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# The "BULL SHEET"

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## "WELCOME TO CALUMET"

Welcome to the 44th annual 107th Engineer Battalion Reunion here in Calumet. All of us at Alpha Company are excited to host this year's reunion because it is a very special time for us; not only are we celebrating the 44th reunion, we are also celebrating the grand opening of our new state of the art armory!

There will be much work to do to prepare for this reunion, which will be done by many retirees of Alpha Company, their wives, and the few soldiers left here at home. This is due to the many deployments our company is on right now. A display including a list of the deployed soldiers will be at the new armory.

Although we have many soldiers on deployment, we must continue with everything at home, including the reunion and move to the new armory. This weekend is both sad and happy as we say good-bye to the old armory that has served us for so long and have so many memories with, and say hello to our new armory and welcome all the memories to come.

Friday, July 15th will start off with registration at noon at the old armory. The bar will be open so come register and catch up on old times with friends. Be sure to check out all the renovations the township has done to the old armory. You'll notice the women's bathroom has changed along with the old recruiter's office across the hall. At 1800 hours we will snack on chicken wings, veggies, meats and cheeses. There is no cost for this snack, but donations will be appreciated. From 2030-0030, there will be music and dancing provided by a D.J. who will play just the right blend for everyone to enjoy.

Saturday, July 16th activities will be at the new armory, starting with breakfast at 0700. Eggs to order, sausage, hash browns, toast and sausage gravy will be prepared by Dave Luokkanen & crew for \$5.00. Registration will be from 0900-2000 with the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony to be held at 1000 hours (tentatively). The transfer of the flag from the old armory to the new one will be just prior to the cutting of the ribbon. At 1100 we will have the memorial service with lunch following. Lunch will consist of spaghetti with garlic bread and salad for \$6.00. There will be a casino run immediately following lunch so make sure to sign up during registration and be first to eat lunch. This year's business meeting will be at 1300 in the armory, and for the spouses, bus tours will commence at 1330. The casino trip and bus tours will return by 1700 just in time for cocktail hour at 1800. The banquet will begin at 1900 with the Calumet J.R.O.T.C., led by Major Michael Farley, to post the colors. The National Anthem will be sung by cadets while Baraga American Legion Post 444, leads the firing squad. Dinner will include roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad and dinner rolls for only \$10.00 a plate. Music and dancing will follow the banquet until 0100. There will be 50/50 raffles both Friday and Saturday.

Sunday, July 17th's breakfast will be from 0700 to 1000 and will be an arrangement of scrambled eggs, sausage, toast and sausage gravy for \$5.00. Enjoy your breakfast as you say good-bye until next year.

