

COMPANY "F"
108TH ENGINEERS
UNITED STATES ARMY





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COLONEL HENRY A. ALLEN.

HISTORY OF CO. "F"
108TH ENGINEERS, 33RD DIV.

COMPILED AND EDITED

by

1ST LT. ROBERT P. RICHARDS

and

SGT., 1st CLASS, JOHN R. BEALL

APPROVED BY

COL. HENRY A. ALLEN

Dedicated to

THE COMRADES WE LEFT "OVER THERE."



On May 17, 1917, Federal authority was given and Lt. Col. Henry A. Allen, Chief Engr. Ill. Nat'l Guard ordered by the Adj. Gen. of the State to organize the 1st Reg't Ill. Engrs.

One Company, Company "A," had previously been authorized and was but partially recruited.

On July 22nd the other five companies of the regiment having been recruited up to strength, the various recruiting stations throughout Chicago were instructed to assign all recruits to Company "F." Captain Ralph C. Harris was given command, and Lieutenants Ernest V. Lippe and Chester L. Brundage were assigned to the company.

Preliminary drilling was done during the evenings at the Municipal Pier, Chicago, and on the morning of July 25th the company reported here for duty in response to the President's call and under the orders covering the mobilization of the National Guard. On August 1st the regiment was inspected by the Federal Authorities, and on August 7th was mustered into Federal Service.

The following roster shows all the officers and men who formed the original Company "F" which entered the Federal Service on the above date:

Officers.

Capt. R. C. Harris	1st Lt. E. V. Lippe
2nd Lt. C. L. Brundage	

Privates:

Privates:

Ahern, Joseph F.	Benson, Frederick E.
Anderson, Arthur	Blanchard, Frank T.
Anthony, Earl A.	Boemmels, Frank M.
	Brada, George S.
Babian, Simon J.	Breska, Charles E.
Barrs, William B.	Brooks, Ralph P.
Bassett, Howard R.	Brownlea, Bruce
Bennett, Evan H.	Brown, Ray E.
Bennett, Francis H. D.	Bucher, Andrew J.

Privates:

Bunker, Edward D.
Burnham, Horace B.
Burr, Thomas F.
Burt, Albert F.
Byrnes, Martin V.

Carlson, Paul L.
Cary, William K.
Chapman, Frederick L.
Cielic, Albert J.
Clark, Owen C.
Clark, Thomas
Cooper, Louis
Corcoran, Henry M.
Cronin, Daniel P. J.

DeSalvo, Carmen
DeSchepper, Dominon
Donovan, Edward M.
Dougherty, Frank T.
Dwyer, Frank

Elmore, Charles E.
Engle, Charles F.
Erickson, Elmer
Erickson, Elmer E.

Fay, Chester H.
Fitzgerald, Timothy J.
Flower, Ralph
Fridrichs, Richard L.
Fry, Raymond J.

Gale, Earle S.
Gassmere, George W.
Gilbertsen, Albert O.
Glowacki, Antoni

Privates:

Grady, Patrick J.
Green, George H.
Greg, Louis

Haehlan, Clarence C.
Hanley, Michael
Hannon, Edward
Hanson, Arnold T.
Hansen, Sophus G.
Harper, Paul J.
Harris, Stanley G.
Hay, Simon D.
Heilmann, Leonard
Hellwig, Randolph W.
Hendricksen, Robert A.
Herman, Clyde E.
Hoyt, Howard L.
Hunt, Leonard W.

Iwert, Frederick A.

Jones, George A.
Jones, Milton A.
Jordan, Charles D.

Kausch, George
Keenan, Harry J.
Kersten, George R.
Kester, Herbert
Kerkowski, Gustave
Kesch, Charles W.
Kiefer, Peter P.
Kirby, Cyril J.
Kohout, Frank W.
Kreneck, John T.

Privates:

Leslie, Walter M.
Lewis, George H.
Lowry, Thomas
Lund, Fred
May, Frederick A.
Mayfield, Leonard
Mays, Richard G.
Marsolais, Edward L.
McDonnell, Thomas J.
McEldowney, Ernest E.
McGrath, Dennis A.
McKee, William J.
McManaman, Edward F.
Meagher, John S.
Mendenhall, Edward
Mentgen, Martin J.
Miller, Sam
Moore, George R.
Morgan, John B.
Mulcahy, Robert J.
Mulderick, William J.
Mullauer, Edward
Muller, Charles R.
Murphy, Michael B.
Murray, Daniel
Niemuth, William C.
Nelson, Earl V.
Neubert, Fred W.
Nawrot, Peter J.
Olsen, Charles J.
Olsen, Elmore G.
Olsen, Harry H.
Oakes, David S.

