



October 1975



Issue No. 18

The "BULL SHEET"

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107th Engineer Association
Ishpeming, Michigan

NITTY GRITTY OF 1975 BUSINESS MEETING

No "pot-shots" even though the business at hand was touched off in the basement rifle range - nice training facility except no pits for the maggie drawers artists, but then who could miss at that range.....mad dash for the "lister bag" after the meeting cuz, man, was it hot down there. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** President, Lt Col (Ret) Richard L. Pascoe, Ishpeming; Vice President, Lt William C. Adams, Marquette, MI. Secretary, Ed Vickstrom, Ishpeming; Treasurer, CW4 Francis J. Menza, Ishpeming; Historian, CW4 Leonard L. Lorge, Ishpeming assisted by Lt Fred Stonehouse as Associate Historian; PRO Maj Phillip L. White, Marquette; 4-year Director, Rans J. Blondo, St. Claire Shores, Mich. IN ADDITION to the electees the following are carryovers on the 13-man Executive Committee; Permanent Director, Lt Col Donald R. Small, Bn CO, Marquette; 3-year Director, Anton "Pops" Crnkovich, Detroit; 2-year Director, Raymond E. Deicher, Green Bay, Wis.; 1-year Director, Lt Col (Ret) Willis D. Dickens, McFarland, Wis. 2-year Past President, 1st Lt Jack M. Weinert, Manistique, Mich. and 1-year Past President, Maj (Ret) Charles A. Hanover, Warren, Mich..... authorized for sale another supply of Snortin' Bull decals and resulting in a lively discussion whether to have the 254 or 107 unit designation on the dozer blade; finally resolved by generally agreeing that inasmuch as the decals are representative of the Association we'll use the 107 with the word "Association" below- cost and availability will be passed along when the supply tent receives its authorized allotment.. ...rapping a noisy, enthusiastic gang to order with beer cans, knuckles or whatever at long last prompted action to purchase a gavel - if that fails to produce order in the ranks, we'll go to a G.I. can and an 8# sledge....and beginning next year an Engineer's Flag will be mastered while we're in bivouac.....secretary authorized whatever hired help necessary for getting out the newsletters and mailings.....meeting of

the Executive Committee during the a.m. including a most interesting orientation session with General Bruce C. Clarke.....selecting the 1976 assembly area (Ishpeming) practically a cut and dried deal even though sprung as a surprise.... no sweat either changing the automatic reunion dates to the second weekends in August..... business meetings still a jolly good show; always an important, fun-packed part of the overall weekend. Any constructive suggestions, contributions, etc. forwarded to HQ will be presented at the next ensuing Executive Committee meeting so sound off anytime. Any "Blow it out of your B-bag" comments, however, will be referred to the "TS Committee."



PRESIDING AT DETROIT BUSINESS MEETING IN 1974

Left to right: Secretary Ed Vickstrom (H&S 254) Maj (Ret) Charles A. Hanover (107-1121 Gp Hq); President; Anton "Pops" Crnkovich (Co E 107), Vice President; John W. "Jack" McCormick (Co B NG Bn), P.R.O. But you should see the others!

