

October 1974



Issue No. 17

The "BULL SHEET"

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**HONOR ROLL **

Buildings are dependent upon well constructed foundations, bridges on firmly bedded piers and foot sloggers would not slog far lest aided and abetted by callused tootsies encased in a pair Nor would a reunion, no, not of sturdy GI'S. even a Snortin' Bull frolic, get crackin' unless first hammered together and made functional by the hard workers singly designated as REUNION COMMITTEMEN and collectively as the REUNION A volunteer gang pitching in with COMMITTEE. almost unbelievable dedication without expecting a whole lot of glory are the guys, and gals, one must applaud because truly they are the first line combatants holding steady until the rear echelon moves up for the main effort.Participants at any one of the first 12 conventions most assur edly went away happy, grateful & completely awed by the week programmed in all respects for one pur pose-a good show for the incoming troops. No if's, but s about that state ment. Innual Reunion And any be-107th Engineer Association liever super stitiously Detroit, Michigan trying to parallel the wee folk of August 2, 3, 1974 the Auld Sod with Reunion 13 at Detroit can forget it & should henceforth conjure their visions of ill omens out of bow-legged pussycats, cross-eyed owls or whatever, because No. 13 we triumphantly report was nothing less than a 100% good show. Deluxe! Fantastic! Super! Extravaganza even in sophisticated society parlance but still expressively and aptly describing the overall effort put forth by our

Motor City faithfuls. And for additional frost-

ing on their cake, the 218 officially registered

in vets made Detroit the best attended reunion

STARS FELL ON DETROIT

Imaginary but deserved gold stars for a job well done plus real silver stars adorning the dress whites of not one but two featured speakers adds up to a star spangled occasion no matter how you slice it. The dazzled banqueteers first warmly

welcomed and enjoyed with close comradery the presence of and easy listening talk by one of the 107th's finest and most distinguished as they reminisced silently and heartily acknowledged Len Ward's anecdotes of days and events we shared together when it was Lt & Capt Ward in the 107th and 112. Maj Ward in 1121st Gp Hq, Lt Col Ward as CO of the 107th NG Bn and then all the way up to a high level look at the US National Guard



Brigadier General Leonard C. Ward (Retired)

picture from his lofty bird colonel and general ranks. The picture and following biography were snatched from Detroit's program book: "General Ward was born in Virginia, Minnesota, Nov. 17, 1917. He is a graduate of Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Mich. with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. General Ward's military career started with the Michigan National Guard in 1939 shortly after he was commissioned from the ROTC, and entered active duty with the 107th Engineers in October, 1940, as part of the 32nd Infantry Division at Camp Beauregard, La. Overseas during World War II he served as a platoon leader, company commander and group staff officer in engineer units supporting divisions of V Corps, First U.S. Army. After release from active duty, General Ward rejoined the Michigan National Guard in 1946, and subsequently served

of all 13 even exceeding the 124 at Ishpeming in Certainly a well deserved reward for the superb performance by the detached detail whose isolated position made their mission a great Three cheers, a 12 deal tougher than normal. gun salute or front-and-center on the reviewing stand - you name it - the Detroit Reunion Crew deserves it. Now, does all this indicate a growing trend towards increased interest, new participation and better attended reunions? You can bet your sweet patootie it does! Wonderful memories of the Light Guard Armory maneuvers to be sure but even so the sights are already being calibrated for the 14th Annual still some months away. One more mission dispatchedin traditional 107th exemplary style with special tribute to not only the forward echelon officials, the Detroit volunteers but also to the supporting forces because as we all realize fully - NO TROOPS, NO BATTLES WON OR BRIDGES BUILT. So, as we move along enjoying memories of reunions past and anticipating the ones coming up, lets always render recognition and honor and gratitude to the dedicated work squads making it all possible the REUNION COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS.

UPDATE ON DUTY ROSTER

Thus far the new information generated by issuance of the Association roster early this year has not nearly reached HQ's expectations. Either the rostered members are gold bricking or the bones have been picked much cleaner than supposed in which case we've jointly done a highly commendable job. However, the challenging, but painful, fact that some 1000-1500 old vets are still unaccounted for surely provides everyone with lots of maneuver room for some energetic recruiting endeavors. So lets get with it by giving the roster another concerted grizzle with a determination to make the glory roll as have those designated by stars below.

ADDITIONS TO ROSTER: Claude R. Delaney (B 107), 478 Fairfield Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 (**Harold V. Hall**); Joseph C. Mottle (1121 Gp Hq), D.W. Hwy., Sheila's Grove, Merrimack, N.H. 03054 (**Durward J. Smith**); John M. Conway (C 254), 1117 W. Bluelick Rd., Lima, Ohio 45801 (**L.V.E. Smith**); Sigmund Kalman (1121) 5510 Haverhill Dr., Parma, Ohio 44129 (**Durward J. Smith & Joe Mottle **); Lt Col LeRoy F. Gruber (Ret) (H&S & F 107), 317 Impala Dr., Mascoutah, Ill. 62258 (**Anton "Pops" Crnkovich**); D. Matlick (A 254), 2014 Chevrolet, Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197 (**Sanford Tustin & incorrectly rostered as Jim Maddick**); Carl W. Stenson (Co F 107), 35776 Shook Lane, Mt. Clemens, Mich. 48043 (**Rans Blondo**); Eugene Stephan (D WWI), 4505 Sherman Blvd., Milwaukee, Wis. 53209(**"32d Div. News"**); Newton R. Millen (H&S 107). 180 S.

in various positions in the 107th Engineer Bn. and the 46th Infantry Division. He was appointed the Acting Assistant Chief, National Guard Bureau in Jan. 1968, serving in various capacities until he completed his military service as Deputy Director, Army National Guard, retiring on September 30, 1972."