**SFC Jim "Da Finn" Turunen**  
**Reunion President**

## 2004 Reunion Attendees

Allen, Dale	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI	Lembo, Lewis	254E	Osseo, MN
Andrews, Mark	HHC/107NG	Sault Ste. Marie. MI	Lienau, Jim	HQ/107NG	Green Bay, WI
Babb, Carlton	HHC, 107NG	Grand Ledge, MI	Longtin, Robert	HHC/107NG	Iron Mountain, MI
Baker, Jim	A/107NG	L'Anse, MI	Luoma, Bill	B/HHC/107NG	Wakefield, MI
Bardowski, Thomas	C/107NG	Stephenson, MI	Maninga, Frederick	A/107NG	Ahmeek, MI
Barnhart, Erik	C/107NG	Escanba, MI	Marchant, Robert	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Bastion, Herbert	254E	Clawson, MI	Maynard, Skip	ENG BDE, 38 ID	Swartz Creek, MI
Belanger, Art	HHC/107NG	Marquette, MI	McCormick, John	B/107NG	Sterling Heights, MI
Brown, Gary	A/107NG	Laurium, MI	McGuire, Robert	254E	Centerville, IA
Burton, Steven	HHC/B/107NG	Harvey, MI	McNeill, Mark	A/HHC/107NG	Marquette, MI
Bussiere, Donald	A/107NG	Ontonagon, MI	Metro, Tiny	254E	Sault Ste. Marie. MI
Chartre, Ray	HHC/107NG	Ishpeming, MI	Moulds, James	B/HHC/107NG	Munising, MI
Chiapuzio, Jamie	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI	Nemetz, Mike	A/107NG	Marquette, MI
Dahlgren, Eric	C/107NG	Appleton, WI	Oja, Richard	HHC/107NG	Republic, MI
DeRoche, Don	HHC/107NG	Ishpeming, MI	Olson, Dennis	D/HHC/107NG	Kingsford, MI
DeSantis, Joe	B/107NG	Oak Lawn, IL	Paynter, Craig	B/107NG	Bessemer, MI
Duncan, Howard	B/107NG/46 ENG Gp	North Vernon, IN	Perry, Thomas	HHC/A/B/107NG	Roscommon, MI
Duncan, Al	B/107NG	Columbus, IN	Pietila, Steven	B/107NG	Iron River, MI
Eisman, Louis	A/107NG	AuTrain, MI	Ramme, Herbert	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Etelamaki, Scott	HHC/107NG	Negaunee, MI	Reher, Mike	254E	N St. Paul, MN
Floriano, Mike	HHC/107NG	Kingsford, MI	Rooni, Diane	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Fontaine, Fred	A/107NG	Calumet, MI	Rundel, Ron	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Fredrickson, James	HHC/107NG	Livonia, MI	Schuster, Dan	C/107NG	Escanba, MI
Garceau, Danny	HHC/107NG	Bath, MI	Sertich, Jim	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Gibson, Jeff	B/107NG	Iron River, MI	Sexton, Robert	HHC/107NG	Kingsford, MI
Goodman, Darryl	B/107NG	Wakefield, MI	Sheldon, Bill	HQ/107NG	Ishpeming, M
Graham, Chris	A/107NG	Cheboygan, MI	Sheldon, Jim	A/HHC/107NG	Baraga, MI
Hall, Joe	254E	Wyoming, MI	Shirkey, Cal	B/107NG	Wakefield, MI
Hansen, George	B/HHC/107NG	Marquette, MI	Simmons, Jim	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI
Hendrickson, Dan	B/107NG	Negaunee, MI	Small, Don	HHC/107ENG	Marquette, MI
Hooyman, Bruce	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI	Smith, John	C/107NG	Daggett, MI
Houle, Tim	HHC/107NG	Skanee, MI	Syrjala, Maurie	254E	Ramsey, MI
Hutcheson, Jim	HHC/107NG	Ishpeming, MI	Taylor, Todd	B/107NG	Clintonville, MI
Jachimski, Ed	HHC/107NG	Negaunee, MI	Testolin, Joe	D/107NG	Iron Mountain, MI
Janssen, Leonard	B/107NG	Wakefield, MI	Turunen, Jim	A/107NG	Baraga, MI
Jurecic, John	B/107NG	Gaastra, MI	VanAbel, Paul	A/107NG	L'Anse, MI
Kusz, Gary	B/107NG	Ironwood, MI	Vickstrom, Ed	D/107R,E/112R,B/254	Ishpeming, MI
LaFave, Thomas	A/107NG	Escanba, MI	Ward, Joyce	HQ/107NG	McLean, VA
Lakomy, Adam	B/107NG	Iron River, MI	Webber, Jim	A/B/HHC/107NG	Bessemer, MI
Lanczy, Tibor	HQ/107NG/Hq/EN Bde	Dewitt, MI	Wheeler, Mike	B/107NG	Crystal Falls, MI
Lapalm, Allen	HHC/107NG	Baraga, MI	Wills, Bob	HHC/107NG	Rockford, MI
Larsen, Patricia	HHC/107NG	Big Bay, MI	Wills, Richard	D/107R,E/112R,B/254	Negaunee, MI

## TAPS



*Day is done, gone the sun  
From the lake, from the hill.  
From the sky  
All is well, safely rest. God is nigh.  
Thanks and praise for our days  
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,  
'neath the sky.  
As we go, this we know. God is nigh.*