REUNION SIDE GLANCES

An unusually large, combat ready group Friday evening - some eager beavers in Thursday even..
....Americo Guisseppi Armando Egnazio Narchesso Egedio Metro (lets settle for "Tiny" the popular "Hungry Five" maestro) entertaining with his Italian organ and making the Friday evening socializing even more enjoyable.....the showing of War Dept films in a separate classroom for interested viewers.....the large number of unexpected stragglers only partially offset by the usual no-shows but didn't hear anyone doing any screaming about not being chowed down- sure complicates the Mess Sgt's job though for figuring rations.....an impressively simple outdoor Memorial Service further solemnized by the roll call of comrades "departing ranks" during 1974-75 by Bn Chaplain Maj Aloysius Hasenberg who always does a tremendous job at these lump swallowing ceremonies.....the formation of squads looked extra sharp this year probably because the better halves were looking on and taking pictures of their revered heroes..... well prepared, rib-sticking chow for the family noon mess gave evidence of a good kitchen crew; somehow the Army grub tastes better now than it did all slopped together in a messkit.....how extremely fortunate having 9 U.P. armories manned by 107th units available for our bivouacs - talk about a built-in situation. Manistique's new armory plus the ex-182nd Artillery, Mich NG armories at Baraga, Iron River and Ironwood are yet to be invaded but will be when and if invites are extended to head thataway.....frantic search for "Engineer Song" verses but dug up somewheres by someone for delivery in finevoice by Capt Ron Datema (Hq NG Bn) followed by Clem Cassette's (H&S 254) lusty rendition of the "Michigan Engineers" - even a gasser for the young dance band members who enthusiastically chimed in with their own souped-up accompaniment.....more cameras and picture taking in evidence than ever before.....and speaking of pictures, remember HQ for prints (identified, please) of those you think may be good additions to our growing film library which is sure a handy training aid when a picture or two is needed to jazz up the BULL SHEET.....visitors to see John P. Rule (Co B WWI), a veteran of 9 reunions and Gene Leardi (Co C 254), a seasoned campaigner of 8 reunions, both critically ill in the Iron Mtn. V.A. Hospital.....the outspoken, distinguished Battle of the Bulge hero Gen. (Ret) Bruce C. Clarke flown in from Virginia to deliver the banquet speech accompanied by the charming Mrs. Clarke and Wolfram Niessen, professor at N.M. Univ., Marquette who was a German U-Boat commander during WWII. SSG Daniel D. Huffman (Co C NG's) had the enviable assignment of chauffeuring the party in a 4-starred staff car and in meeting him we know why.....

the hard working reunion committee members eager to perform the role of good hosts under the formidable handicap of ramroddin' their initial reunion.....disappointing but thoughtful last moment cancellation (surgery) from Col (Ret) Jesse D. Kelsay (Bn Exec O 254), out of Texas - we'll authorize one dry-run, colonel, so better luck next time - same for Ed Veeder (522), Holland, Mich. and Albert Tomassetti (Co B 254), Anchorage, Ky. Al, however, got his feet wet at Detroit and was drooling for seconds.....a shell shocked band (excellent musicians) out of Wis. somehow figuring they were engaged for a teeny bop shindig but once oiled and in gear everything and everyone got with it. Shades of the Ulster Hall in Belfast, Covent Gardens in London, Ballymena Hall in Ballymena, N.I. and other dance halls forgotten but for distant memories.wonderful having Maj (Ret) Edward J. Doyle (NG Bn) back in the harness again this time professionally manning the important MC post after a 1966-67 stint as Association president..... the Association's Community Affairs Trophy was awarded to Co D (Manistique-Kingsford) - always a tough decision because the Guard companies get a lot of on-the-job training performing many and varied worthwhile community projects..a chastised secretary after a dressing down by a couple irate dues payers for daring to send out (only a few, honest!) membership cards unaccompanied by quickie notes of thanks & greetings.....the Sunday shove-off/farewell breakfast at the armory - much thanks and credit to the NG cooks for turning out to fire up the field range for the battle weary troops. This most enjoyable finale has become an important part of the reunion weekend.....lets hear it for Paul Baloun and Zeke Kalman (both H&S 112) in for another looksee from Ohio and visits with Alfred Rasche (Co B 112), Rans Blondo (107/112) and Eldred Erdman (Med Det 107-112). On top of that a surprise 60 mile motorized patrol to take Lloyd Sorby (also 107-112) prisoner for reunion interrogation. Alex Zukowski (107-112) unfortunately escaped their clutches by recently fleeing to Pa.....our venerable WWI Red Arrow (32nd Div) vets affectionately termed the "Old Goats" manfully executed with but half a squad this year without a bitch or shirking of duties. Beautiful people - doughboys and wives both..... a promise in Detroit and visible proof a year later was "Pvt" Crow, babe-in-the-arms of proud poppa Warren "Orv" Crow (Co C 254) and beaming momma, Rita - only months old and already two reunions down. Or is it one up and one down? Oh, hell, you know what we mean. Sandwiching parenthood between reunions was a nifty bit of engineering, Orv, but to maintain a perfect reunion record?.....banty roosters Howard "Drip" Gauthier and "Tiny" Metro hackling away to see if the other had grown (taller that is) during the years since last seeing one another in '45