The second half of the one-two banquet com bination was a hardhitting, enlightening and inside look at the role of today's Nat'l. Guard in the U.S. military structure by Major General Clarence C. Schnipke, The Adjutant General of Michigan and Director of the Department of Military Affairs, very graciously disrupted an extremely

tight schedule to favor us with his presence and timely message. General Schnipke is a veteran of more than 40 years of National Guard service. He enlisted in Co. I, 126th Infantry, in Grand Rapids on Dec. 9, 1930. Subsequently he went on active duty with the 32nd Division in October, 1940, and served in South Pacific with the famed Red Arrow organization during World War II. He returned to National Guard service as Executive Officer of the 126th Infantry, continuing in this assignment until December, 1957, when he became Chief of Staff, 46th Infantry Division, and subsequently served in other National Guard positions in Michigan until October, 1964, when he was designated Adjutant General of Michigan by Governor George Romney. He has continued serving in this assignment to the present time.

HIGH COMMAND FOR 1974-75

President, lst Lt Jack M. Weinert (Co D NG Bn),
Manistique; Vice Pres., Capt. Ronald G. Patrick
(CO Co D NG Bn), Manistique; Secretary, Ed Vickstrom (H&S 254), Ishpeming; Treasurer, W.O. Jim
Menza (Hq NG Bn), Ishpeming; P.R.O., Sgt William
C. Larsen (Co B NG Bn), Marquette; Historian,
W.O. Leonard L. Lorge (Hq NG Bn), Ishpeming;
DIRECTORS: Permanent, Lt Col Donald R. Small
(Bn CO), Marquette; 4-Year, Anton "Pops" Crnkovich (E 107), Detroit; 3-Year, Raymond E. Deicher (A 254), Green Bay, Wis.; 2-Year, Willis
D. Dickens (1121), McFarland, Wis.; 1-Year,
Rans J. Blondo (F 107-H&S 112), St. Clair Shores
Mich.; Past President (73-74), Charles A. Hanover.
(1121), Warren; Past President (72-73) Maj Frank
E. LaBelle (Hq NG Bn), Marquette.

Holbrook, Plymouth, Mich. 48170 (**Reunion**);

Gervase "Gerv" Audette (A 107), 25480 Patricia, Warren, Mich. 48091 (**Reunion**); Paul Baloun (H&S & F 107), 847 Alden Rd., Hinckley, 0. 44233 (**Reunion**); Edward Borawski (F 107), 21828 Audrey, Warren, Mich. 48091; William Firchau (C 107), 15044 Glenwood, Detroit, Mich. 48205 (**Reunion**); Charles Stephens (A 254), 418 Delta Ave., Manistique, Mich. 49854 (**Elmer Tufnell**); John E. McCormick (H&S 254), 2321 LeRoy St., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46885 (**Eddie Krueger**); Ralph W. Nordman, Jr. (C 254), 931 Ariebill S.W., Wyoming, Mich. 49509 (**John Conway & Doug Williamson**); David L. Williams (C 254), 1625 Martin St., Lansing, Mich. 48910 (**John M. Conway**); Sam Seminatore (H&S 254), 15632 Euclid Ave., Apt 109, E. Cleveland, O. 44112; (** Jack Faries**); (**R. Blondo & other 112th as to following**); Alfred Rasche (B 112), Barnhart Lake R.F.D., Millersburg, Mich. 49759; Joseph Brook A. Fazekas (B 112), 6498 Stonecrest Dr., Park, Ohio 44142; George Gecks (H&S 112), 6750 Eleck Place, Cincinatti, Ohio 45243; Charles Hendricks (B 112), 20574 Belvidere, Ohio 44126; Elmer Jones (H&S 112), 3420 Moonridge, Cincinatti, Ohio 45211; Joseph Medved (H&S 112), 60 Old Plank Rd., Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022; Kenneth Mohler (B 112), 7711 Wallings Rd., North Royal, Ohio 44133; "Capt" Peter Perla (Hq 112), 2162 Kewaunee Dr., Traverse City, Mich. 49684; Edward Sesek (H&S 112), 831 Sable Rd., Cleveland Ohio 44119; James Stockton (H&S 112), 10830 Johnson Dr., Parma, Ohio 44130; Elmer Supe (H&S 112), 3078 Gano Rd., Westchester, Ohio 45069; Emery P. Zbin (H&S 112), 4264 W. 58th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44144; <u>Lee Posek</u> (A 112), 8539 Fair Road, Strongsville, O. 44136; Edwin "Doc" Hermling, 24353 Carlysle Dr., Dearborn, Mich. 48124.