<b>Anderson, Ernest</b>	<b>17 January 2003</b>	<b>107R-A/254E</b>
<b>Baril, Raymond</b>	<b>Date Unknown</b>	<b>E/107R NG</b>
<b>Drummond, Don</b>	<b>Date Unknown</b>	<b>HHC/107NG</b>
<b>Hewitt, Lyle J</b>	<b>12 March 2005</b>	<b>B/107R NG; F/112R; 522d En Co</b>
<b>Luokkanen, Bill</b>	<b>26 March 2004</b>	<b>A/107NG</b>
<b>Kruzeich, George J.</b>	<b>16 January 1971</b>	<b>107th/112th H&amp;S/291stH&amp;S Co</b>
<b>McLean, John</b>	<b>2 May 2002</b>	<b>Band/107R WW II</b>
<b>Morin, Jerome</b>	<b>4 January 2005</b>	<b>D/107R</b>
<b>Sukup, John</b>	<b>Date Unknown</b>	<b>A/107R &amp; H&amp;S 254E</b>
<b>Wapner, James</b>	<b>24 January 2004</b>	<b>H&amp;S 254E</b>
<b>Wiitanen, Edward</b>	<b>26 Nov 2004</b>	<b>F/107R NG</b>

*Taps is our way of honoring soldiers that served in the 107<sup>th</sup> during wartime and peacetime that are no longer with us. We need help compiling this list. If you would like to submit names of our fallen comrades for TAPS please send them to 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association, 900 Palms Avenue, Ishpeming, MI 49849.*

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### An Association Legacy Carries On By Tom Perry

Those of you that have been attending reunions for a while will remember Harold and Irene Hall. He was a member of Company A, 107 Engineer Regiment and the 112 Engineer Regiment. Harold passed away in August of 2003, about a month after attending the reunion in Gladstone. Well the Hall family presence continues at the reunion. Harold's son Joe has been attending the reunions for many years along with his folks. He has continued his streak by attending the reunion in Ironwood last year. Irene was unable to attend the 2004 reunion, but Joe tells me she will accompany him to Calumet, July 15-17 2005. Paul Van Abel, a former 107<sup>th</sup> Regiment Soldier and an active Association member, asked me to write a short article about the Hall family's dedication to our Association. Their dedication to the Association and the friends they have made at the reunions shows just how deep the roots go in this organization. Our Association will continue to survive and thrive because of the legacy and dedication of the Soldiers, present and past, of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association. If you have not attended a reunion in a while, the next one in Calumet would be a good time to start attending again. Not only is Calumet the historic beginnings of our battalion, but we are going to dedicate a brand new armory that weekend. So come to Calumet and meet Joe and Irene Hall and a whole bunch of other new friends too.

## Salute To The Engineers



After being credited as written by an anonymous author, an email from Shannon Radley , informed us that the verse found in the beginning of “Combat Engineering – The History of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion” by Frederick Stonehouse was in fact written by Shannon’s grandfather.

According to “Customs and Traditions of the CME” Chapter 3: *“The author of this poem has often been indicated as ‘Author Unknown,’ or ‘Anonymous’ or, on occasion, Rudyard Kipling. The attribution to Rudyard Kipling is incorrect and likely an erroneous association with his poem “Sappers” that contains similar tributes to the Military Engineer. Research has confirmed that the poem was written by Corporal Claude Albert Radley of the 18<sup>th</sup> Field Company RCE in Canada when he was in England during the period 1941-44”.*

Now the Lord of the realm has glorified the charge of the Light Brigade  
And the thin red line of Infantry, when will its glory fade?  
There are robust rhymes of the British tar and classics on Musketeers,  
But I shall sing till your eardrums ring of the muddy old Engineers.

Now its all very well to fly through the air, or humour a heavy gun,  
Or ride in tanks through the ranks of the broken and shattered Hun,  
And it’s nice to think, when a U-boat sinks, of the glory that outlives years,  
But whoever heard a vaunting word for the muddy old Engineers.

