

April 1986

Issue No. 29

# The "BULL SHEET"

Published by:  
Headquarters  
107th Engineer Association  
Ishpeming, Michigan

Travel Orders Number 25: Personnel of the 107th Engineer Association are ordered to report for reunion duty on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 8-9-10, 1986. Place of Assembly will be the National Guard armory located on Hwy. US-41, Ishpeming, Michigan (home station for Hq Co and Bn Hq, 107th Engineer Battalion). Route of travel and method of transportation to and from home stations your choice. Travel expenses and rations will not be reimbursed. Bivouac arrangements in or near Ishpeming your responsibility. Fatigues optional for all functions; Class A uniform required for the formal banquet and military ball Saturday evening. Scrapbooks, souvenirs and other memorabilia encouraged but not required. One weeks KP on pots and pans for failure to report as ordered - and consider yourself SOL if you miss a grand weekend with old buddies and comrades.

If your sharp eyes and alert mind has determined that this years reunion is the observance of the Association's 25th anniversary you are right on target. Lets explore it further. First off, what is the significance of the dates August 19-20, 1961? Gotcha there we'll bet! Well, to satisfy a growing curiosity Saturday, August 19th was the date of the first informal gathering ever of past WWI, WWII members of the 107th and its counterpart units, discharged post-WWII Guardsmen together with the then rostered active Guardsmen. The underlying purpose was to explore the possibility of forming some kind of organization which would honor the past and perpetuate the future of the famous 107th Engineers. Following a full day of happy comradeship, the enthused gathering reconvened on Sunday, August 20th for a programmed business meeting. To quote from the official minutes taken at the meeting: "After a brief discussion all those present enthusiastically agreed to form an organization comprising past and present members of the 107th Engineers and its counterparts as recommended by Colonel Austin Lindberg. The chairman then presented candidates for various offices as recommended by the nominating committee." After the election of officials the minutes are further recorded as follows: "Motion was made that the officers and board members should formulate a set of by-laws to include dues and membership requirements to be prepared and submitted to the delegates at the next business meeting of the Association. This motion was supported and passed." With that mandate we were off and running. The fact that a hopeful dream blossomed into vivid reality far beyond anyone's expectation is now history. W.O. Leonard L. Lorge, presently on active duty with the 507th Engineer N.G. Bn., and the appointed secretary on the first reunion committee, very graciously consented to whip up from memory a summary of events leading up to the memorable weekend of August 19-20, 1961. Here is Len's report:

"Within the 107th Engineers there is always the presence of an honored past." Those words were from the mind of the then Lt Col Leonard C. Ward (Co A 107 Regt-1121 Engr Gp Hq), commander of the 107th N.G. Battalion when I became associated with it. He knew quite correctly that unless the traditions, and the merriment, of the organization were passed on and instilled in new members we would become a group of old-timers with no one to keep the spirit alive. Having worked in a small museum in my youth, the basic interest in history was there. However, it found a real release upon joining the 107th, for they had an almost century-old lineage with little being done about it. My desire to work with it found ready acceptance among men of the 254th as well as local veterans groups across the U.P. Soon a History Room had blossomed in the old Ishpeming armory. Just when we were bulging at the seams, the armory was completely destroyed in a mid-winter fire, taking so many emblems and souvenirs of the past with it. When we moved into the new armory and got settled, the old history bug bit me again, and a small historical display sprouted.



But this time the lesson had been learned that "things" would not last long and we should concentrate our efforts on the people who had served in the 107th. I made the suggestion to Col Austin E. Lindberg, Col Ward's successor, that it would be quite an event to sponsor a reunion of all members of the battalion, past and present. Of course, Austy saw this not only as a great gesture to our old friends, but as an Engineer Party the likes of which we had not seen before. And the support came from everywhere - Moose LaCombe, Henry Warth, Frank Matthews, Ed Kohn, Bing Boberg, Vern Rousseau, Ed Doyle, Sam Dubow, Dick Pascoe, Bill Sheldon, Bruce Bureau, Garfield Kintgen, Len Ward, Tux Wernholm, Harry Beeby, Ed Vickstrom, and so many more; all would attend and bring others with them. The Red Arrow Club of Negaunee was behind us, the WWI Drum & Bugle Corps of the Soo also gave support. And our sister battalion in the U.P., the old 300th AAA, had a big piece of real estate that held a lot of members and they too publicized the event, not knowing that one day soon the entire U.P. would be all Engineers including the 300th. It was well underway to being "Good as Done". Our newspaper articles, invitations to Veteran's groups, notices in publications, and certainly not least, the prestige of the 107th in the State brought soldiers, kids and veterans together from all over. We tried to have areas in the Marquette armory where groups could gather and hear music of the times - "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" played in one room and "The Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" sounded from another. Unforseen to us as we planned the event was the terrific reception that going through a chow line would get from the guys and gals alike. Nor did we realize that true to Engineer form, the party would start on Thursday when the first eager beavers showed up at the armory instead of on Saturday as expected. While no one expected the next one would be quite the same, everyone wanted to keep them as an annual event. And although each armory, each group of officers in charge, lend their own special touch, I know it has been the hand of the secretary, Ed Vickstrom, that has made it possible. His mailing list from old records and rosters research and personal contacts and publishing the BULL SHEET has enabled both the old vets and the new guardsmen to enjoy a fine comradeship. I take pride in the fact that an idea could put to work the talents of so many fine people, and produced an Association that, for one grand weekend each year, lets the hearty Engineers of the Argonne/Alsace mingle with the valiant men from Normandy/Rhineland and all in the camp of those unsung guys who carry on today in the 107th National Guards. It is in such an Association as we now enjoy that the honored past of the 107th is in good hands.