Every unit, large or small, has it seems one outstanding personality or "character". A man who everlastingly sticks in the hearts and memory of his comrades for any number of reasons. One such person was Harold D. "Rowdy" Rucker (C 254). A giant of a man whose earthy character, Combat Engineering skills and leadership qualities were as evident as his formidable stature -as was his perpetual chaw of the always available Beechnut "blackout pacifier" chewing tobacco. As platoon sergeant he was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery in action when the 254th was deployed as infantry during the Normandy beachhead breakout. Without question HQ has received more inquiries, requests for address ad infinitum on him than for any other one man. His address and record card is covered with notations and names of N. and S. Carolina towns all dutifully recorded as the fragmentary details trickled in. Each new lead on Rowdy's reported possible whereabouts was carefully pursued - but always fruitlessly. And strangely enough through it all no one ever reported a single bit of concrete evidence that Rucker had survived the German stalags and returned to the States following capture during the Battle of the Bulge. Several eager beavers vowed to track him down -but none ever suceeded. So, the mystery surrounding his post-war situation, if in fact there really was one, grew intriguingly deeper and progressively more baff-ling. Then, finally, in July the long awaited breakthrough! John M. Conway, also a Bulge POW and himself a long-sought Co C 254 fugitive, checked in from a good Ohio address furnished by That in itself was a bonanza but L.V.E. Smith. when John reported Rowdy as living in St. Matthews, S.C. and that the two had actually been in touch after the war, well, you can imagine the elation over the double dose of good news. Eureka! At long last a happy turn of events prompting yet another contact mailing "toot sweet" even though a previous 1967 inquiry sent to St. Matthews turned out to be just another of the many undeliverable duds. Thirteen years of hope, frustration, inquiries, wasted postage, expended effort and many many promises to Co C boys to furnish Rowdy's address "if and when located" went riding on that very special mailing. all was resolved finally on September 10th. For that was the date the last mailing was returned to HQ with one totally resolving word starkly printed on the envelope facing...... "Deceased"

BESSONEN, Charles (Med Det 107), Calumet, Mich; CAMPBELL, Robert J. (Co B 107-522), Saginaw, MI. HOEHNER, Charles G. (Co A WWI), Flint, Mich.; HOGAN, Paul D. (Co A & Hq WWI), Laurium, Mich.; LANGSTAFF, Albert L. (Co B 107-522), Moran, MI.; RUCKER, Harold D. (Co C 254), St. Matthews, S.C. TAUCH, Carl F. (Co C WWI), Jacksonville, Fla.

REUNION SIDE GLANCES

Preunion thoughts (no concern - much) that the unfamiliar Detroit terrain would require new or improvised tactics kinda worked out that way in The subpar and admittedly dismany respects. appointing delegation of Guardsmen (5) and WWI doughboys (3), even though anticipated, was happily and overwhelmingly counterbalanced by an astonishing number of WWII "recruits" - would you believe 49 new replacements in one crack? And a new added dimension of potentially great significance was the 13-man, simon-pure 112th Bn advance party (out of Ohio for the most part) presumably in for support purposes only but who promptly dug in right along with our own storm Substantiates the well known fact that a Combat Engineer is his own man in any man's outfit. Noteworthy to reflect that although not son of John & Marie Reed (H&S 254) was selected Honorary Marine of the Month at the El Toro Marine Base. In recognition for being so selected, Gary chauffered President Nixon on July 12 from the air base to the Western White House at San Clemente...."Enclosed is my contribution

during the 46th Engineer Group review at Camp Grayling. Both are full time employees at the Ishpeming armory...."I see from your roster you don't have an address on Robert N. Hill (address furnished) who shipped out with Co F 112 to No. Africa. Bob and I are cousins. Ever hear any-

107 LE ENGINEER BATTALION

RECRUITING LINEUP – That map on the trailer does not show the State of Superior – at least not yet. But it does show the area the trailer and these men of the 107 Engr Bn cover in their on-going recruiting efforts in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The recruiters are (left to right) SP5 Ronald F. Guidebeck, SGT Joe Massie, SP6 Jim F. Moulds, PSG Ivan Gagne, PSG Dan Archambeau, MAJ Frank E. LaBelle, SSG William Lantange, PSG Al Bourdeau and SFC Mike Fraser. "The Mich. National Guardsman"

for dues, mailing expenses, etc. I have no idea which company I was assigned to when transferred into the 107th from the infantry but believe it was Co D. Yes, thats it - Capt Allan F. Olson and 1st Sgt Neil Hodge. Noticed the absence of John Conway's name on the roster so here is his address. I'm currently a Confectionary Sub Broker in Pheonix. Sure would like to make a reunion while I can still get around." L.V.E. "Smitty" Smith (C 254).....information from Eddie Krueger that our very elusive Manitowoc, Wis. man was a graduate of Notre Dame U. now living in Indiana resulted in a request to the Director of Alumni of that instituion. And almost by return mail: "John E. McCormick, Engineer Degree 1949, 2321 LeRoy St., Fort Wayne, Ind." Both H&S 254. All it takes is a reasonably good scent for our hound dawgs!....."Here is Charlie Steven's address. I expect to make the next reunion as I have relatives in Iron Mountain." Elmer Tufnell (A 254)...."Thanks to you and Bing Boberg for straightening out my DePere, Wis. address. I enjoy getting the BULL SHEET as it keeps me in touch with everyone. Detroit is my old stamping grounds because I worked there for 10 years. If I can find my barracks bag now I'll start packing." Clarence G. Broberg (C 254).....congratulations to CWO Donald L. DeRoche and Sgt William A. Eckloff for their Legion of Merit Awards which were presented to them by Maj Gen Clarence Schnipke