Now you must not feel, as you read this rhyme, that a Sappers’s a jealous knave,  
That he joined the ranks for a vote of thanks, or in search of a hero’s grave,  
No, your mechanized is alright and your Tommy has darned few peers,  
But where in Hell would the lot of them be if it weren’t for the Engineers.

Oh, they look like tramps, but they build your ramps and sometimes lead the advance,  
And they sweat red blood to bridge the flood, to give you a fighting chance,  
But who stays behind when it gets too hot, to blow up the roads in the rear?  
Just tell your wife that you owe your life to the muddy old Engineers.

No fancy crest is pinned on his chest, if you read what his hat badge says,  
Why “Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense” is a queersome sort of phrase,  
But their modest claim to immortal fame has probably reached your ears,  
The first to arrive and the last to leave are the glorious Engineers.

# 107<sup>th</sup> Engineers in Support of the War on Terror

By Tom Perry

The past year has been a hectic one for the Soldiers of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. We have been fully engaged in the mobilization of the Army National Guard. We have Soldiers serving overseas, or on their way, in support of Operation Iraq Freedom in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. On 1 October 2004, we had approximately 400 Soldiers assigned to the battalion. As of the date of this article, we have approximately 200 Soldiers serving in Iraq with another platoon of 29 Soldiers being prepared to ship out for Afghanistan.

Times have changed and the Army policy for mobilizing National Guard units has also changed. In years past the battalion would be called up as a whole entity. At this point in time our battalion has been broken apart and mobilized as five separate subordinate units. We have already sent two companies and three separate platoons to war. We have also sent about 15 individual Soldiers to other units as replacements to fill the other units to 100% of their personnel authorized. We are in the process of assembling a third platoon for mobilization to Afghanistan. By the time you read this Bull Sheet they will be at Mobilization Station at Ft Hood, TX, training before going overseas. The current Army policy is that each unit serves one year "boots on the ground" in country. So including the train-up period before going overseas, our units will be on federal duty for about 15-16 months.

Here is a brief summary of our mobilized units/Soldiers:

1. Co A arrived in Kuwait at Camp Beuhring on 7 Feb. The unit was reorganized from a combat engineer, sapper company into a Utilities Detachment and is lead by CPT Mark McNeill and 1SG Jim Baker. The detachment Soldiers are now carpenters, electricians, plumbers, heavy equipment operators, surveyors, etc. Their mission will be base camp construction and maintenance as well as probably some work with civilian improvement projects. They have about 56 Soldiers with them. Once they are in Iraq, they will fall under the command and control of the 507th Engr Bn, another MI Guard unit. They are in the 18 Airborne Corps area of operations.

2. Co C arrived in Camp Beuhring, Kuwait in late January 2005. They moved into Iraq some time in February. The unit also was reorganized into a Utilities Detachment. They are lead by CPT George Rollins, CW4 Mike Thorne, and 1SG John Smith. Co C is fortunate in that they have an engineer warrant officer assigned to them. His name is CW4 Mike Thorne. Mr. Thorne is a 62 year young retired MI Guard Soldier, who asked to come out of the retired reserves just so he could mobilize with a unit to Iraq. He got lucky and was assigned to Co C, where he thinks he is in heaven, working with a bunch of Yoopers. :-). The unit is under the command of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division area of operations.

3. Toward the end of October 2004, we mobilized the Assault and Obstacle (A&O) platoon. This 40 Soldier composite platoon is made up of Soldiers from all the units in the 107th. They were organized to be assigned to Co A, 224th Engineer Battalion, Iowa Army National Guard to fill them up to full strength. We have been receiving weekly newsletters from their battalion commander, LTC Todd Jacobus. There is a link to the newsletters that LTC Jacobus has sent us from overseas on the 107th Engineer Association website [www.107thengineers.org](http://www.107thengineers.org). The A&O platoon, as well as all of Co A, 224E are located in Ramadi, Iraq. The platoon is lead by 1LT Tom Lafave and SFC Jim Wallis. They arrived in Kuwait on 1 January 2005 and moved into Iraq a couple of weeks after that. They are doing combat engineer and infantry tasks.