Privates:

Parker, Joel W.
Pascente, Sollie
Penny, Thomas J.
Petersen, Hans G.
Polley, Frank E.
Racyk, Mathew A.
Rasmussen, Harold E.
Rathert, Henry A.
Renshaw, Harry F.
Robinson, Louis F.
Robinson, Chester R.
Roorda, George T.
Ross, Clarence J.
Rumsey, Schuyler J.
Ruzich, Max
Saelens, Marcel E.
Scroggins, Elmer R.
Seeley, Earle T.
Sheffield, Stephen R.
Small, William J.
Smith, Virgil B.
Spruling, Eric N.
Stanley, Royal
Steiner, Louis H.
Tanck, Edwin
Tevis, Walter S.
Thayer, Lambert W.
Thom, William
Thulis, Edward M.
VanDorpe, Ralph
Vermeire, Aimie
Wallace, John J.
Wallin, Charles A.

Privates:

Walsh, George B.
Weber, George A.
Weinberg, Wayne E.
West, Roy G.
White, Roy C.
Whitelaw, John B.
Whitney, Ralph B.
Williams, Glen R.
Williamson, William A.

Privates:

Wing, Lloyd R.
Winnegge, Herman O.
Wood, Harry C.
Wood, Harry R.
Wood, Ralph E.
Zak, George A.
Zeigler, Benjamin M.
Zychal, Frank

Military instruction was started at the Municipal Pier, suitable arrangements were made for housing the men and work on the organization was continued until September 6, 1917, when the regiment was ordered to entrain for Camp Logan, Houston, Texas, which was to be its training camp. At this time Second Lieutenant John M. Heath was assigned to the company and Second Lieutenant Chester L. Brundage was promoted to First Lieutenant.

Company entrained at 7 a. m., September 6, 1917, with three officers and one hundred and sixty-four men; arrived Camp Logan, Texas, 4 a. m. September 11, 1917, Lieutenant Heath reporting upon arrival at Camp Logan.

At Camp Logan the regiment reported, as Divisional Engineers, to Maj. Gen. George Bell, Jr., commanding the 33rd Division, and was designated as the 108th Engineers.

The company remained in training with regiment at Camp Logan, Texas, from the date above given until April 23, 1918. During this time instruction was given covering all military operations, and included a large amount of engineering work. The best example of the



CAPTAIN RALPH C. HARRIS.

engineering work done by the company was a wooden trestle bridge 220 feet long and 18 feet wide crossing a gully 34 feet deep. This bridge was designed and constructed entirely by members of the company and was built of timbers cut near the site. The bridge was designed to carry a ten ton moving load.

Towards the end of the training period orders were given for many regimental inspections, the company being subjected to searching examinations covering military work, engineering work and equipment. The result of these inspections showed that on leaving Camp Logan the company was proficient in all work and was completely supplied with Quartermaster, Ordinance, Engineering and Signal Corps Equipment.

During the period of training many changes occurred in the personnel of the company due to men being physically unfit, transfers, promotions, etc. In addition, the authorized strength of the company was increased from four officers and one hundred sixty-four enlisted men to six officers and two hundred fifty men.

During this time the following enlisted men of the company were commissioned Second Lieutenants and assigned to other organizations:

Sergt. Fred W. Neubert	Sergt. Timothy J. Fitzgerald
Sergt. Louis F. Robinson	Sergt. Frederick L. Chapman
Sergt. Earl V. Nelson	man
Sergt. Elmer E. Erickson	Corp. Walter F. Gates
Sergt. William J. Linn	Corp. Glen R. Williams
Sergt. Stanley G. Harris	Pvt. William J. Shea

On April 23, 1918, the company consisting of four officers and two hundred forty-three men entrained with the regiment at 3 p. m. for Camp Merritt, N. J., en route to France, arriving at Camp Merritt on April 28th, 9 p. m. The regiment remained at Camp Merritt until the morning of May 7th, when it proceeded to Port of Em-

barkation, Hoboken, N. J., and embarked on the U. S. Transport "George Washington." The transport sailed at 4 p. m. May 8, 1918.

The following officers and men then comprised Company "F" 108th Engineers:

Captain Ralph C. Harris

1st Lieut. Ernest V. Lippe

1st Lieut. Oscar W. Urbom

2nd Lieut. Philip E. Cole

1st Lieut. William M. Ward

2nd Lieut. Robert P. Richards

1st Sergeant:

Brownlea, Bruce

Sergeants, 1st Class:

Caswell, George E.

Hay, Simon D.

Kausch, George

Kohout, Frank W.

Sergeants, 1st Class:

Morgan, John B.