thing on Maynard J. Baum, Minn., who bunked with me in the canteen Hope to tent at Moneymore, N.I.? see you all but for now I can't get my vacation in prime time when the reunions are held." Richard J. Ball (C 254).....the running problem of scratching up general interest NG material to timely coordinate with the B.S.'s semi-annual press schedule - material, though new and interesting to old timers, that isn't just so much warmed over stuff to the Guardsmen. Even with this situation in mind we feel that the Ready Reservists are sufficiently proud of the Bn's recruiting trailer to stand another dose of news further advertising some of the features about its imaginatively conceived and ingeneously constructed recruiter on wheels. And passed along to the old sweats solely for the purpose of interest not induce-

ment because lets face it - you guys have had it except for annual re-ups in the 107th Engineer The unique conveyance, which thru Association. more fact than fancy can accurately be described as a rolling billboard, has an attractively paneled and carpeted interior. Other features include glass-enclosed bulletin boards for displaying instructive photos about Bn activities and stereo equipped sound. Remodeling done by SP5 Waino Hintsala and painting by SP4 Dave Paquette (both HHC). The trailer will be on display at community functions and should be a real asset for recruiting new 107th, and Association eventually, members. The ol' Snortin' Bull emblem designed by S-2 Section member George Molentin (H&S 254) in Newquay, Cornwall, England, has been a wide ranging, prolific critter during the 31 years since its inception. Hows chances for a look-see at the trailer in Iron Mountain next August?....and for the grand finale a most welcome letter from Col Gerald E. Feidt, USA Ret (Exec Officer of the 1121 Engr Gp), including his application for an Association Life Membership and a most interesting resume of his military assignments inclusive of evidence that the then Capt Feidt was for a time Company Commander of Co E 107th Engr Regt at Fort Dix, N.J. just prior to redesignation as the 107th Engr Bn preparatory for shipment to North Ireland. All to be carefully filed for future reporting in full. Lights out and taps as to Issue No. 17

port our Nation's military dunno from where we keep on coming up with all the internal MCing talent like Charlie Hanover the latest in a long string of truly professional jobs - more like a politician or preacher than a career educator we'd guess with the wit of a comedian to bootthe really beautiful Mid-East Dance routine by the very talented Miss Cindy Blondo (Rans x Fay Blondo) - and side splitting supporting performances by the not so talented, nor pretty, Joe Battaglia (1121), Jack Faries (HQ 254), Lee Taggart (H&S 254) and Augie Gagnon (A 254), who nonetheless gallantly volunteered to share the front and center limelight with Cindy even to the wearing of the veils. One graceful moonbeam - and 4 shake 'n bakes!....the ingen iously designed, handmade center pieces provided an elegant touch and evidence of much work by the Ladies Reunion Committee - and eagerly sought souviners afterwards.....a last minute search for the substitute chaplain who did a marvelous job for the memorial service immediately following the joint luncheon - complete with an infantry color guard, taps and for the The one time during first time the spouses. reunion weekends that the lump is just too darn big to be swollowed any non-observant registrant failing to note the presence of the Battalion Colors can now be informed that they were there. All the way from Bn Hq in Ishpeming under the careful handling of Capt Ed Jachimskiconvening the Executive Committee for the special session just prior to the annual business meeting is a good solution to a tough sit-Remember, a note to the secretary if you have anything in mind for the good of the order, reunions or whatever.....the engraved placques engineered by the Reunion Committee to recognize President Hanover, Committee Chairmen Rans Blondo and Mike Mertes, Ladies Chairwoman right track.... "One of these years I hope to be Fay Blondo and Secretary/Bull Sheet Editor Ed Vickstrom. Also a very special and meaningful presentation to General Reunion Chairman Hanver was an appropriately engraved gavel from his entire reunion staff which was presented to the 1973-74 maestro by spokesman Anton "Pops" Crnkovich, V.P. and Asst. Gen. Reunion Chairmanand much much more can be said for yet another memorable time, magnificant job and all-

SNEAK PREVIEW ON '75 REUNION

Armory at Iron Mountain-Kingsford, Mich. home station for Detachment of Delta Company, 107th Engr NG Bn. Dates: August 8-9-10, 1975. This is the second weekend in August (our automatic first weekend was waived for this reunion due to conflict with the NG Bn's schedule. armory is but a couple miles from the Michigan-Wisconsin border - should make for a leisurely convoy movement for our Wisconsin outposts.

