



April 1976



Issue No. 19

The "BULL SHEET"

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CALL TO ARMS

"Ten months of winter and two months of poor sleddin'" is an oft repeated, and admittedly somewhat accurate, description of the Upper Peninsula. But even so life goes on and things get done as witnessed by this years' reunion committee who faithfully met at least monthly during the long winter past for the purpose of hammering out numerous and necessary details for the big No. 15 reunion on August 13-14-15, 1976 in Ishpeming. All systems are go and she'll be a big, b i g, BIG, B I G rally, round-the-guidon affair for a certainty. Guess by now that no one needs reminding that the Ishpeming armory is the CP for Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the present day 107th Engineer Battalion COMBAT and the structure and personnel are top-notch in all respects and particularly so for reunion purposes seeing as how thats the topic of discussion. So, if you have a Bi-centennial trip in mind, we can't think of anything better or more appropriate than a shashay Ishpeming way - and if your timing is any good, on the date of August 13th. From all indications, it will be the best attended reunion in Association history.

CRY IN THE BEER DEPARTMENT

Emergency and late rations again this issue but can't be helped. At the time we shoulda gone to press ye editor was caught in the turmoil of early retirement from one job and getting a good handle on a new one necessitating a long year of extra duty - no time even for shoveling the white stuff, work details at home, "3 day passes", etc. much less assigned duties for our beloved 107th Association. So, short, late or whatever, this is it for Issue No. 19 on a crash program basis. Chaplain sez he'll be happy to punch any T.S. tickets from bitches but so far as cancelling BULL SHEET subscriptions is concerned - FORGET IT!

ROSTER ADDITIONS

(Credit due to the recon expert designated by stars). Gordon L. Christina (Co E 107-H&S 254) Quincy Location, Hancock, MI. 49930 (**Clement Cassette**); Frank B. Judnich (107th 1937-42) Copper Harbor, MI. 49918 (**Richard B. Norden**); James R. Johnson (CO Co B 107 NG Bn), 6952 Limerick Lane, Troy MI. 48084 (**William D. Sheldon**); John B. Heaton (Mtr Sec H&S 254), Rte. 2, Box 1655, Magnolia, Texas 77335 (**William A. Martin**). Short list - so don't go accusing this "company clerk" for goofin' off.

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BOBERG, Clarence F. (Co E 107-127th Inf 32d Div), Erie, Pa.; COLOSANTI, Phillip (107th WWI) Troy, Mich.; CONVIS, Max A. (Co C 107-522nd) San Fernando, Cal.; MAROSSY, Richard G. (CO of H&S 107 Regt), Detroit, Mich.; MUVIRIN, Joseph P. (Co E 107 Regt), L'Anse, Mich.; GIESEN, Louis H. (Co C WWI & Association Historian -'63 to '72), Fountain City, Wis.; KARPINEN, Eino A. (Co E 107 Regt), Reno, Nevada; LEARDI, Eugene D. (Co E 107-Co C 254), Iron Mountain, MI.; NIEMI, Charles J. (Co A 107 WWI), Laurium, MI.; OATES, Thomas H. (Co D 107 Regt), Negaunee, MI.; SCHULTZ, Alexander G. (Co A 107 Mexican Border & WWI), Mohawk, Mich. STRUCEL, Michael E. (Co E 107th Regt), Calumet, MI.; WILDE, Donald C. (H&S 107-522nd), Detroit, MI.; RIDDIE, Thomas H. (Co C WWI), St. Helen, MI.

NEW G.I. ISSUE

As mandated by the troops during the business meeting at Kingsford last August, HQ has obtained a supply of the Snortin' Bull decals customized with "107th Engineers" on the blade and the word "Association" under the dozer. At 3 decals for a buck we naturally expect to pick

up a wee tuppence or two to help defray costs although the chief value derived therefrom will come from your auto being a traveling billboard and a means of picking up some long-lost stragglers. Meaning of course you are to lay in a supply and pridefully stick the distinctive emblem on the rear windows of your vehicles. Imagine the eye-buggin' impact to one of the old timers seeing a Snortin' Bull again after these many years. Also required for reunion duty!!!!