4. On 6 January 2005, we mobilized a platoon of 33 sappers (light engineers) mostly from Co B. We have dubbed this platoon Task Force 227 (TF-227). They headed to Ft. Bliss, TX near El Paso. They will be assigned to the 227th Engineer Company from the Hawaii Army Guard to bring them up to full strength. The platoon is lead by 2LT Dan Eady and SFC Mike Wheeler. They flew to Kuwait on 12 February 2005. They are a part of the 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team from the Hawaii Army National Guard. The 227<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company will be doing force protection in Kuwait.

5. On 9 March 2005, we sent another sapper platoon to mobilization station at Ft. Hood, TX. This platoon will be dubbed TF 3-141. This platoon of 29 Soldiers will be attached to the 3-141 Infantry Battalion of the TX Army Guard. Their ultimate destination is Afghanistan. They will be assigned to a number of different Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT). The platoon is lead by 2LT Jason Rolling and SFC Jeff Gibson. The Soldiers assigned to this platoon are mostly from Co B, but also from HHC, Co C, and Co A.

6. We have also had about 15 individual Soldiers transferred out of our battalion to fill up other units. I will mention a few of them here. SPCs Gurski and Cadotte were sent to Iraq to fill two commo slots in Co F, 425 Infantry Company. That's the MI Army Guard ranger company stationed at Selfridge Air National Guard base near Detroit. They returned home in February 2005. MAJ Rob Sexton has been assigned as the S-3 officer for the 507th Engr Bn. We sent five lieutenants to the 1436th Engineer Company out of Montague, MI. They have been in Iraq since January 2005. The five LTs are: 1LT Mike Nemetz(Co A), 1LT Chris Coy(Co A), 1LT Todd Taylor(Co B), 2LT Chris Graham(Co A), and 2LT Eric Pritzlaff(Co C). We also have quite a few enlisted Soldiers reassigned to the 507<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn and 1436<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company to bring them up to full strength.

7. So if you do some quick addition, you will see that approximately 230 Soldiers of the total 400 Soldiers assigned to the battalion are mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

That is all of the mobilizations that we are involved in as of the date of this article. We anticipate that there will be more missions assigned to us, but who knows what.

## Last Days of World War II

### By Ed Vickstrom

The 254's closing chapter of WWII opened with the battalion's departure from NAUMBERG, Germany (Bn CP 10 Apr-5 May 45 while operating the Snortin' Bull Express RR.) This departure was precipitated by the simultaneous transfer of V Corps from FIRST US ARMY to the legendary Lt. Gen George S. Patton's THIRD ARMY. The one-day southerly movement of around 200 miles was the battalion's longest, quickest, smoothest, convoy movement of WWII. This was due to the fact that much of it was over Hitler's marvelous superhighways (Autobahn). Reinforcing Patton's THIRD ARMY, then comprised of III, XII, XX Corps, the V Corps was assigned an offensive role driving easterly into Czechoslovakia. The V Corps promptly captured PILSEN while meeting Russian forces on 6 May. The Order of Battle tasked the 254<sup>th</sup> with supporting the 97<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Upon arrival in PILSEN, battalion elements set up their respective CPs, motor pools and quarters. These were set up in substantial, surprisingly intact city buildings. The men of the 254<sup>th</sup> now realized that the war was history but for the formal announcement (on May 8.) The ever alert Snortin' Bulls quickly got 'er in gear doing their own preliminary observances of the long-awaited declaration. These celebrations were fueled by the impressive inventory of liberated enemy liquor depot, by whom unknown. Many eagerly took joyful advantage of this timely bonanza before the MP's, as customarily expected, locked down the Depot for Quartermaster purposes. No doubt this was for higher-level allocations. Fortunately, the thirsting scroungers had already efficiently performed their selective "midnight requisitions." A welcome addition to the mix was the cheaply available Pilsner Style beer in large wooden kegs. These vessels were refreshingly chilled through underground tunnel storage under the brewery's war flattened buildings. Each grouping did its own celebratory activities while lubricating their pipes with liquid menus of personal preference. Typically, ye' writer's room alternated white champagne with pink while boisterously competing for best cork shots towards an open 3<sup>rd</sup> floor window. It was for a brief time a carefree, loosely disciplined atmosphere. Regardless of rank, who at the time gave a damn? Blowing off pent-up steam was a hard-earned reward for the battle-hardened veterans.