"Sure glad to get the BULL SHEETS. They bring back memories and make me feel good to see and hear about all the boys of the old outfit. I am in the Sanitation Dept. and am a busy man. Only get 2 weeks off each year and like to spend that with my children and grand children but hope to see all you guys one of these years." Cecil J. Specht (Med Det 254) address promptly sent on to Ralph D. Bowden in Maine per reminder noted "if and when located". "Received your word about old buddy Specht today. Thanks a let. Have you ever heard from Andy Topalian, Med Det 254? Know he is in the Detroit area because I called him a year ago."....."I would like to make a reunion but the dates coincide with our annual trout fishing trek to Idaho. Maybe you could give us some inside dope on trout fishing in Mich. and then we could fish and make the reunion both." Lawrence A. Peterson (C 254). Some dandy fork tails in Lake Superior, Pete, and the NG Bn has some comfy assault boats/w/paddles - how does that grab you? Mike Mertes in Detroit area barbershop: "Trim the fringe; forget the top." "Hello, Mike", quietly responds barber Enoch Saaranen who promptly recognized his ex-Co B 254 Mess Sgt in spite of passed years and departed curls. What a joy to learn about such unexpected encounters and relate same in these pages. Keep 'em comin' !.... "Enclosed are my dues. I haven't made up my mind yet about attending the Detroit reunion. Formerly from Sault Ste. Marie." Leonard Colwell (B 107-522) brief, crystal clear and beautiful: "In answer to your inquiry, I am the Mr. Sam Seminatore (H&S 254) you are looking for, and I am very happy to hear from you." Had suspicions that Sam was in the Cleveland areabut nothing definite until Ed Derheimer got us onthe able to attend. My vacation schedule will not permit now." Robert G. Perry (C 254).....and from Paul R. Schmidt (1121) in Montana: try and make next year's reunion."...."Thank you for remembering me. I would love to be with you this year but it was just a month ago that I was burned out. I'm not crying- we of the 107th will bear the brunt as we always did." Comelo A. Switzer (A 254).....the check imprinted "Registered Holsteins" advertises what Edgar C. Williams (A 254) has been up to. Update from CarolineWilliams: "Even though we've lived on the door step of the reunion sites all these years our farm kept us from doing many of the things we wanted to do. Now, however, we are moving to North Carolina - in fact Edgar is already there. Knowing he enjoys the BULL SHEET very much I'll takecare of his subscription in his absence. We hope to spend our summers in the U.P. and perhaps make the reunions at the same time. Hope the Detroit

equivalent, the 112th WWII gang for amny years, long before we finally got crackin' in 1961. held annual family picnics in Cleveland, worked up a roster & engineered other promotionals as a means of maintaining the comradeship formulated during the frantic war years of 40 to 45. More recently was the very successful Co B 112 reunion in Cleveland last June. Also, we can gratefully acknowledge using their roster with good effect to locate our MIA's having a dual service 107/112 background. And paralleling the lineage of our 107th, the 112th Engr Bn Combat is today an important part of the Ohio National Time and space limitations at this time prohibits further reporting on that fine outfitand on the 107-112-1121 triple alliance promise to do so first chance.....most of the travelers had reservations at the Holiday Inn in Hazel Park as a result of some nifty crosschecking communication between members (good show that) and the hostelry's proximity to the In fact our gang just about took over armory. the joint. Based on this years experience, even though somewhat more difficult in the smaller towns of Upper Michigan, a couple of pre-designated "pyramidal tents" would eliminate many stragglers, keep platoons together and simplify bivouac security Light Guard Armory - damme but it 'as a nice Limey ring to it would you know, now! Big, beautiful and home station for the 225th Infantry Bn, Michigan National Guard, in which outfit Major Charles A. Hanover (Ret) served after his 107/1121 wartime duties. But Combat Engineering to infantry, Major?....more 107th Regimental (Camp Beauregard and Camp Livingston) officers present for this reunion than ever before including Messrs. Clark, Hanover, Dickens, Killin, Nurnberger, Maples, Satterthwaite and Ward - durn near enuf to warrant an officer's mess and dog robbers.....overjoyed and confidence somewhat restored because of the good representation of our 522nd "desert rats" after a period of unexplainable AWOL's. Hope its an indication of better days ahead!.....the Reunion Committee's all-out promotional efforts including a special 200 piece mailing and personally assigned contacts of Detroit area mem-hers paid off in no uncertain terms. A fine example of the behind-the-lines recon work going on all the time.....equal opportunity, womens! lib or just some good old fashioned togetherness - take your pick. Anyway, the jointly shared noon day mess was a new innovation. Not only were the dollies excused from KP but they were graciously granted first grabs at chow besides. But who cared - time for another round while impatiently waiting in chow line. Deserved compensation for their being rolled out in time to make the early 9:30 convoy routed for the scheduled ladies tour of the famed General old sweats maybe but not too old to aid and sup-