T/5 Fletcher W. Brodt, Fennimore, Wis.
Pvt Willis M. Williams (Bike Rider) - Mt. View, Cal. in 1945 - unlocated
T/5 Robert J. Dwyer (Driver) - Shaker Heights, Ohio in 1945 - unlocated

Fourth Row L to R

Sgt Ralph W. Bay - Los Angeles, Cal. in 1945 - unlocated
Pvt Dale R. Sprotte (Driver), Union City, Cal.
Sgt Andrew J. Mezzo, Allen Park, Mich.
Pvt John A. Pinette (Driver) - died in 1967 in Nashua, N.H.
Sgt Elbert E. Abbott, E. Grand Rapids, Mich.



S-1 & COMMUNICATIONS SECTION (254th)

Front Row L to R

Milton L. Werbelow - Bay City, Mich. in 1945; - unlocated
John Halaris - Bronx, N.Y. in 1945 - unlocated
Merrit J. Leaf, Dearborn Heights, Mich.
Joseph H. Clements, Hattiesburg, Miss.
T/5 _____ Jones - no other information

Second Row L to R

W/O Joseph A. Censabella (Personnel Officer), Alexandria, Va.
T/Sgt Erwin B. Klotz (Communications Sgt), Lakewood, Cal.
T/Sgt Philip Cohen (Personnel Sgt), died in '72 in Pheonix, Ariz.
M/Sgt Ynge H. "Bing" Boberg (Bn Sgt Major), Calumet, Mich.
Lt _____ ?

Third Row L to R

Sgt John E. Sukup, Flint, Mich.
T/5 John H. Roland - Dayton, Ohio in 1945 - unlocated

The hoped for, and expected, responses stimulated by the so-called "platoon pictures" was practically zilch. Kinda expected to pick up some new addresses and at least some updated information, corrected and/or new identities. Admittedly though the 3 pictures run in the last issue were pretty complete and accurate. Just to prove that we're not about to wave the white flag just yet, we'll have another go at it - and this one has lots of gaps for you to bite into - even after it was worked over by yours truly, Bing Boberg, Fletch Brodt, and Clem Cassette. Again, if you have any other pictures of the H&S 254 sections other than those run in Issues 18 and 19, you are directed herewith to shoot them in for Issue No. 20 - identified of course to the best of your knowledge and record. If none are forthcoming we'll swing into the Company A photos which already are promised by Don Schaal (with names even, how about that?).

SPECIAL FOR 32d DIVISION VETS

Via this issue we are the supporting unit for the 32d Division Veteran Association in their drive for memberships out of our members who served in the 32d "Red Arrow" Division in WWI or during the 1939-45 era. Application for life membership (\$2.00 one time) are included in this mailing to all those that are eligibles according to our records. Kinda hit-and-miss, however, so we're bound to goof on some. If you happen to be one, simply send your name, address unit served in, period served and two bucks to: 32d Division Veteran Assn., 1941 Wisconsin Ave. Sun Prairie, Wis. 53590 for a membership and placement on their mailing list for the most interesting 32d Association newsletter. Believe me, you won't be sorry.

SHORT SHORTS

"Have done as instructed and uncovered a relative by phone. Dominic Stratoti (Co C 254), I am happy to report, now lives in Wildwood, N.J. Informs me he was captured during the Battle of the Bulge - also expressed curiosity as to who submitted his name. Briefed him regards the 107th Association." A well cured Snortin' Bull Medallion to Francis J. McCarty (Co C 112-1121 Gp Hq) for that nifty piece of work out of his home in Philadelphia, Dominic's 1945 abode. Sure amazin' what a phone call or two can do for the cause. If you interpret that as a HINT you are promoted forthwith to the front rank.... "Dues for 1974 and 1975. Hank gets so much pleasure from your BULL SHEET. We know her name to be Joyce cuz we plucked it off the check - and correspondent for Henry L. Frischkorn (1121 Gp Hq)....."My proper name is John Paul White but better known as Paul. I am one of the original members of Co B 107th (Soo) when it was organized in 1937. Later was drafted and served with the 20th, 10th and 11th Inf Reg of the 5th Inf Div. Was in Fort Dix the same time as the 107th and had the chance to visit old buddies from the Soo.....BULL SHEET assists given to Morris E. Page (Co A 254) and Richard H. Wills (Co B 254) in directing them to the proper source for their Bronze Star medals..... a new member going all the way back to 1937 is Richard "Bruce" Norden (Co A in Calumet) who reported: "Had to check with Johnnie "Kay" Kovachich to confirm some dates. Am now retired and back in Calumet after 30 years in Detroit where I had a photography business. Could perhaps be of some help with pictures at future reunions and for any needs of the Guards"..... "Enclosed are dues for Frederick L. "Beaver" Miller (Co A 254) - I did not realize he was in arrears. Sorry we could not attend the reunion last year but hope to next so will be anxiously waiting for the BULL SHEET." Mrs. Grace A. Miller. Another fine example of togetherness... ..for historical, posterity purposes the Association and present day 107th NG Bn is deeply indebted and grateful to Willis D. "Dick" Dickens (107-1121) who all on his own had the "V Corps WWII History" and the "Historical and Pictorial Review of the National Guard, State of Michigan of 1940" microfilmed (16mm) as an invaluable addition to the archives of both organizations.....the missus and ye editor always grateful for the many Christmas cards to gladden our Holiday Seasons. And leave it up to the ol' campaigner (WWI vintage) to come up with one really unique, to-wit: "Merry Kris-moose" - from guess who?.....Guardsmen will be interested to learn that their ex-Bn Chaplain Daniel E. Bannan, Jr., after church affiliations