But, like all good things it came to a screaming halt when 'officialdom' took over on May 11<sup>th</sup>. From that date to May 22<sup>nd</sup> the battalion was kept busy working over PILSEN'S streets and utilities and supervising some 3,000 war-worn POWs. This was filled with mostly tedious, though favorably equalized by the uncommon relief from hard labor, assignments. Also welcome were the indoor comforts and 3 hots a day from well established mess sections. A combination of semi-disarray and stalled

logistics made it difficult, if not impossible; to plan and execute a formal battalion commemorative wars-end assembly.

During all the commotion an interesting interruption occurred. A man of nondescript dress and identity was insisting to be brought to the Bn Hq CP. There he forcefully made understood that he was a member of a Polish group that had worked and fought its way westward through German occupied territory. This quasi-military unit occupied several small Czech villages east of PILSEN before the American arrival and just one jump ahead of the Russians. The unit evidently was at the time unknown to US intelligence. The man further claimed that a number of his comrades had been apprehended and jailed either by local German sympathizers or city officials. He pleaded for help in getting his comrades released. Understandably, his claim was heard with some skepticism. This area was Suedentenland, where many locals naturally sympathized with the Germans because of nationality or politics. This was evidenced by acts of civilian hostility directed towards GIs, and now Poles. Although somewhat dubious, Lt. Col. Loren W. Jenkins, Bn CO, nevertheless ordered a Company B (?) armed detail to accompany the man and check out his story. The jailed men were identified as claimed and sprung from captivity.

The next day the greatly appreciative Polish officials invited Col Jenkins and his staff to join them in an impromptu end-of-war assembly. There, Jenkins unofficially represented the Americans and Colonel Dombrowski the Poles. Though hastily organized the combined get-together convened in a vacated farm building. There they solemnly paid tribute to the historical event with heartfelt presentations in English and Polish. Naturally these presentations were accompanied with an appropriate toast. Many toasts. The Pole's own distilled vodka, or whatever it was supposed to be, had a potent gasoline smell. Fortunately no one suffered any bad after effects beyond the usual.

The following report was retyped from a barely readable original onionskin carbon copy. The report was subsequently prepared and distributed by the 1121<sup>st</sup> Group Headquarters. Beyond doubt the unsigned special intelligence report was the work of Major Leonard C. Ward, Group S-2.

Somewhat disappointingly, the tersely recorded entries in Bn Hq's "Daily Journal" are restricted to moves, closing/opening CPS and WPs (water points), and operational things related to work in PILSEN which is additionally written in the "Battalion History" for May as: "During the period 11 May to 22 May 1945 the battalion repaired water mains and utilities, cleared debris and rubble, and repaired streets in the city of PILSEN, Czechoslovakia. Approximately 100,000 man-hours of German prisoners of war were used for this work." The May 27 "Journal" entry states simply: "Closed CP 0700 hrs; enroute to MAILLEY-LE-CAMP, France." It was, indeed, a briefly

descriptive statement for the ensuing 4-day, 510-mile sectional convoy move. With the intention of "recording for the archives" some things of significance-insignificance, interest-disinterest, a time-dimmed memory contributes this account. This account, risking misinformation of the situation, provides a few things beyond, but pertinent, to the actual picture as it then was.

And that's, officially-unofficially, pretty much how the 254<sup>th</sup> Engineer (C) Battalion wrote "Finis" to its last chapter of WWII combat – and paid homage to VE Day – after 5 years, 2 months,

7 days of activation as a unit (15 Oct 40 through 22 Dec 45); 3 ½ years overseas beginning 18 Feb 42 variously designated as 107 Regt, 107 Bn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn-112 Regt, 254 Bn; 11 months in combat areas beginning 6-8 June 44; credited for participation in 5 European Theater of Operations (ETO) campaigns; and 1,372 eventful miles of travel in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and lastly Czechoslovakia, 6-8 June 44 to 27 May 45. This was a relatively brief but significant period in the 107<sup>th</sup>'s long proud history.