now formally organized as an Association or the Motors Technical research Centerlearned that some offspring were convulsed by army nicknames long kept secret - only to be sneakily exposed by the Association roster. At least the disclosure confirms the fact that "ol' mossface" did serve and in a helluva good combat outfit besides..... marvelous dance music by 5 first class musicians. The accordionist discovered while eavesdropping General Ward's address that he, as a member of the 15th Armored Division. was actually in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia at war's end same as the 1121st Engr Group. Boy, did he pump the bellows after that chummy discovery BULL SHEET congratulations to accompany the announcement that the winner of the Association Community Service Trophy for 1974 was Hq & Hq Co (Ishpeming-Marquette). Captain Edwin Jachimski made a banquet presentation of the trophy to Sgt Bill Larsen who accepted on behalf of his unit... Camp Hood, Texas, Command and Staff School assignments for some Bn Hq brass unfortunately took precedence over reunion duty in Detroit -"apologies and best wishes" collectively conveyed by thoughtful message from Bn Commander Don Small read during the banquet program.....but who to replace Capt Phil White our perennial song leader? Horrors, a reunion without the "Engineer'sSong"? But no fear with Clem Cassette (H&S 254) to the rescue and filling in admirably after an enforced Old Bushmills lube job no formally scheduled "good-by, see-you-nextyear" Sunday brunch but several impromptu group gatherings all the same for some last minute socializing before the blast off towards home stations....gifts and prizes galore for individually recognized awards besides nice ditty bags for all registrants. Even a raffle for a bushel basket of squeezins' which was neglectfully permitted to be copped off by a 112th "infiltrator" according to unconfirmed reports. Names of the numerous prize recipients? Hmmmmmmm, lets see now.....lets just carry on by saying the annual business meetings are getting to be more hilarious all the time. A strict parliamentarian would go nuts applying formal Rules of Order to the undisciplined business proceedings as the necessary items are banged out in traditionally military fashion - steady by jerks! barrage of enthusiastic "supports" and "seconds" particularly during nominations and elections to office - old railroading strategy no doubt. Special issue of Engineer Caps to presiding officers thanks to the foresight of N.G. members present thereat made the official table something of a Supreme Command - but didn't do a thing for more respect. HQ must see to that!...repeated before, again this year and one to keep in sight always - support the NATIONAL GUARD, the NATION'S READY RESERVE FORCE, in any way we as an Association or as individuals can -

OFFICIALLY REGISTERED AT DETROIT Reunion No. AT DETROIT

on the second se			See	S. A 2-19	
Gervase "Gerv" Audette Varren, Mich.	A 107	1	Paul Baleun Finckley, Ohio	H&S-F 107	1
Herbert S. Bastion	A 254	1	Joseph B. Battaglia New Brighton, Pa.	1121 Gp Hq	2
Clawson, Mich. Raymond E. Belcher	C 107-522	1	Robert E. Blacka Munhall, Pa.	A 254	2
Detroit, Mich. Rans Blondo St. Clair Shores, Mi	F 107-112	8	Heinz K. Bollenbacher Dayton, Ohio	C 254	1
Edward Borawski Warren, Mich.	F 107	1	Elmer H. Eorrusch Detroit, Mich.	H&S 107	2
Aloysius "Al" Breton Jackson, Mich.	B 254	6	Alfred "Homer" Brow Kingston, Mich.	H&S 107-112	11
Steve P. Eurnis	A 254	1	Raymond J. Campeau Lansing, Mich.	C 254	4
Hazel Park, Mich. Clement "Clem" Cassette		3	Cecil F. Clark Dearborn, Mich.	C 107	2
Mohawk, Mich. Max A. Closson Manistee, Mich.		2	Harvey L. Cole	C 254	2
Reuben N. Colwander Lathrup Village, Mic	F 107	2	John M. Conway Lima, Ohio	C 254	1
Edward G. Cottenham Ferndale, Mich.	B 254	1	Anton "Pops" Crnkovich Detroit, Mich.	E 107	6
Warren O. "Orv" Crow	C 254	12	Paymond E. Deicher Green Bay, Wis.	A 254	8
Russell J. DeMars Westland, Mich.	·F 107	1	Clifford C. Densmore Detroit, Mich.	H&S 254	1
Edward P. Derheimer Fort Wayne, Ind.	H&S 254	1	Willis Dickens McFarland, Wis.	107-1121	5
Robert E. Driscoll Nilwaukee, Wis.		4	Felix E. Dudkiewicz Green Bay, Wis.	H&S 254	1
Kenneth R. Dykes Chagrin Falls, Ohio	H&S 254	4	Robert B. Ednie South Lyon, Mich.	A 107 WWI	1
Fithian "Jack" Faries Bowling Green, Ky.	Hq 254	2	George Farkas Allen Park, Mich.	107-522	5
Joseph A. Fazekas Brook Park, Ohio	B 112	1	Daniel G. Fedea Allen Park, Mich.	H&S 107-112	1
William Firchau Detroit, Mich.	C 107	1	Homer J. Fisk Sturgis, Mich.	A 254	1
Walter A. "Wally" Flath Detroit, Mich.	H&S 254	1	Clarence J. Forsythe Econton, N.J.	A 254	3
Donald J. Fournier Royal Oak, Mich.	H&S 254	4	Robert P. Frazier Marquette, Mich.	B NG Bn	12
Augustin "Augie" Gagnon Livonia, Mich.	A 254	3	John J. Gazvoda Rochester, Mich.	B 107 WWI	5
George Gecks Cincinatti, Ohio	H&S 112	1	Ralph Godfrey Gladstone, Mich.	H&S-A 107	6
Virgil "Ky" Griffin Riverview, Mich.	C 107-522	1	LeRoy Gruber Mascoutah, Ill.	F 107	1
Harold V. Hall Wyoming, Hich.	A 107	5	Eugene R. Hamlin Dearborn, Mich.	H&S 107-112	2
Charles A. Hanover Warren, Mich.	107-1121	3	Charles Hendricks Fairview Park, Ohio	В 112	1
Lawrence G. Hewitt Lansing, Mich.	Hq 107 TAVI	1	John G. "Jack" Hyder Detroit, Mich.	C 107-522	1