#### CHARTER ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS (1961-1962)

##### Seated L to R

Permanent Director: Lt Col Austin E. Lindberg (Bn CO) - died 10-17-69; 3 Yr. Director: Lt Col (Ret) William F. Milford (Co E 107 Regt-Bn CO when Bn reorganized in 1946) - died 5-25-71; 1 Yr. Director: Mort C. Plowe (Co A 107 Regt WWI) - died 9-31-66; 2 Yr. Director: (Major) Allan F. Olson (Co D 107 Regt-Exec. O of 1110th Engr Gp); 4 Yr. Director: T/Sgt Leo R. Hirvela (HHC 107 NG Bn)

##### Standing L to R

President: Oral J. "Moose" LaCombe (Co C 107 Regt WWI); Treasurer: Henry A. Warth (Co A 107 Regt WWI) - died 9-7-67; Secretary: Edward C. Vickstrom (Co D 107 Regt-H&S 254); Vice President: 1st Sgt Yngve H. "Bing" Boberg (Co E 107 Regt-H&S 254-Co A 107 NG Bn)

##### Not on Picture

Historian: B. Gen. Leonard C. Ward (Co A 107 Regt-1121 Engr Gp Hq-CO of 107 NG Bn)

#### RECOGNITION TO BARAGA

Always an annual feeling of almost hopeless inadequacy trying to express a well deserved tribute to the past years reunion committee for another job well done. Imagine what a relief to get a copy of this unsolicited but obviously heartfelt commendation out of the ranks. A commendation expressing so completely the feelings of everyone, I'm sure, front and center for that reunion - in numbers totally unexpected incidently. A letter addressed to: Detachment 1, Co A 107th Engineer Combat Battalion, Michigan National Guards, Baraga, Michigan; 1st Lt R.J. Westman and ALL OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL Gentlemen: Congratulations and sincere thanks for your excellent and most successful 24th 107 Engineer Association reunion conducted at Baraga. When the town of Baraga was mentioned as a potential site for the 1985 reunion at our meeting



\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* T A P S \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

NEWQUAY, CORNWALL SPECIAL

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* BOSTWICK, Stanley R. (H&S 254), Sutton, Mass \*  
\* COUSINEAU, Bonard J. (107 Regt-Plt Sgt Co A \*  
\* 254), Cooks, Mich.; DELANEY, Claude R. \*  
\* "Randy" (Co B 107 Regt), Grand Rapids, MI \*  
\* EVANS, Jr., Percy (post war 254), Negaunee, \*  
\* Mich.; GLASSON, Daniel A. (Co B 107 Regt- \*  
\* 522 Engr Co), Burton, Mich.; GRIFFIN, Virgil \*  
\* S. "Ky" (Co C 107 Regt-522 Engr Co), Prince- \*  
\* ton, Kentucky; HART, Joseph C. (Co A 107 \*  
\* Regt WWI), Hubbell, Mich.; JONES, Clydus E. \*  
\* (T/Sgt H&S 254), Conroe, Texas; JULIAN, \*  
\* Bernard E. "Barney" (107 Regt-522 Engr Co) \*  
\* KENNEY, Walter K. (Mess Sgt Co D 107 Regt) \*  
\* Sterling, Ill; MATHISEN, Warren R. "Whitey" \*  
\* (Co A 254), Lakewood, Cal.; MITCHELL, Vir- \*  
\* gil C. (112 Regt-1121 Gp Hq), LaPlata, Mo. \*  
\* MONTICELLO, Joseph B. (Co E 107 Regt), Han- \*  
\* cock, Mich.; OCKERBY, Donald L. "Red" (107 \*  
\* Regt-H&S 254), Pontiac, Mich; PAQUETTE, \*  
\* Arthur J. (Co E 107 Regt), Lake Linden, MI \*  
\* PICOTTE, Irving R. (Co F 107 Regt), Calumet, \*  
\* Mich; REED, Raymond D. "Bill" (Co B 254) \*  
\* Sac City, Iowa; ROWE, William H. (HHC 107 \*  
\* NG Bn), Marquette, Mich.; SAARANEN, Jr., \*  
\* Enoch (Co D 107 Regt-Co B 254), Westland, \*  
\* Mich; SHEA, William P. "Billy" (Co D 107 \*  
\* Regt-Co B 254), Marquette, Mich; SMITH, \*  
\* Frank F. W. "Snuffy" (Co B 107 Regt-522nd) \*  
\* Sault Ste. Marie, Mich; WILLIAMS, Ed - \*  
\* gar C. (107 Regt-Co A 254), Leesburg, Fla. \*  
\* WARNER, Earle D. (Co A 107 WWI), Chassell, \*  
\* Mich. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

-----  
in Kingsford, we all heard such remarks as,  
"Where in the hell is Baraga." "Boy, they sure  
blew it for 1985." Let me assure you, every-  
one now knows where Baraga is and they will re-  
member it for always. You troops blew it al-  
right. You blew it sky-high and it exploded  
like a Fourth of July fireworks. You all have  
every right to brag of your ability to conduct  
this affair. Everything was just fabulous.  
The food, the spotless armory, music, decora-  
tions, ceremony and the attention to all of the  
small details right down to flowers for the  
ladies. That, as far as I know, was a first  
and the girls appreciated it.

Sincere thanks, /s/ Rans J. Blondo (107-112)  
6103 Lakeshore Rd., Lexington, Mich. 48450

AMEN, and many many thanks, Rans! The gang  
there did themselves proud in all respects and  
we can look forward to being invited back to  
Baraga one of these fine years.

It all started with this "Locator File" notice  
in a military publication which alert Guardsmen  
brought to ye' editor's attention. "Anyone who  
was billeted in Newquay, Cornwall, England be-  
fore the Normandy invasion, particularly with  
the 112th and 254th Engineer Combat Battalions  
and the 1121st Combat Group contact: Sid. G.  
Green, 66 Chosen Drive, Churchdown, Gloucester  
GL3 2QT, England." After sitting on it for  
several weeks mulling over the various possi-  
bilities involved, curiosity finally prevailed  
and a non-committal note as follows was mailed  
to Mr. Green: "I have noted the Locator File  
notice (photocopy of same enclosed) regarding  
the pre-invasion billeting of identified units  
in Newquay, Cornwall. If you will inform me as  
to the nature of your inquiry, I may be in a  
position to assist you." At this point maybe  
something of great Association interest or,  
conversely, maybe a situation best left unack-  
nowledged and buried. A prompt response from  
Mr. Green erased all doubts per these quotes  
from his letter: "During WWII, I was evacuated  
as a school boy from London to Newquay. There  
I was living in the house next to the Garth  
Hotel where some of the V Corps Engineers were  
billeted. I and my pals became friendly with  
the GI's in the Garth and other hotels and used  
to do odd jobs for them, run errands, etc. Over  
the years I often thought about the V Corps En-  
gineers and wondered what happened to them and  
where they went on leaving Newquay so I started  
to do some research. As I slowly gathered in-  
formation I became very proud of the part that  
you and your colleagues took in the liberation  
of Europe. I now know (from Military Archives  
Div., Washington D.C.) that the GI's in Newquay  
were the 1121st Engr Group Hq, 112th, 254th and  
possibly the 146th battalions. I would like  
very much to fill in a number of gaps in my  
knowledge such as: What battalion you were  
with and what hotels its companies occupied; do  
you know the names of any of the other hotels  
in Newquay where the V Corps engineers stayed?  
I know that the 1121st Gp Hq was in the Barrow-  
fields Hotel. Do you know which outfit was in  
the Garth?" For starters Sid was informed that  
H&S 254 was billeted in the Mount Wise Hotel.  
After initial contact in early 1985, Sid has  
most generously sent ye' editor lots of inform-  
ation about Newquay in general and in turn was  
sent copies of all 28 issues of the BULL SHEET,  
HISTORY OF THE 107th ENGINEERS and a Snortin'  
Bull cap. He is also in touch with others from  
the 112th and 254th including Col C. F. Stowell  
the 112th CO, and has received some information  
from those contacted. So, if your good memory  
still retains any items of helpful information  
shoot it in and we'll pass it along to Sid. Al-  
most ashamed to admit that ye' editor doesn't