Nope! Still the only guys in H&S 254 who could get 2 room service out of a pup tent. "Drip" claims Tiny stunted his growth with poor chow; Tiny counters by claiming he was worked half to death by tough Top Kick, Drip.....last minute medic's release following major surgery returned (Capt) Jack Farries to duty and a visit with said Gauthier in Milwaukee enroute. Jack on his own is reorganizing his old 254th S-4 Section for extended duty. Nice bit of leadership there, Jack.....members of CCC Company 1617, Camp Paulding, in 1937-39 and then 107th Regt in 1940-41 reunited at the reunion were Wallace H. Goodreau (Co D 107), Jorma H. Lannet (Co B 254), Michael "Stew" Mertes (Co B 254) and Ed Vickstrom (H&S 254).....and hows about the infiltration in depth by the 522nd Engr Co "Afrika Corps" which must portend good things in the future by that segment of the Association..... banquet chow line this year but wotta spread by caterer Wally Mokszycke (Co C NG's) and crew - heading the line still good for the ol' rasp - berry - CHOW HOUND - some guys just can't shake old habits.....George Farkas (522) successfully helping the band get their converted greyhound bus started in the wee hours- last man out gets you know what, George, or were you brown-nosing for an audition?.....and speaking of buses the breakdown of the one requisitioned for the womens' tour musta been an inside job of sabotage but the gals neatly out-flanked that minor obstacle by raiding the motor pool and taking off with burning purses.....again, save the ribbon badges for use at future reunions.....donna his full name yet but the program book ad says "Big Jim's, Member of 107th Engineers" and a Friday eve ration soiree in force proved two things - he is BIG and the fish n' chips were delicious. The brew wasn't too bawd either.....and much much more but impossible to recapture all the bits and pieces that collectively make reunions the memorable, wonderful events that they are. Seeing is believing & participating better yet.

ROSTER ADDITIONS

(Credit due to the recon expert designated by stars). John "Paul" White (Co B 107th Regt), 510 Bingham Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI. 49783; (**John W. Mackey**); Richard "Bruce" Norden (Co A 107, 1937; Med Det 107 Regt), 420 Calumet St., Laurium, Mich. 49913 (**Lawrence R. Ellenich**); George L. Lieungh (Co A 107th Regt), 2203 16th St., Racine, Wis. 53405 (**George C Anderson**). Short list this time. HELP! HELP!

1976 TRAINING AREA

A surprising development at the annual business meeting was Ishpeming's bid for the 1976 convention. Mainly, we guess, because the gang

convened there just 2 years ago (1973). Eager beavers? Yes and no! Eager, of a certainty, but equally dedicated towards the Association's patriotic commemoration of the country's bi-centennial and feeling that such an auspicious event would be a natural for Bn Hq, its high powered personnel and beautiful armory. Needless to say the bid was enthusiastically received and approved what with fresh memories of the last extraordinarily well executed extravaganza featuring the Hematite City's pride and joy, the Blue Notes Drum & Bugle Corps (State champs & 4th place nationally in 1975 incidently) and the Association's darlings the one and only WWI Drum & Bugle Corps out of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Both possibilities for next year? You bet! The newly elected heads are already working on it. Please eye-ball and digest these reunion dates - August 13-14-15, 1976. Note too this change in the Association SOP: Beginning in 1976 the reunions will automatically be scheduled the second weekends in August instead of the first as heretofore. The NG Bn schedules drills on the first - and it is doubtful that the undisciplined maneuvers of the old sweats would coordinate with the Guards spit-and-polish, bang-bang training schedules. Besides we want, and need, the young blood, the cadre of the Association's future, for reunion participation. All pertinent details regarding the next biggie will be forthcoming per usual in the April BULL SHEET. So, when working up your own personal 1976 training program keep in mind the dates of August 13-14-15 and training area ISHPEMING - sure to be a highlight of your bi-centennial year commemoration observances.