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	Tony Tvardek	B 254	3	Paul "Van" Van Abel	A 254	8
	Bryte, Cal.		The CL .	L'Anse, Mich.		
	Edward C. Vickstrom	H&S 254	13	Robert E. Walk	B NG En	1
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	Leonard C. Ward	A 107-11	21 3	Jay R. White	E 107	7
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	Donald C. Wilde	H&S 107-	-522 1	Richard H. Wills	B 254	6
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AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

How and where can decorated soldier's get their medals? This question was raised and discussed at the Detroit business meeting. Easy. Simply make application to this military department and address: Department of the Army, Office of the Adjutant General, Washington DC 20315.

For individual assistance wherever applicable and for general historical purposes the citations awarded out of the 254th are listed below. These are the ones that HQ has fortunately been able to pick up. Although we are reasonably sure the listing is complete and accurate, HQ is not entirely certain that such is the case. The information as presently known is passed along on that basis with apologies for any unintentional errors or omissions. Then making written application for an award include therein your name and address of course, army serial number, unit assigned to at the time and, from the following list, (or the copy of the order presented to you), the General Order Number, date and headquarters from whence the order originated.

254th ENGINEER (C) BATTALION AWARDS & DECORATIONS

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Pfc Thomas C. Richardson, Jr., GO 23, Hq V Corps, 27 Feb 45 (for heroism not involving actual conflict with enemy on 14 Feb 45

CROIX DE GUERRE

Lt Col Loren W. Jenkins, Decision 343, 29 Jan 45 Cpl Orlando M. Bongi, Decision 332, 25 Jan 45

SILVER STAR

S/Sgt Donald M. Duquette, GO 8, 99 Inf Div, 24 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Belgium)
Capt WilliamW. Bainbridge, GO 27, V Corps, 5 Jul 44 (Coast of France on 6 Jun 44)
T/3 Raymond A. Anders, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (16-19 Sep 44 in Germany)
Capt Ames T. Minor, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (21-22 Sep 44 in Germany)
S/Sgt Charles L. Senecal, GO 8, 99 Inf Div, 24 Jan 45 (Posthumously) (17 Dec 44 in Belgium

1st Lt John R. Huff, GO 8, 99 Inf Div, 24 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Belgium)