remember the hotel where the 254 had its Bn Hq CP - helluva thing for an S-2 Section member to admit but dammit that was 43 years ago!



Mount Wise Hotel and aerial view of Newquay today - from brochure sent by Sid Green

Of interest to Maj Fred Stonehouse, author of the HISTORY OF THE 107th ENGINEERS. Having also received a copy from John O. Lund (Co B 254) Sid donated one to the Imperial War Museum in London whose mammoth collection of military publications are made available to researchers.

#### ROSTER ADDITIONS

Recognition and a Snortin' Bull Medallion to  
(\*\* \*\*\*)

Robert E. Wiley (Co A 254), P.O. Box 176, Soap Lake, WA 99851 (\*\*Vet. Mag.\*\*); Joseph F. Olinick (2nd Plat Co B 254), 2601 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, Del. 19810 (\*\*DAV Mag.\*\*); Harry Lythgoe (Co B 107 Bn), 611 Fisher Ave., Rockford, IL 61103 (\*\*Joe Olinick\*\*)

#### GUARD BATTALION ON WINTER MANEUVERS

In a radical departure from usual practice, the 107th National Guard Bn this year "enjoyed" for the first time in its long history a winter encampment instead of its annual summer mustering at Camp Grayling located in Lower Michigan. With some reservations but with lots of enthusiasm over the welcome change from routine, the battalion departed for Camp Ripley, Minnesota on a 2 day motor convoy movement Feb. 22 nd. After one week's training in camp the troops went afield for the second before returning to home stations in Ishpeming & Marquette (Bn Hq & HHC), Calumet & Baraga (Co A), Ironwood & Iron River (Co B), Gladstone (Co C) and Kingsford & Menominee (Co D) on March 8th. Even for the lads well acclimated to U.P. winter conditions, it was a grueling two weeks for men and equipment alike operating in the arctic temperatures typical for the Gopher State. The troops nec-

essarily were equipped at Ripley with non-TE winter equipment such as skis for their days and training afield highlighted by small unit tactics under the new MILES concept (more about MILES next issue). From all reports, the battalion, under the command of LTC James P. Dougovito, dispatched its unusual mission in typically fine fashion. And much wiser for the experience. Should be interesting come reunion time swapping tall tales about Camp Ripley in '86 versus the Ardennes in '44 but one thing for sure - cold is cold and snow is snow no matter when or where. But, bettcha the Ripley chow was a helluva lot better and hotter tho!

#### 254th to THIRD ARMY

Ever wondered how come the 254 ended up in Patton's Third Army at war's end after full time First Army assignment? This excerpt reprint from the "VFW Magazine": With what was left of Nazi Germany cut in two, Allied military leaders turned their attention to what the Nazis declared would be the National Redoubt where they would hold out in the Alpine fastness of Austria and southern Germany. Spurred on by these boasts, 11 American divisions, part of the Third and Seventh Armies, moved on to Austria and the V Corps was transferred from the First Army to the Third to go into Czechoslovakia. The four divisions of V Corps plus two from the XII Corps brought the total American units in Czechoslovakia to six." Was it the 79th Infantry Division the 254 then supported? Only good thing about sharing Pilsen with the Russians was all the liberated champagne with which to celebrate when the "end of the war" rumors finally became fact.

#### "MR. 107th ASSOCIATION" RETIRES

The Association's highly motivated and dedicated connection to the N.G. battalion has retired from the military. But, for a fact, not from the Association. Almost as well known to WWI and WWII vets as to Guards personnel, Major Edwin J. Jachimski was honored at a retirement banquet on 26 Oct 85 which was attended by a number of high echeloned brass and an armory full of Ed's compatriots of many years standing. "Fast Eddie" as he is respectfully known and his long distinguished career were both recognized and honored by many gifts accompanied by laudatory expressions of friendship and respect from officials and section heads. A dinner and dance rounded out the extremely well planned evening. Major J's contributions towards the Association's annual bivouacs in an sometimes official but mostly unofficial Association/Guards liason capacity were always a driving force for getting the job done - and done to Ed's high standards. Like we've often



## BAILEY BRIDGE

stated before it takes troops to have a reunion - and a helluva lot of planning and we thank Ed sincerely for his professional leadership in our behalf over a span of many years. And knowing how he operates it was not surprising that he even got married the day before to his charming companion, Annette, at every reunion. Maj Frederick Stonehouse, Assoc. Historian succeeds Ed as the Bn's Exec Officer. Congratulations and best wishes to both in their respective new fields of endeavor.