#### SPECIAL REPORT ON POLISH PARTISAN BRIGADE

1. The Polish partisan Brigade is billeted by the Czech population in the towns of KVICOVICE, ST ICHOV, NEUMER, and VSEKARY. The commanding officer is Col BOHUN-DOBROWSKI, Polish Army (London Branch). His CP is in VSEKARY. His adjutant is Major ZOMB, British-trained Polish officer who was dropped into German occupied Poland on 1 Sept 1942, to lead Polish resistance fighters. (The major speaks English).
2. The Brigade numbers 70 officers, and 900 men. There are also 33 enlisted women, making a total of approximately 1,000. In addition they are sheltering approximately 200 Polish women released from the concentration camp at HOLYSOV. The Brigade captured this camp before the arrival of our troops and took as prisoners the entire guard personnel, including 38 SS men and 25 SS women. These are part of approximately 250 P/W's taken by the Brigade in their march on PILSEN.
3. Major ZOMB stated that until Jan 1945, they had been active in small GROUPS HARRASSING THE German supply lines, but that after the Russian break-through in Upper Silesia they began to work their way West, not wishing to be overtaken by the Russian Army. However, the Major said, they had never fought against the Russians. They made their way westward through Czechoslovakia, and toward the end engaged German forces on several occasions. On nearing our lines the Czechs of PILSEN asked them to help them take the city. They agreed and were on this mission when overtaken by the 16 Armored Division.
4. The troops are still armed, but as the major put it, these weapons are chiefly of souvenir value, having been captured from their victims over a long period of time. They are of various types, most of them without ammunition. They are ready to give up these arms when ordered to do so, but would prefer to retain them as mementoes.
5. Among the Polish nationals at the Colonel's CP is Madame MIKOLAJCZK, wife of the former Polish Premier. She spent two years in a German concentration camp, and after release, joined Colonel DOBROWSKI'S group.
6. The colonel stated his desire that his unit be preserved at least until he can present it to a representative of the Polish Army or Government (London).

## Battle of the Bulge 60th Anniversary



On December 16<sup>th</sup> 2004, the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of The Bulge, a wreath laying ceremony was held to honor those that served during the historic battle. Pictured above is a wreath laid at a memorial at Bütgenbach , Belgium. The wreath, along side another wreath honoring the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, is dedicated to the 254<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. The ribbon on the wreath reads *"In memory of the Soldiers of the 254<sup>th</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion who served, were wounded, or killed during the Battle of the Bulge"*. Also present was Hans Baumann, a vet of the 12th SS PZ. Div., who brought flowers to the monument to honor the men of both units (the 1st Inf. Div. and the 254th Engineers). Many thanks to Hans Wijers for his efforts to recognize the 254ths participation in the battle.



## Pvt Joe Heimes Remains Reinterred



A ceremony was held July 10<sup>th</sup> 2004 to commemorate the successfully reinterment of Private Joseph Heimes remains. His grave is now located adjacent to the Veterans Plot in the Calumet Lake View Cemetery. Previously, his grave was in an abandoned cemetery in Laurium. The site is nearby members of the 107<sup>th</sup> from the Spanish American War, WWI and WWII.

Private Heimes was the first soldier from the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineers, formerly Company D, 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, to be killed in action. While serving during a 1895 mining strike, he was struck down at the age of 18 by a fallen tree during a storm.

Lakeview Monument Company, Erickson-Crowley Funeral Home, Jenich Farms, Peninsula Products Company, Lake View Cemetery Association, Vario, Michlin, Tomasi, Johnson & Manchester Law Offices among others assisted in this endeavor and deserves many thanks.