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AHO, Raymond C. (Co F 107-Co C 254), Lincoln Park, Mich.; BARBER, Watson J. (Band 107 Regt) Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; BARHAM, Thomas M. (Co D NG Bn), Manistique, Mich.; FRANCE, Horace O. (Co C WWI), St. Petersburg, Fla.; HILL, Robert N. (Co D 107-Co F 112), Lake Charles, La; KARAS Lt Col (Ret) William J. (Co A 107-522), Cornell Mich.; PETERSON, Harlan J. (Co A 107 Regt), Escanaba, Mich.; SCHANE, Stanford T. (Co C 254) Tobyhanna, Pa.

ADDENDUM TO TRAINING SCHEDULE

Inasmuch as our present mailing list is top heavy in personnel whose combat service was in the 254th Engr Bn following training in the 107 Regt and 32d Division infantry regiments state-side or via the replacement route from reppo deppo direct to the ETO's 107th Bn, 112th Regt or the 254th itself, it naturally follows that this rag is at times somewhat 254 oriented.

Most of the many hundreds of Association eligibles now carried as MIA follow the same pattern. Thus, the background for this question. Remember the so-called "platoon pictures" taken in the Ardennes Forest in 1944 (Bullingen, Belgium area), just prior to the Battle of the Bulge? On numerous occasions we've seen the pictures carried to reunions or otherwise pridefully exhibited; some with 1944-45 identities and others simply blank. Treasurable and irreplaceable souvenirs that are always a source of much discussion along the lines of "who is that", "remember Joe Spilch", "wonder what happened to him", etc. Ye scribe has long been germinating the idea of running one such picture, and other unit/group photos as well, in each issue accompanied as completely and accurately as possible with the identification of the old familiar faces, present whereabouts, whether unlocated for Association purposes, deceased, etc. Then following up with fill-in and/or corrected identification plus other items of information in subsequent issues to enable our readers to update their own prints or the BULL SHEET reproductions accordingly. Information that must be first supplied by you guys in the ranks thereby providing your editor with the opportunity to add whatever info is available from HQ's records. In this issue, we're running certain sections of H&S 254 simply because they happen to be readily available for starters. Now for the next issue (April '76) we herewith issue a top priority requisition for the 254's Bn Hq, S-1, S-4, Motor Section and Communication Section (any others?) photos. The more the better for positive, cross checking identification purposes because after 30 years it is surprisingly difficult to match up names with faces, and for that reason don't get your noses out of joint because of goofs which probably will crop up - simply set us straight for later corrective measures. After that, we'll swing into the 254 line companies and then carry on with the other unit or group photos we'll be sniffing out as we accelerate into high gear. You will be informed in advance what pictures are needed for the next ensuing BULL SHEET so hang tight with your treasured souvenirs until the specific order is issued. Perhaps you can do some enjoyable home work in the meantime by working up your identifications in preparation for the day when the call goes out. The Association roster will be helpful here. Rank, assignment, full name, last name, nick name, any item of information - following the format used in this issue. When and if mailed to our official address, the pics should be carefully packaged. They will be returned after serving their intended purpose. Besides being a lot of fun, this should be a great aid in locating still more people and returning them to duty. Successful execution will depend upon good, timely reports from you outposts. You produce, we'll publish - that's what this newsletter is all about - so lets all hump our butts and join in the fun.