in Mason, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind. and El Paso Texas is back in uniform again with this mailing address: Chap (Cpt), HHC 1/31st Inf Bn, APO San Francisco 96251.....a gratefully acknowledged letter from Thomas S. Nurnberger (107 254-V Corps Hq) confirming rumbles about his move from Omaha, Neb. to New York City due to - and get this - his promotion from President of Northwestern Bell to Executive Vice President of AT&T Company after various positions with Michigan Bell, Indiana Bell and Northwestern Bell beginning in 1946. Confirmation again that anyone cutting the mustard as a 107th shavetail, as did Tom, is destined for bigger things.....laid hands on a certification out of HQ 120th Engr (C) Bn issued to Leo R. Amala (Co E 107) which summarizes campaign awards and others including the Bronze Star and by GO #103 HQ 45th Inf Div dated 12 May 44 the Silver Starsmall world department: a fellow employee of Anton "Pops" Crnkovich was a member of the 5th Armored Div and the two while comparing notes and looking over the "History of the 5th Armd" discovered therein a picture of the famed Victor Bridge. Pop's compatriot says the 5th Armd was the first outfit rushed across after construction was completed. How well we know!!Exerpts from the Editorial Page, "The Detroit News" giving coverage for the Detroit reunion. Not exactly timely but interesting all the same. "When the Upper Peninsula succeeds and forms the State of Superior, it is possible the Lower Peninsula will bring its military might to bear and we will need stout-hearted men for defense of the St. Ignace end of the Mackinac Bridge. Through good planning, a celebrated, much-decorated military unit is ready to flock to the colors at the Detroit Light Guard Armory. If all members will be present and accounted for and if Secession comes soon enough, the 107th Association could occupy the City County Building by Sunday morning. Well, make that Sunday evening. After a two-day reunion the 107th might be a bit too shaky for full fi-eld service.".....the Wisenheimer Dept. - one in every crowd: "Did you hear how streaking got started? They tried to give a 254th Engr a bath! BY + H₂O = BRANDY & WATER. Mike Fornetti (Co C 254).....Dear Editor: "Studying past issues of the BS brings back many pleasant memories of the old 107th gang at Camps Beauregard, Livingston and Fort Dix. It was at Livingston that I completed the design work for the 107th insignia. I still have the large drawings in color of the several designs that were considered initially. Am selling out my business, The Brodeur Insurance & Real Estate Agency and looking forward to relaxation and travelling to visit 3 children - a nurse married to a career Army Maj (C of E of course), a doctor son and

another in medical school." Alvin J. Brodeur, Lt Col (AUS ret)....."Since Jack is no letter writer, I have to be his secretary. A package is on the way containing a Snortin' Bull plaque that Jack carved for you. He has gone in for wood carving and is a member of the National Wood Carvers Assoc." Rosa Goble & Jack, too (Co B 254). Received, deeply appreciated and prominently mounted in ye scribes office.....