1121st Engineer Group Hq Officers

Taken at Nyrany, Czechoslovakia May 1945 - last CP of WWII; 1,371 miles from its first CP near Omaha Beach early June 1944. Photo furnished by Glenn Burghardt; researched but not 100% certain all assignments and ranks are accurate

### Seated L to R

1st Lt Judson C. Schuler, Asst. S-1; Millersburg, Ohio  
Cpt Charles A. Hanover, Hq. Comdr., Warren, Michigan  
Lt Col Gerald E. Feidt, Exec. Off.; Chickahominy, Virginia (Col. Retired)  
Col Robert K. McDonough, Comdr. Off.; died 1985 in Chevy Chase, Maryland (Col. Retired)  
Maj Leonard C. Ward, S-2; McLean, Virginia (Brig. General Retired)  
1st Lt Robert F. Skelly, Asst. S-?; Elgin, Ill.  
1st Lt Dominick Rubeo, Transportation/Maint. Off., New Wilmington, Pennsylvania

Will update if new information is received

Sir Donald Bailey, inventor of the Bailey Bridge, which played a key role in the Allied victory in WWII died in May 1985. Bailey, who had spent most of his childhood making model bridges from pieces of wood and string, sketched the original design for his bridge on the back of an envelope. He took it to the British War Office, where it was accepted in 1941 for a fee of \$48,000. The bridge was assembled from

welded panels of steel linked by pinned joints. It could be carried easily by a few men (ha ha) and adapted to carry heavy loads including tanks. "Without the Bailey Bridge, we should not have won the war," Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery said after the defeat of Nazi Germany. For sure the combat engineer battalions of the 1121 Engr Gp Hq, the 112th, 146th and 254th, were all well acquainted with Bailey bridge erection under many different combat area conditions.

### The BULL SHEET

Vol II, Issue 3, S-2 Section, 254th Engr C Bn, 9 May 1945 (VE Day Issue)

If anyone cares for figures, here they are: This is the 269th week of the war and the 178th week of US participation. Today - THE DAY - is the 337th day of Allied invasion.

Today is the result of the training and fighting of all our men for the past months and years. A day we have had to work for. Only, now that it has come seems strangely like just another day. We feel no differently, we act no differently, we are still the same as yesterday - our thoughts - our thoughts are more free to roam, and sure as all hell they are roaming!

### Standing L to R

1st Lt Harold W. Lomax, Asst. S-4; unlocated - last known in Culver, Indiana  
Maj Charles E. Howard, S-3; McKeesport, Penn.  
Cpt John M. Bailey, Chaplain; died 1981 in Waco, Texas (retired Methodist minister)  
1st Lt Glenn H. Burghardt, S-1; Greenwood, S.C.  
Cpt Abraham Geisner, Dentist; unlocated - last known in Yonkers, N.Y.

### Not on Photo

Maj Willis D. Dickens, S-4; died 1976 in McFarland, Wisconsin

Perhaps others also - but have no information at this time



## SHORT SNORTS

Ed: "I goofed up and took a job with my band for a 50th class reunion on the 10th of August - don't know what I was thinking of. I will have to stay healthy for next year." Americo "Amy" Metro (H&S 254) - our roving troubadour at most reunions. And keep the squeeze box in tune too Amy!.....one of a number of Co C 254 men. cap -

"We exist to help those who cannot help themselves"



### AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR, INC. North Central Ohio Chapter

Ray Luczyk  
Jr. Vice Commander  
Akron & Vicinity Area

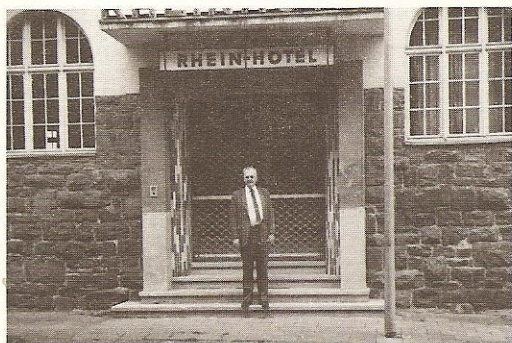
702 Jason Ave.  
Akron, Ohio 44314  
(216) 753-4972

tured during the Battle of the Bulge. This calling card tells us that Ray's experiences as a PW are not dead and buried.....a note informing you why we won't be at Baraga. We are leaving the area - in fact Michigan. Our plans are to settle in S.C. Too much cold and long winters here to cope with. Please pass along our good byes to the membership. Alger and Evelyn Strickling (Band 107 Regt). Excused for reunions, ol' buddy, but that's all....."Hope to see you in a year or two", Henry L. Crews (Co C 254), Willits, Cal..Seconds for Hank after '80 Marquette, reunion.....Question in Issue No. 28 "Anyone know what NAAFI (British Army canteens) stands for?" Navy, Army, Air Force Institute we are informed by Harold C. Smith (Co B 254) - also Sid Green, England.....joyful sight seeing Robert E. Wiley and Paul Van Able re-united after 40 years. Paul all the way from L'Anse, 3 miles, and Bob from Soap Lake, Wash. close to 2,000. Both in the same Co A 254 squad they shared a now humorous recollection. Picture if you will: Days of weary, dreary winter maintenance on Ardennes MSR forest roads; C's, K's and 10-in-ones for many monotonous meals. BUT, happiness in the form of tender venison steaks from a roebuck downed by a sneaky M-1 round; energetic scraping and scouring a rusty piece of metal to serve as an emergency frying pan over an open fire; other supplies somehow dug up or scrounged to round out a feast. "Who knows how to make gravy" as the savory steaks sizzle in their mouth watering juices - "I can" volunteers Bob, who proceeds to masterfully whip up a flour, water, salt and pepper mix. But, horrors, proceeds to slop out the flavorful meat juices before anyone realized what he was doing. "I coulda killed him," stated Paul - now with a smile.....an old timer out of H&S