HQ SECTION, 254th ENGR (C) BN



Seated L to R

Wilfred A. "Bill" Smith (Bn Mail Orderly), Pittsburgh, Pa.
 William H. "Howard" Davey (1st Sgt), Negaunee, Mich.
 Capt Reginald R. Fairfax (Co CO), Mississippi - unlocated
 Americo J. "Tiny" Metro (Cook), Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
 Raymond W. "Beady" Townsend (Cook), Providence, R.I. - unlocated

Second Row L to R

Clement J. "Clem" Cassette (Co Clerk), Mohawk, Mich.
 Clarence E. Pierce (Supply Sgt), Sioux City, Iowa
 Leonard J. Poquette (Mess Sgt), Whitehall, Mich.
 George M. Bestler (Cook), Minneapolis, Minn.

Third Row L to R

John A. Neno (Driver), Ithaca, N.Y. (2) William Millar (Cook), Pennsylvania - unlocated
 Troy Aldridge (Cook Helper), Alabama - unlocated; (4) Elmer E. Raether (Officer's Orderly, Eau Claire, Wis.

S-2 & RECONNAISSANCE SECTION

Seated L to R

Louis S. Barraza (Recon Sgt),
Bakersfield, Cal. - unlocated
Lt Herbert W. "Woody" Tompkins,
(Recon Off), Miami, Fla.
Capt Murray H. Cunningham (S-2),
Metairie, La.
Lt Charles A. Doll (Asst S-2), -
unlocated
Edward C. Vickstrom (Intell Sgt),
Ishpeming, Mich.



Standing L to R

Edwin P. Kipina (Recon Sgt),
Kearsarge, Mich. - unlocated
Frank E. Andrzejczak (Driver),
St. Louis, Mo. area - unlocated
Michael Nissen (then Nissenbaum)
(Recon & Bn German Interpreter),
Encino, Cal.
George L. Eyster (Driver), Riverview,
Mich.
Louis N. Lembo (S-2 Sec Draftsman),
Brooklyn, N.Y. - unlocated
George H. Molentin (S-2 Sec & Bn
Photographer), Chicago, Ill.

Note: Molentin is the creator and designer of the Snortin' Bull insignia (1944 when the 254th was stationed in Newquay, Cornwall, England) still used by the present day 107 Engr Bn, Mich NG's

S-3 & OPERATIONS SECTION

Seated L to R

Howard W. Nichola (Bn Const Sgt),
Dodgeville, Mich.
Arthur J. Fournier (Driver),
Buzzards Bay, Mass.
Major Albert S. Wynot (S-3),
Dorchester, Mass. - unlocated
Lt Ralph E. Soper (Asst S-3),
deceased/suicide
Gordon L. Christina (Driver),
Hancock, Mich.
Edward D. Krueger (Bn Demolition
Sgt), Milwaukee, Wis.



Second Row L to R

James M. Bynum (Electrician),
Chattanooga, Tenn. - unlocated
Orville B. Malone (Bn Carpenter),
Manchester, Ohio
Sylvan J. Gerber (Operations Sgt),
Arlington, Va. - unlocated
Orvell A. Young (Bn Carpenter),
Appleton City, Mo.
Clifford D. Densmore (Bn Chemical Sgt),
Detroit, Mich.
Raymond A. Karpinen (Driver), Port Clinton, O.

Third Row L to R

?????
Walter H. Fennell (?), San Francisco-unlocated
Ralph G. Katzenberger (?), Davison, Mich.

COMMENDATION DEPARTMENT

1975 Reunion Committee: A couple of simple words that speak loud and clear. Anyone ever attending a reunion can most assuredly attest to that statement. Dedication! Performance above and beyond! Volunteers unafraid to step forward! That of a certainty - and much more besides. Grateful, deeply appreciated thanks to the following for their personal and coordinated efforts on behalf of the Association: Jack M. Weinert, General Chairman; Ronald G. Patrick, Vice-chairman; Francis J. Menza, Treasurer; Esley Matson & Mark Anderson, Printed Program; Wally Mokszycke, Catering; Sue Gedvick, Ladies Activities; Jerry Hockett, Entertaining; and Rodney Rousseau, Building Mgr and Coordinator. Truly a job well done.

