infantry Div
24 Aug - 11 Sept	1121 Engr Combat Group	4th Infantry Div
11 Sept - 15 Sept	V Corps
15 Sept - 23 Sept	5th Armored Division
23 Sept - 8 Nov	1121 Engr Combat Group	4th Infantry Div
8 Nov - 12 Nov	1121 Engr Combat Group	9th Infantry Div
12 Nov - 8 Dec	1121 Engr Combat Group	99th Infantry Div

2. During the period the following units were detached from the Battalion for special missions:

a. During the period 9 May 1944 to 13 June 1944 one platoon from Company A was attached to Headquarters V Corps.

b. During the period 10 August 1944 to 15 August 1944 one platoon from Company B was attached to the 102nd Cavalry who had the mission of maintaining contact with the retreating enemy. The platoon mission was to clean mines from the route of advance of the different columns.

c. During the period 14 Sept 1944 to 8 Dec 1944 two (2) officers and forty-one (41) EM were attached to V Corps Military Government Police Battalion.

d. At various times throughout the period one platoon was attached to 1121 Engineer Combat Group for security.

B. Policy on Attachments

1. In spite of the War Department policy on the employment of Engineers, many senior commanders in the Divisions continually misuse and abuse their own and any attached or supporting Engineers. In this respect it is firmly believed that Engineer work can be better accomplished by:

a. Requiring the Division Engineer to directly control the companies of his battalion rather than turn them over to a regimental commander as attached.

b. Utilizing the Corps Engineers only as support for the Division rather than as a pool of Engineers available for attachments as Infantry or additional troops for the Division Engineers.

2. It has been found that efficiency and morale remain high when working for the headquarters to which normally assigned in comparison with working for another group or division. An attached unit feels like and is usually treated like an orphan by the unit to which attached.

C. Engineer Operations

1. Road patrol and maintenance was continuously carried out except during periods of rapid movement. The nature and emphasis of this work varied from time to time but in general included removal of road blocks, debris and wrecked vehicles; clearing snow and mud from roads; filling craters, pot holes and ruts; oiling and tar patching; installing, repairing and cleaning culverts; cleaning and opening bleeders and ditches; sweeping of shoulders and ditches for mines.

2. Constructed $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of new road.

3. Removed and/or destroyed a total of 426 mines (AT) and 144 AP mines. The AT mines were largely Teller Mines found in road shoulders and ditches; the AP mines consisted of S-Mines, Mustard Pots, and release type booby traps.

4. Completely destroyed forty-three (43) enemy pill boxes in the vicinity of WALLENDORF, GERMANY

5. Repaired two (2) timber and one stone arch bridge which were damaged by enemy action and bridged blown out culvert with captured ponton equipment. The Battalion also guarded, maintained and/or removed several Treadway Bridges which were constructed by other units.