and one of the many 107 Regiment's trained engineers wasted to the 127th Infantry, 32d Division, is Raymond T. Bonney (Bonikowski) who checks in from a St. Clair Shores, Mich. address.....all pre-registered for Baraga duty but unfortunately ended up on sick call and had to be evacuated to the D.J. Jacobetti Michigan Veteran's Facility, 425 Fisher St., Marquette, Mich. 49855 instead. Yngve H. "Bing" Boberg (H&S 254-Co A NG Bn) is still bed ridden in the facility at press time; body weak but spirit and mind great. Remember what a great event mail call was? Hows about some field messages for Bing to the address given?..... more much appreciated responses from 112th Engr vets - "Capt" Richard A. Grout (Co A & B), Northport, Mich. and James A. Stockton (Co C-H&S & Co C 254 for 2 weeks) who writes: "The Sarasota, FL climate has got the best of me. I look forward to reading the BULL SHEET. Therefore I am continuing my membership." Also, "The enclosed check is for dues and stamp fund; plus a drink for Blondo when you see him at the reunion." Sgt Major Joseph P. Medved (H&S.....Henry R. Snapp (Co B 254) in all the way from Greeneville, Tenn. with newly acquired artificial leg and daughter for chauffeur. To check, he claimed, if we were using the gavel sounding board he contributed several years back (we were) - but really think he had other objectives in mind. And thanks for the chestnuts, Henry.....don't get too chummy with Gilbert "Gilly" Juntunen (Co D 107 Regt) if you want to stand straight and narrow on reunion weekends. A retired master carpenter now turned master vintner - dandelion, chokecherry, grape you name it - always pulls in well stocked with jugs looking for eager tasters of his latest runs.....Joseph F. "Joe" Olinick (Co B 254) and charming wife, Nan, in for first reunion all the way from Wilmington Delaware. And made the long trip further worthwhile by looking up Peter B. "Piston Head" Denofre in Ishpeming and Joseph F. Clabots in Escanaba, and maybe others, while making a sashay through the U.P. Expecting you back again, Joe as vowed. Another Co B vet out of the 3rd Plat with travel orders from Bloomington, Minn. finally breaking the ice after years of making noises was Kermit L. "Marty" Martinson..... even though a Life Member James W. O'Toole (3rd squad, 3rd platoon, Co A 254) still maintains firm contact from San Jose, Cal. Made the 1974 reunion after his "position" was disclosed soon after retiring from the Detroit Police Dept..... only one (1966) reunion to his credit thus far but faithfully reporting he is alive and kicking in Grand Rapids, Mich. is "T/Sgt" Elbert E. Abbott (H&S 254).....response with dues from Lawrence H. Kaiser (Co F 107 Regt WWI) out of Wauwatosa, Wis. a 2nd Bn cootie chaser; the 1st Bn of course from Michigan way back then.....



To: Ed Vickstrom - From: Theodore R. Benning (Plt Comdr Co B 254). "Received the BULL SHEET of April 1985. Its always good to read the news of so many I remember and of past times. Sorry I won't be able to attend the reunion in Baraga as it would be good to see some of my old friends. Am still very active in my construction company with work throughout the southeast U.S. Please say hello to my old Plat Sgt, Donald Duquette, for me; tell him that I think of him often. Give my regards to all the old Co B 254 guys. They were a great bunch and I'm sure those still with us still are great. If you have the address of any of the following I would appreciate your sending them to me: Cpt Ames T. Minor, Lt Ramos, Lt Bonds, Cpl Wilbur Rohde, T/5 Yezzi and Duquette. Drove approximately 3,000 miles in Europe in '83. Found many places where the outfit was and many were still the same although many had changed. Also found the fields and forests where we dug in during the winter of 1944-45."



"Lt" Benning  
at Rhein-Hotel  
on Rhine River



1945 photo of Rhein-Hotel, Bad Niedereisig  
wife of the 254's Victor Bridge crossing  
(photo from Dick Wills (Co B 254))

and with the Rhein-Hotel in mind a contribution from George W. Waldron (Co C 254) is a pre-war tourist booklet touting the many features of the hotel in German, Austrian, French and English. Most of the 254 was billeted in the hotel's "100 cheerful and comfortably furnished rooms with 130 beds" while pushing the bridge across the Rhine River. According to George: "In the upper right hand corner of the hotel, I got hit near my left eye with pieces of wood and plaster when the Krauts across the river threw some shells in the area. Severed a nerve causing a twitch that I've learned to control but the incident never got on my re-

ords because I refused to be evacuated because we needed all hands for the bridge job. Same for frozen feet (have 4 dead toes) picked up in the Bulge - all my records with the 376th were lost so I've never been able to establish a claim." George joined the 254 from a hospital in Liege, Belgium after long service, including Ireland and Cornwall stations, with the 376th AAA, 9th Inf. Div. Trained ack ack man direct to the Engineers - makes sense! On disability for quite some time, his home station is Soquel Cal.....To Whom it May Concern: "It is with sadness and regret that I must tell you that my husband Daniel A. Glasson (Co B 107 Regt-522d) went on to his eternal reward on 4-10-85 after a year's battle with colon cancer. In spite of pain he was brave and uncomplaining and never lost his sense of humor. As you who were his buddies know, he was quite a fella. He always waited for the BULL SHEET and I'm sure he has every copy ever received squirreled away with his other treasures. He would tell me about some brave or noteworthy or some nonsense associated with each name he recognized." Joyce Glasson.....it was M/Sgt Jack R. Woodruff (H&S) when the 107th Regt entrained for Ft. Dix in 1942. In a first time, and most welcome response from the old sarge he brings us up to date with this concise note: "Semi-retired in Sarasota, Fla.; 4-way by-pass but still going; left at Dix when 1/2 of the 107th went to Ireland; 5th class OCS; to Africa and Italy w/21st Aviation Engr Regt; hello to everyone..... pleasant surprise last Aug. 1st having Heinz K. "Bo" Bollenbacker stop at the office for a nice chat after first checking in at the Ishpeming armory. A re-up after WWII, Heinz retired from the Air Force in 1968 with 23 years service. An extensive world-wide traveler and has revisited his birthplace in Altenglan, Germany many times (left Germany when 3 years old). According to his recollection, Co C 254 occupied a Trelawny Hotel in Newquay - any confirmations on this?.. "It is with deep sorrow that I must inform you of the death of Warren "Whitey" Mathisen (Co A 254) on May 26, 1985. At the services I was presented with a flag and taps were played. If I am proud of anything that Warren did it was that he served his country well. We had wonderful memories of our trip to the Soc reunion in 1978. Warren always enjoyed the BULL SHEET and read every inch of it." Pat Mathisen, wife ..... "The lost is found again. Sorry to miss the last reunion but will try and make the next one. I was in Indiana for almost 2 years but know that is no excuse for not letting you all know. I am back home in Horse Shoe Bend, Ark. now - my address is still the same. If there was any news from you, it was not forwarded to me. I am retired now but I haven't layed down yet." Keith "Red" Manley (Co C 254).....