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Capt Murray F. Cunningham, GO 14, V Corps, 1 Feb 45 (6/8-7/24/44 in France)
T/Sgt EdwardC. Vickstrom, GO 14, V Corps, 1 Feb 45 (6/8-9/14/44 in France) T/Sgt Phillip Cohen, GO 15, V Corps, 4 Feb 45 (8/19/43-6/6/44 in England)
Pvt Stephen L. Gaspar, GO 32, V Corps, 19 Mar 45 (Posthumously) (19 Mar 45 in Bel.) S/Sgt Charles E. Karpinen, GO 12, V Corps, 27 May 44 (5/17-9/15/42 in N. Ireland)
Sgt Garfield Pinch, GO 12, V Corps, 27 May 44 (5/17-9/15/42 in N. Ireland)
S/Sgt Francis L. LaBrie, GO 12, V Corps, 27 May 44 (Posthumously) (5/17-9/15/42
                                            in N. Ireland)
1st Lt Allison B. Ware, GO 24, V Corps, 2 Jul 44 (Coast of France 6 Jun 44)
S/Sgt Orlando M. Bongi, GO 25, V Corps, 3 Jul 44 (Coast of France 6 Jun 44) T/5 Vernon E. Glavin, GO, V Corps, 6 Aug 44 (Coast of France 6 Jun 44)
Pfc Gerald H. Conner
                                          ditto
Pvt Wendell L. Britten
                                          ditto
Pvt Ludwig B. Hofmann, Jr.
                                          ditto
Pvt Henry G. Ladd
                                          ditto
Pvt John D. Leonard
                                          ditto
                                          ditto
Pvt Ernest W. Passamoni
1st Lt Sanford F. Hall, Sect. III, GO 96, 2nd Inf Div, 16 Aug 44 (in France)
S/Sgt Harold D. Rucker
                                          ditto
Sgt Fred A. Jensen
                                          ditto
                                          ditto grand hadanan mad acade bas we'l ditto
Cpl Victor J. Girdaukas
Cpl William Krauss
T/5 Thomas C. Bardowski
                                          ditto
T/4 Lyle F. Decker
                                          ditto on the secretary levels of the control
T/5 Francis L. Ploof
                                          ditto
                                       ditto
Pfc Painter J. Harris
Pfc William C. Musten ditto
Pfc Joseph R. Nicholes ditto
Pfc James W. O'Toole ditto
Pfc Stephen Rutkowski ditto
Pfc James F. Robinson ditto
Pvt Claude E. Bane ditto
Pvt Jesse L. Lahr ditto
Pvt William J. Monk, Jr. ditto
Pvt Frank L. Perry
                                          ditto
Pvt Raymond G. Powell
                                          ditto
Pvt Robert C. Seymour ditto
Pvt Sanford D. Tustin
                                          ditto
S/Sgt LouisS. Barraza, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (19 Sep 44 in Luxemburg)
Sgt Warren L. Romain, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (15 Aug 44 in France)
Cpl Sheldon L. Whitt, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (15 Aug 44 in France)
Pvt Joseph A Bova, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (19 Sep 44 in Germany)
Pvt Donald Meyer, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (19 Sep 44 in Germany)
Pvt Thomas C. Richardson, Jr., GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (15 Aug 44 in France)
Pvt Seymour Rodgveller, GO 61, V Corps, 10 Oct 44 (15 Aug 44 in France)
Capt Reginald R. Fairfax, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (16 Sep 44 in Germany)
Sgt L.V.E. Smith, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (16-19 Sep 44 in Luxemburg)
Cpl Louis J. Chimera, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (20 Sep 44 in Germany)
T/5 James R. Scalzo, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (16 Sep 44 in Germany)
Pfc Freeling Peck, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (19 Sep 44 in Germany)
1st Lt John B. Davis, GO 62, V Corps, 12 Oct 44 (Posthumously)(16 Sep 44 in Ger.)
Cpl Arthur I. Douglas ditto (Posthumously)(20 Sep 44 in Luxemburg)
 Pfc Harland R. Abbey ditto (Posthumously) (20 Sep 44 in Luxemburg)
 Pvt Frederick J. Shaver, GO 65, V Corps, 21 Oct 44 (14 Aug 44 in France)
Major Jesse D. Kelsay, GO 68, V Corps, 27 Oct 44 (1/1-2/5/44 in England)
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ERONZE STAR (cont'd)

T/5 John L. Wainio, GO 81, V Corps, 17 Dec 44 (6/6-9/14/44 in France) T/5 Kenneth R. Dykes ditto T/5 Lester L. Challenger ditto Lt Col Loren W. Jenkins, GO 2, 99 Inf Div, 5 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Belgium) S/Sgt Max A. Closson, GO 11, V Corps, 23 Jan 45 (6/6-9/14/44 in France)
T/5 Arthur J. Gibour, GO 11, V Corps, 23 Jan 45 (6/8-9/14/44 in France)
1st Lt Robert G. W. Brown, GO 8, 99th Inf Div, 24 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Belgium)
T/4 Jack E. Greenwood, GO 8, 99th Inf Div, 24 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Belgium) Pfc Lester Barilla ditto Pfc James H. Robertson ditto Pfc Gaylord F. Walters ditto Pfc Garland F. Seabright ditto details unknown - probably by a V Corps General Order 1st It Dominick Rubeo Sgt Francis D. Morin ditto Sgt Paul Podnar ditto T/4 George A. Youren ditto T/5 Roy A. Larson ditto Pfc Wesley Winters ditto

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO BRONZE STAR

Pvt Claude E. Bane, GO 2, V Corps, 6 Jan 45 (19 Sep 44 in Germany) 2nd Lt (then S/Sgt) Charles E. Karpinen, GO 9, 99th Inf Div, 27 Jan 45 (17 Dec 44 in Germany)

Note: The above are from 254th Engineer Bn records and all listed were members of that unit. Additionally, other Association members serving in other 1121st Engr (C) Group units besides the 254th were cited for awards but names and details of same are unknown to Association HQ and cannot therefor be written up at this time. The same situation is true for others whose 107th et al service subsequently extended into other units such as the the 32nd Inf Div, AirCorps, 1279th Engr Bn, etc.

"Adapt to fit the situation" - preached and taught to the point it is pounded in permanently and for immediate recall when the chips are down. And apropo to this utilization of some left over space for a lil' sumpin' that was all set up for inclusion in BULL SHEET proper only to be unfortunately left hanging by the old bugaboo - ran out of space. So, adapt we will with a last gasp section:

Toss in a bright tartan plaid, plaits in the skirt and the swirling of bag pipes and blimey one would begin to wonder if the 107 NG Bn is engaged in a reciprocal training program with the famed Scottish Black Watch Regiment. Skirts of a certainty but fear not that the rough and tough Combat Engineers are about to become a gang of Highland kiltes because that unlikely work garb is authorized uniform only for certain enlisted EM's, or is it EW's, of the Bn. Meaning females if your disbelieving imagination is unable to stretch that far. Four of the 8 the Bn is authorized in total whose presence in ranks sure adds a startling new look to company formations. Now - we just wonder which of the "kilted engineers" will have the distinctive honor of becoming the first Association dues paying member and/or reunion participant?