"Very nice to hear from your organization after all these years - and the memory of Iris Huts at Moneymore, N.I. and the bridge training at Wallingford, Eng. Put in 4 years and finished out my 20 with the NG's at Cadillac, MI. during which time I visited Johnnie "Kay" Kovachich who was my plat sgt in the U.K. Also during the years have seen my old Co CO, Cecil F. Clark and Sgt L.V.E. Smith." Harold C. Smith (Co B 107 Bn).....the ice skating/hockey section of the new community and convention center in Marquette, Mich. (Lakeview Arena) is called The Olson Arena honoring the 11 members of the Olson family widely known for hockey skills and contributions to the sport in community, college and professional levels. Yup, our own Allan F. Olson (107-29th Div Engrs-Exec Off of 1110th Engr Gp Hq).....after the preceding was locked-in, the shocking, sad news that Lt Col (Ret) Willis D. Dickens stood his last formation on April 19, 1976. Dick, whose active military rocketed from an enlisted man in old Co B 107th Regt (Sault Ste. Marie) to Major as S-4 of the 1121st Gp Hq projected the same determination and enthusiasm in Association activity, promotion and attendance. He and Louie Giesen, our faithful and equally dedicated WWI compatriot, will be deeply and sorely missed at future roll calls.....another under-the-wire news item of great interest is the announcement that Maj Henry P. Ilenich assumed command of the 107th Engr Bn replacing Lt Col Donald R. Small, who was transferred to the guard's state headquarters in Lansing. Don will also supervise operation of the newly activated U.P. branch of the Michigan Military Academy at K. I. Sawyer AFB. BULL SHEET congratulations to both these Assoc. past president and reunion chairman stalwarts... ..deep in the pile of "field messages" post-cards carrying REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE and BENELUX stamps from Rans Blondo (107-112) who, while retracing his ETO travels, visited the graves of Maj William A. Richards (Co D 107-112th Bn) and old buddy, Virgil Fields, also 112th.....

"Hyvaa Paivaa, Ed Vickstrom: Enclosed is contribution for dues, fees and such. Appears to me you are frozen in rank in the Association. Last time I saw Herb Schmidt was when we were separated during the Bulge. Ever hear from Rodney E. Blake our lend-leaser from Stratford, Manchester, England? Tulaan Nakemlein, Howard R. Anttila (Co B 254)." (254's Finn interpreter)



Although not one of the official "platoon" pics this one of the Maint Sec of H&S 254 is pertinent and of interest. Many thanks to William A. "Bill" Martin of Rathdrum, Idaho for supplying same. REAR ROW, L to R: John Reed, Jr., Lexington, Ohio; Michael J. Watchko, died in Michigan City, Ind. in 1966; said Bill Martin; Francis J. "Chief" Shawa, Lansing, Mich.; Roy M. Tredway, Oxford, Kan.; Isom W. Lewis, Jr. - from Orange, Tex. in 1945-unlocated; Arthur J. Fournier, Buzzards Bay, Mass.; FRONT ROW, L-R John R. Heaton, Magnolia, Tex.; James D. Mann, from Bay Minette, Ala. in 1945-unlocated; next man unidentified; Willis M. Williams, from Mt. View, Cal. in 1945-unlocated. One "grease-ball cocktail" coming up for Bill in appreciation if he shows up at this years' reunion as promised.

Do you REMEMBER when you had to MEMORIZE your GENERAL ORDERS?

1. To take charge of this post and all-Government property in view.
2. To walk my post in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
3. To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
4. To report all calls from posts more distant from the guardhouse than my own.
5. To quit my post only when properly relieved.
6. To receive, obey, and pass on to the sentinel who relieves me all orders from the commanding officer, officer of the day, and officers and noncommissioned officers of the guard only.
7. To talk to no one except in line of duty.
8. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
9. To call the corporal of the guard in any case not covered by instructions.
10. To salute all officers and all colors and standards not cased.
11. To be especially watchful at night and during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.

In todays Army they only have these three GENERAL ORDERS for Guard Duty.

1. I will guard anything within the limits of my post and quit my post only when property relieved.
2. I will obey my special orders and perform all my duties in a military manner.
3. I will report violations of my special orders, emergencies, and anything not covered in my instructions, to the commander of the relief.

Midnight requisition from the July 1975 issue of "The 32d Division News". Memory not so good, huh? Reason why no one pulls guard duty at reunions. Until ISHPERING - FINIS!