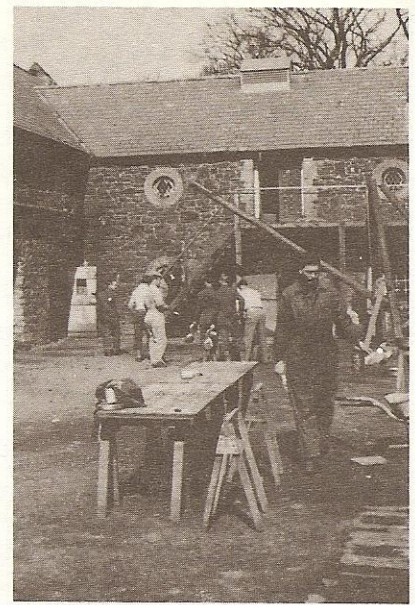


and speaking of retirements ye' editor also dumped it totally as of 3-1-86. First thing on the skadollie was B.S. No. 29 and '86 reunion notices for early April mailing in order to clear the decks for a 2 week trip to New York and places presently unknown there and back. So much fun doing a B.S. liesurely and not in a state of panic, we'll crank out an extra page this time to celebrate - assuming that you are still hanging in there....."We want to tell you how much we enjoyed meeting all the old buddies at the Kingsford reunion. It was my first such experience but not the last. Would like to know how I can get a picture of the USS George F. Elliott." Paul Podnar (Co A 254) now from Crystal Falls, Mich.....now, lets together share something absolutely beautiful guaranteed to bring a lump in the throat and tear to the eye- Dear Sirs: "Since I received by Largngectomy surgery in Aug. of '83 my health continued to deteriorate until I expired Feb. 17, 1985 at the V.A.M.C. in Des Moines, Iowa. I was the victim of squamous carcinoma from which I could not recover. So this is my 'goodby' to the fellows left, and a hopeful 'hello' to those who went on before me. Hope those who can attend the coming reunion have a wonderful and successful get-to-gether. I have always wanted to attend just 'one', and always promised myself 'the next one I will go'; however, now my chance is gone. To all who can, and want to make it, be sure and do so before its too late. Best regards to all always," Sgt Raymond D. "Bill" Reed (3rd Plat, Co B 254) by: Jeanne A. Reed, spouse .....

"Pete"s on 'chemo' but the good Lord willing we are planning to make the Baraga reunion. We love that beautiful U.P. scenery and air. Also enjoy the BULL SHEET. Our 11 year old grandson looked it over and asked Grandpa lots of questions, so it acts as a textbook too. Elaine and Lawrence Peterson (Co C 254), St. Paul, MN .....

Hi Vick: "Say hello to some of the guys from H&S 254 for me. I'm still doing OK - will be 73 years young this August." George Molen-tin - one thing for sure, George, your Snortin' Bull creation will endure a helluva lot longer than any of us will....."Retired 3-1-85 from Denver Co. where I was Branch Manager for Sperry New Holland - 37 years with Sperry Corp." Everett P.Sumner (Co B 254). First response from the ol' Hq Plat vet since 1966 but managed to keep right on his a-- in spite of address changes in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, Minnesota, Ohio, 2 in Colorado and now finally South Carolina. Sure relieved to find out that Everett wasn't one jump ahead of the M.P.'s as sometimes feared - and apologize for mail going out to "Summer" instead of Sumner.....picture of the infamous "cannery" billet of Co B 107th Bn near Colraine, N. Ireland in 1942 - the second bivouac for the company after disinbarka-

tion at Belfast. The entire batta-lion was first stationed at Bal-lymena. Infamous for two reasons - the matter of the King's Whiskey Warehouse located nearby and - the contents wherein supposedly was the triggering influence for Roy "Wabash Cannon Ball" Daniel's headlong Nazi dive bombing es-capade off the 2d floor deck.....



"This is to inform you that Edgar C. Williams (Co A 254) passed away on 12-31-84. He fought a nine year battle with myellafibrosis. Though we were able to be back in the U.P. to our Ston-ington camp each summer, he just did not have the vitality to attend any of the reunions as much as he did want to. He enjoyed the BULL SHEET and used to tell me about the guys that he recognized. Yours has been an unsung job all these years and I thank you for the enjoyment that Edgar received when he got the annual news letters." Kay Williams.....an old, faded photo of the Iris supply depot huts constructed by the 107th Engr (C) Bn at Moneymore, N. Ireland. Note the ATS girls invited to the dance celeb- rating the completion of the first units in June 1942. Can guarantee the concrete floors were smooth as glass for the dancing cuz ye' editor was Sgt in charge of concrete pouring. On a 3 day contract but completed in two 12-hr. day shifts so the crew could spend the third in Belfast enjoying Stout and Finest Old Irish.... other crews organized for form work, steel er -



ection, sheeting, etc. also worked on a contract basis. The concept, thanks to officers having engineer degrees/ construction experience and work hardened mid-West men who knew how to work with their hands , worked exceptionally well as proved by the speed of const- ruction and high headquarters commendations for a "job well done." One must recall that the very first en- gineers shipped to N. Ireland (112 & 107) were Combat Engineers - not general service, heavy equipment, truck company or construction units staffed and trained for heavy construction jobs. This situation is recognized in "The Corps of Engineers: The War Against Germany" and we take liberty of quoting therefrom: "On the



BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW DEPARTMENT

A communication addressed to the 254th Engrs from "The American Order of the French Croix de Guerre, Inc., New York, N.Y." informs us: In a recent issue of one of the service magazines, we saw a notice of a forthcoming reunion of your Association. It will be of interest to you to learn that your unit had been cited with the Croix de Guerre during its campaign in France or Belgium in World War II. With regard to the citation we wish to point out that these citations were unit citations which did not carry with them any medals for members of the unit. This compares with individual citations of the Croix de Guerre where individuals of the Armed Forces were decorated for specific acts of bravery or heroism and accordingly would be entitled to wear the medal. As recorded in the name of the 254th Engr Combat Bn in the Order's records: French Croix de Guerre With Silver Star, awarded under Decision No. 246, 15 July 1946, by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation: A splendid unit, which distinguished itself in the Bullingen region (Belgium) on 17 December 1944. It was thrown into a breach opened by the enemy and assigned the mission of closing off three roads of vital strategic interest. After furious combat, it blocked the adversary, causing them severe losses, thus showing the finest qualities of courage and military valor. Now you know!

ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1985-86

- President: Maj Edwin J. Jachimski (Hq NG Bn)
- Vice President: Sgt Danny Garceau (HHC NG Bn)
- Secretary: Edward C. Vickstrom (H&S 254)
- Treasurer: CSM William A. Eckloff (HHC NG Bn)
- Historian: Maj Frederick Stonehouse (Hq NG Bn)
- P.R.O.: Rans Blondo (Co F 107-112th Bn)
- Permanent Dir.: LTC James P. Dougovito (Bn CO)
- 4 Yr. Director: Sgt James Hutcheson (HHC NG Bn)
- 3 Yr. Director: Frank F. W. Smith (522)
- 2 Yr. Director: William C. Larsen (HHC NG Bn)
- 1 Yr. Director: "Moose" LaCombe (Co C 107 WWI)

-----  
whole, the engineers sent to N. Ireland had had scanty training in the U.S. except in basic military subjects, and overseas they had little chance to learn their jobs. They were constantly engaged in construction and was able to give only 10% of its time to training outside of that received on the job. Though valuable, such work did not train the units for many other missions of a combat unit. Thirty percent of the men on one battalion (the 107th) had recently transferred from the infantry, and many of the enlisted men in the unit had never learned any engineer specialties. The men of the 107th at Ballyclare were supposed to be undergoing training, but they were called on so

often to enlarge force headquarters and rehabilitate the Q.M. Depot at Antrim that little time remained for combat training." This situation was slowly rectified as the E.T.O. forces were beefed up with construction engineer units for the monumental task of preparing facilities for the flood of invasion troops to follow. Incidentally, the publication quoted from above is an excellent review of the Engineer's role in WWII. The 112th and 254th are each recognized therein 4 different times. Many thanks to Len Lorge (Hq 507th Engr NG Bn) for sending a copy for the Association library..... well deserved Snortin' Bull Medallion with cluster to SSG Carl R. Schultz who took over the Baraga reunion committee in mid-stream due to transfer of Sgt Joseph A. Brisson, Association V.P. elect at Kingsford. What can we say that hasn't already been said or known about that super weekend? Other committee members who performed so ably under the direction of 1st Lt Ronnie J. Westman and Sgt Schultz include: John R. Maki, Don Bussiere, Peter Olson, Chip Dompier Jim Sullivan, Jim Turunen, Rueben Collins, Peter Bousu, Jim Manning, George Danielson, Bill Vertanen, Danny A. Hemming, John Saarala and Major Ed Jachimski who manned the M.C.'s spot at the banquet....."I will try and get there. Last year my car broke down on way." James Moulds (Co B/D NG Bn) - no problems Munising -Baraga, however....."Every year I hope to get out but every year I get a bit older (76) and more decrepit, so doubt if I ever will make it. Give my regards to any who may remember me." Charles E. "Mac" Howard (Co A 107-1121 Gp Hq )



OFFICIALLY REGISTERED - BARAGA REUNION

- Paul Allen (Co B 107-522) Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
- S. Allen (Co A NG Bn) Chassell, Mich.
- Raymond A. Anders (Med Det 254) Bellevue, Mich.
- Mark Antioho (Co A NG Bn) Hancock, Mich.
- Daniel Archambeau (HHC NG Bn) Marquette, Mich.
- Sonia M. Archambeau (HHC NG Bn) Kenton, Mich.
- Nelson "Nellie" Baker (Co B 107) Concord, Cal.
- Harold Barber (Co B NG Bn) Marquette, Mich.
- Thomas Bardowski (Co A 254) Stephenson, Mich.
- Joseph B. Battaglia (1121) New Brighton, Penn.
- Thomas Beard, Jr. (HHC NG Bn) Marquette, Mich.
- Thomas G. Beard (Co D 107 Regt) Negaunee, Mich.
- Steven T. Beaudin (HHC NG Bn) Menominee, Mich.
- Otto Bennink (HHC NG Bn) Baraga, Mich.
- Robert E. Blacka (Co A 254) Munhall, Penn.
- Rans Blondo (Co F 107-112 Bn) Lexington, Mich.
- Orlando Bongli (Co A 254) Iron River, Mich.
- Matt Bramble (Co A NG Bn) Pelkie, Mich.
- Glen R. Bremer (Co D NG Bn) Iron Mountain, Mich.
- Ronald Britton (HHC NG Bn) Marquette, Mich.
- Alfred H. Brow (107-1121 Gp Hq) Rochester, Mich.