GENERAL BRUCE C. CLARKE

The General's biographical sketch is just too long to pass along verbatim so we'll necessarily boil down his distinguished military career thusly: Enlisted 1918, N.Y. NG's in 1920, Corps of Engr commission from West Point in 1925, various engineer assignments until '41 at which time he was CO, 24th Engr Bn, WWII fame as an armor commander, 4th & 1st Armored Div commands CG of I and X Corps in Korea, CG, U.S. Seventh Army in Germany, Cmdr in Chief of U.S. Army, Europe, retired in 1962 after ranked as the 60th full general in U.S. Army history. Interesting to note that he did not transfer from Corps of Engrs to Armor until 1951. A book review of CLARKE OF ST. VITH, The Sergeant's General, states: "Fate may have brought him to St. Vith. Command of Combat Command "A", 4th Armd Div in the vanguard of Patton's Third Army across France set the style. Command of CC "B" 7th Armd Div put Gen Clarke at the crucial point in one of the epic battles of WWII - St. Vith in the Battle of the Bulge. His offensive use of armor in a defensive situation is classic. It set the standard." The book illustrates why Ike said, "The Army had two great trainers - Von Steuben and Bruce Clarke." An autographed copy of the book can be obtained by sending your order and \$7.00 to: Gen. Bruce C. Clarke, Rte. 2, Box 323, Palmyra, Va. 22963. The Gen, incidently, derives no personal gain from it.

SHORT SNOETS

After the temporary expedient of April past and since fearful of occupying certain s--- lists maybe we can wipe clean by s t r e t c h i n g this issue to a 6 printed page jobber. Besides the pictures and mass of official poop needing circulating has used up a lot of the space nor-

mally utilized for SHORT SNOETS. So, if you are still with us lets carry on with..... the AEF's WAC and WAVES, the BEF's WAAC, WREN, WAAF are well known alphebetical designations for WWII fems in the branches of army, navy and air force. But in the modern day NG's Pfc Riva Suardini is simply one of the enlisted personnel of HHC (Hq & Hq Co to you oldsters) 107 NG Bn - and privileged, may we say, by being our very first card bearing member of the gentler sex. Riva also pitched in, work and fun, at Kingsford.....any rock knockers? If so, Fletcher W. Brodt (H&S 254) is the man to contact.

Phone
(608) 822-6750

Fennimore,
WI 53809

BRODT'S ROCK SHOP

580 8th Street
Fennimore, WI 53809

But for the free plug we'll take ours in suds, Bill, not rocks - nuff in the head already..... "recently received photos from Bob Driscoll of the 522nd gang in for Detroit. Sorry to read 'Taps' for Art Groop and Jim McKerchie. I knew them well - especially, Art." William G. "Tony" Farrand....wonder how many are cognizant of the fact that two Association members have been in the National limelight this year. CPT James P. Dougavito, S-1 of the NG Bn, is a member of the 9-man Presidential Clemency Board following appointment to the Board in Sept '74 by President Ford with the responsibility to review cases of persons convicted of Selective Service violations or given a less than desirable discharge from the military. Or, from the extensive news coverage, recognized federal Judge Frank J. Battisti, presiding over the Kent State University shooting trial, as Pvt Battisti, a one-time member of Co C 254th.....informed that Doug Williamson engineered phone contact with Carl N. Santo in far away Vermont (both Co C 254). Doug, between pulling molars and a side business, is always a sure-fire contact for any information needed out of the Grand Rapids, MI. area the last being a complete address on Burdette R. Hayner (H&S 254) to satisfy the Hastings, Mich. postoffice.....welcome and profitable response from long time member John (NMI) Mather (Co A 112), Closter, N.J. who at last report is pulling duty as the Personnel Director of the Rockefeller Center in New York Citynot even enuf for a good snort and the accumulation of news gets larger instead of diminishing. Good situation, tho - but FINIS again