*Private Heimes funeral in 1895.*

## Reunion Details

Dates: 15-17 July 2005  
 Location: 15 July, Old Calumet Armory  
 16-17, July New Calumet Armory (*The new Calumet Armory is located on Renaissance Rd in Calumet Township. Turn on M203 from US 41 at the north end of Calumet. Travel 1.5 miles on M203. Turn right on Tamarack Waterworks Rd.*)

For your convenience, here is a list of the motels/camping in our area for you to stay at:

- Americinn, Calumet (906) 337-6463
- Elms Motel, Calumet (906) 337-2620
- Laurium Manor Inn, Laurium (906) 337-2549
- Northgate Motel, Calumet (906) 337-1000
- Wonderland Motel, Laurium (906) 337-4511
- Oak Street Inn, Calumet (906) 337-7337
- Best Value King's Inn, Houghton (906) 482-5000
- Best Western Franklin Square Inn, Houghton (906) 487-1700
- Budget Host Inn, Houghton (906) 482-5351
- Downtowner Motel, Houghton (906) 482-4421
- Holiday Inn Express, Houghton (906) 482-1066
- Lakes Motel, Lake Linden (906) 296-9528
- Ramada Inn, Hancock (906) 482-8400
- Best Western Copper Crown, Hancock (906) 482-6111
- Super 8 Motel, Houghton (906) 482-2240
- McLean State Park, M-203 (906) 482-0278

\*\*\* There will also be limited RV parking and electric service at the new Calumet Armory\*\*\*

### 107<sup>th</sup> ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2004-2005

President	SFC James Turunen	Co A, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
Vice President	SSG(Ret) John Hendra	Co A, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
Secretary	LTC Thomas E. Perry	HQ, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
Treasurer	1SG(Ret) Donald J. Bussiere	Co A, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
Public Relations Officer	SPC(Ret) Fred Fountaine	Co A, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
Historian (Apt)	SSG Ross Stevens	Co A 107th Eng Bn
Chaplain (Apt)	COL(Ret) George Hansen	Hq 107th Eng Bn
Permanent Director	LTC Thomas E. Perry	Battalion Commander
4 Year Director	CSM(Ret) Richard J. Oja	HQ, 107 <sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
3Year Director	SGT(Ret) Joe Testolin	Co D 107th Eng Bn
2 Year Director	SFC(Ret) Jerry Marenelli	Co D 107th Eng Bn
1 Year Director	BG(Ret) Peter Injasoulian	Hq 107th Eng Bn
Secretary Emeritus	Ed Vickstrom	H&S Company, 254 <sup>th</sup> Eng Bn

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION: To Make or Cancel a Banquet Reservation, Please notify the individuals below:**

1. **Before 15 Jun 05** mail the below notice to: 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association, 900 Palms Ave., Ishpeming, MI 49849-1064
2. **After 15 Jun 05** Call the Baraga Armory at (906) 353-6158.

PLEASE RETURN THE BELOW SECTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, **WHETHER OR NOT** YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE REUNION, to ensure the information concerning you is correct. This will also help us a great deal in preparing for this years Reunion.

-----CLIP AND SEND IN BELOW INFORMATION / RETAIN THE ABOVE-----

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ be present for the 44th Annual Reunion of the 107<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association at Calumet, Michigan  
(will or will not)
2. Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for me at the banquet / dance on Saturday, 16 Jul 05, My guest(s) for this event will be  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. *(Please check one)*  
\_\_\_\_My association dues of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5.00 per year or) are enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ years;  
-or-  
\_\_\_\_My association lifetime membership dues of \$50.00 are enclosed.  
-or-  
\_\_\_\_I am a lifetime member.  
*(Optional)*  
\_\_\_\_Enclosed are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards printing and mailing expense.

3. My name and address is \_\_\_\_\_

4. I joined the 107 / 112 / 254 / 522 at \_\_\_\_\_ year of \_\_\_\_\_

5. I left the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

For Those individuals with **Internet Access** please complete the following:

6. My Email address is: \_\_\_\_\_.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Check) I elect to receive future "Bull Sheet" editions at "<http://www.107thEngineers.org>", the association web site.