Gary Brown (Co A NG Bn)	Calumet, Mich.	Kermit Martinson (Co B 254)	Bloomington, Minn.
Joseph Buck (Co B 107-522)	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	John Martis (Co C 254)	Lansing, Illinois
William J. Bykkonen (Co A NG Bn)	Calumet, Mich.	John W. McCormick (Co B NG Bn)	Sterling Hts, Mich.
John L. Calcaterra (Co A NG Bn)	Laurium, Mich.	Robert P. McCormick (HHC NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.
Raymond Chartre (HHC NG Bn)	Negaunee, Mich.	Robert K. McGuire (Co C 254)	Centerville, Iowa
Max Closson (H&S 254)	Manistee, Mich.	Arthur L. Millin (Co C 254)	Patch Grove, Wis.
Edward J. Cloutier (Co F 107)	Lake Linden, Mich.	James Moulds (Co B/D NG Bn)	Munising, Mich.
Harvey L. Cole (Co C 254)	Monona, Wis.	James Moyle (HHC NG Bn)	Au Train, Mich.
Jon L. Compton (HHC NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Charles E. Nault (HHC NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.
Anton G. Crnkovich (Co A 254)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Donald R. Niemi (Co D NG Bn)	Quinnesec, Mich.
Warren O. Crow (Co C 254)	Wellston, Mich.	Sylvester Nocerini (Co D NG Bn)	Iron River, Mich.
Dennis M. Cummings (Co C NG Bn)	Escanaba, Mich.	Richard J. Oja (HHC NG Bn)	Republic, Mich.
Dr. Charles Curdy (Medics 107 Regt)	Hancock, MI	Joseph Olinick (Co B 254)	Wilmington, Delaware
Raymond Deicher (Co A 254)	Mercedes, Texas	David Page (Co B NG Bn)	Davison, Mich.
Patt DeWitt (HHC NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Morris Page (Co A 254)	Allegan, Mich.
Francis J. Dhondt (522 Engr Co)	Rumley, Mich.	Joseph Paraventi (522)	Iron River, Mich.
Bennett K. Dondlinger (522)	Darien, Conn.	Freeling Peck (Co C 254)	Coopersville, Mich.
James P. Dougovito (Bn CO NG Bn)	L'Anse, Mich.	Trygve Peterson (Co A 254)	Knife River, Minn.
Robert E. Driscoll (522)	Milwaukee, Wis.	Leonard J. Poquette (H&S 254)	Baldwin, Mich.
Howard W. Duncan (Co B NG Bn)	Ironwood, Mich.	Bruce E. Powell (Co D NG Bn)	Kingsford, Mich.
Donald M. Duquette (Co B 254)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Theodore Rein (Co F 107 Regt)	Warren, Mich.
Robert T. Dwyer (H&S 254)	Thompson, Ohio	John M. Riley (Co B 254)	Canterbury, Conn.
William A. Eckloff (HHC NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Leonard J. Robinette (H&S 254)	Escanaba, Mich.
Lawrence R. Ellenich (Co A 254)	Calumet, Mich.	Warren "Marty" Romain (Co B 254)	Milwaukee, Wis.
George J. Farkas (522)	Allen Park, Mich.	Steven S. Rose (Co A NG Bn)	Houghton, Mich.
Joseph Floriano (HHC NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.	James R. Rowe (Co A NG Bn)	Laurium, Mich.
Robert P. Frazier (Co B NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.	Albert M. Salo (Co C 254)	Ironwood, Mich.
Willis A. Garceau (HHC NG Bn)	Negaunee, Mich.	Lawrence Sapino (Co A NG Bn)	Lake Linden, Mich.
Ralph F. Godfrey (H&S 107 Regt)	Escanaba, Mich.	John W. Schmitt (Co A NG Bn)	Calumet, Mich.
John C. Gorzinski (HHC NG Bn)	Taylor, S.C.	Ted Schneider (HHC NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.
C. William Hager (HHC NG Bn)	Skandia, Mich.	Robert Schneiderhan (Med Det 254)	Hancock, Mich.
Harold V. Hall (Co A 107 Bn)	Wyoming, Mich.	Carl R. Schultz (Co A NG Bn)	Baraga, Mich.
George J. Hansen (HHC NG Bn)	Owosso, Mich.	Robert A. Segalin (Co B NG Bn)	Ironwood, Mich.
Leland C. Hardes (Co D 107 Regt)	Sidnaw, Mich.	William E. Seppala (Co B 107-522)	Soo, Mich.
Albert E. Harjala (Co F 107)	Copper City, Mich.	James Sertich (Co B NG Bn)	Ironwood, Mich.
Burdette Hayner (Co B-H&S 254)	Hastings, Mich.	Aloysius R. Sever (HHC NG Bn)	Laurium, Mich.
John J. Haynes (Co A 254)	Decatur, Illinois	William F. Siebert (Co A 254)	Stevens Point, Wis.
Charles Hendricksen (522)	Brown Deer, Wis.	Anslem "Andy" Simonis (522)	Vesper, Wis.
Matt B. Hirsch (Co E 107 Regt)	Laurium, Mich.	Donald R. Small (Hq NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.
Leonard C. Hultgren (522)	Menominee, Mich.	Frank "Snuffy" Smith (Co B-522)	Soo, Mich.
Edwin Hutchens (Co C 254)	Escanaba, Mich.	Victor "Vic" Stevens (Co A 107-112)	Livonia, MI
James Hutcheson (HHC NG Bn)	Negaunee, Mich.	Earl J. Talvensaari (Co F 107 Regt)	Calumet, MI
Edwin J. Jachinski (Hq NG Bn)	Ishpeming, Mich.	Martin Terzaghi (Co D 107 Regt)	Negaunee, Mich.
Clyde H. Johnson (Co F 107 Regt)	Hancock, Mich.	Edward A. Toerpe (H&S 254)	Mercer, Wis.
Idell M. Johnson (HHC NG Bn)	Negaunee, Mich.	Harvey Turcotte (Co B 107 WWI)	Kingsford, Mich.
Timothy R. Johnson (HHC NG Bn)	Gladstone, Mich.	Gordon A. Usitalo (Co A NG Bn)	Laurium, Mich.
Woodrow W. Johnson (Co D Regt)	Lake Charles, La.	Paul J. Van Able (Co A 254)	L'Anse, Mich.
Daniel R. Juntunen (32d Div)	Dollar Bay, Mich.	William Vertanen (Co A NG Bn)	Baraga, Mich.
Gilbert E. Juntunen (Co D 107)	Bessemer, Mich.	Edward C. Vickstrom (H&S 254)	Ishpeming, Mich.
Charles M. Kabke (522)	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	Robert Walk (HHC NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.
Ronald Kananen (Co A NG Bn)	Bruce Crossing, Mich.	Edward L. Wernholm (Co D 107 Regt)	Negaunee, MI
Earl H. Kangas (Co A NG Bn)	Lake Linden, Mich.	Ronnie J. Westman (Co A NG Bn)	Republic, Mich.
Reino Kiminki (Co A 254)	Mass City, Mich.	Robert Weidenhoeft (Co C 254)	Waukesha, Wis.
Cyril LaBissoniere (Med Det 254)	Hancock, Mich.	Jay R. White (Co E 107 Regt)	Three Rivers, Mich.
Richard A. LaChance (Co C NG Bn)	Gladstone, Mich.	Edward A. Wiitanen (Co F 107)	Hazel Park, Mich.
Oral "Moose" LaCombe (Co C 107 WWI)	Soo, Mich.	Robert E. Wiley (Co A 254)	Soap Lake, Washington
William C. Larsen (HHC NG Bn)	Big Bay, Mich.	Richard Wolf (Co B NG Bn)	Marquette, Mich.
Lloyd Lessard (Co C NG Bn)	Gladstone, Mich.		
Stanley Levall (Co B 107-522)	Kenosha, Wis.		
Kenneth Lindblom (Co E 107)	Baraga, Mich		
Raymond C. Luczyk (Co C 254)	Akron, Ohio		
John O. Lund (Co B 254)	Viroqua, Wis.		

And working men and women of Detachment 1, Company A, 107th Engineer Battalion, Michigan National Guard, Baraga, Michigan