Moore, George R.

Supply Sergeant:

Wood, Harry R.

Mess Sergeant:

Mullauer, Edward

Stable Sergeant:

Bennett, Evan H.

Sergeants:

Bassett, Howard R.

Beall, John R.

Benson, Frederick E.

Sergeants:

Bunker, Edward D.

Burt, Albert F.

Fridrichs, Richard L.

Gish, Albert R.

Jones, Milton A.

Novak, Frank

Peterson, Hans G.

Rathert, Henry A.

Spurling, Eric N.

Winnege, Herman O.

Zak, George A.

Corporals:

Barnes, William L.

Brada, George S.

Byrnes, Martin V.

Campbell, Gordon C.

Clark, Thomas

Corrigan, John J.

Damon, Ross C.

DeSalvo, Carmen

Engle, Charles F.

Fay, Chester H.



NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF COMPANY "F" AT BREST, FRANCE, JUST PRIOR
TO EMBARKING FOR THE U. S. A

Corporals:

Gale, Earl S.
Gardner, Matt J.
Gassmere, George W.
Green, Harry S.
Hanley, Michael
Hellwig, Randolph W.
Hoffman, Philip A.
Horrigan, Thomas F.
Hoyt, Howard L.
Jones, George A.
Kirby, Cyril J.
Liska, Andrew
Muller, Charles R.
Niemuth, William C.
Nuss Peter J.
Olsen, Charles J.
Redington, Philip W.
Richards, Frederick C.
Rumsey, Schuyler J.
Ruzich, Max
Samulowitz, John
Thayer, Lambert W.
Wallin, Fred H.
Weber, George A.
West, Roy G.
White, Roy C.
Wood, Ralph E.
Whitelaw, John B.

Buglers:

Cary, William K.
Olsen, Elmore G.

Horseshoer:

Brand, Robert B.

Cooks:

Cronin, Daniel P. J.
Donovan, Edward M.
Raeyk, Mathew A.
Robinson, Chester R.
Thulis, Edward M.

Wagoners:

Brown, Ray E.
Clark, Owen C.
Dwyer, Frank
Lowry, Thomas
Muthert, Charles E.
Pileher, Leslie J.

Privates, 1st Class:

Anderson, Arthur
Bengtson, Crispin E.
Bishop, William A.
Blanchard, Frank T.
Blaney, George
Burnham, Horace B.
Buxton, Herbert E.
Casey, Emmett M.
Clausen, Albert
Cronkrite, Carlon V.
Elliott, Robert H.
Frandsen, Frank P.
Fry, Raymond J.
Flower, Ralph
Gilbertsen, Albert O.
Glowacki, Antoni
Gotstein, Archibald W.
Grey, Louis
Grossi, Tito
Herman, Clyde E.
Irish, Joseph

Privates, 1st Class:

Jackson, Byron R.
Kebesch, Charles W.
Kresten, George R.
Lewis, George H.
McEldowney, Ernest E.
McGrath, Dennis A.
Mayfield, Leonard
Moore, Charles E.
Mulcahy, Robert J.
Murray, Daniel
Olsen, Harry H.
Parker, Joel W.
Penny, Thomas J.
Polley, Frank E.
Polacek, William
Redington, John L.
Robrecht, Cyril
Saelens, Marcel E.
Sanders, Norman W.
Schellenberg, Martin H.
Shannon, Raymond C.
Small, William J.
Standish, Vincent
Teutsch, Carl M.
Topp, Frank J.
Vick, Anund H.
Walton, Charles A.
Whitney, Ralph B.
Weinberg, Wayne E.
Wieneke, Obie F.
Wiltgen, Vincent J.
Williams, Paul E.
Winchell, Joseph F.
Mentgen, Martin J.

Privates:

Anderson, Joseph F.
Armbruster, William M.
Appilson, Harry
Babian, Simon J.
Baker Daniel W.
Barnowski, Jr., Adolph
Benrud, Relbert
Bergstrand, Victor L.
Berlly, Sam
Blaha, Joseph J.
Boemmels, Frank M.
Bodin, William C.
Boscamp, Arthur
Brown, Raymond O.
Burns, Ray J.
Burr, Thomas F.
Carlson, Arthur W.
Carlson Paul L.
Cassel, William F.
Christensen, Archie J.
Christensen, Einar H.
Claskey, John W.
Considine, William
Cooper, John A.
Cooper, Louis
Dierkes, William
Eddy, George B.
Edgecomb, Edward J.
Gilsenan, Patrick J.
Glowania, Thomas W.
Godenrath, Emil J.
Gran, Carl
Green, Thomas J.
Gurney, Ben

Privates:

Haire, Fred
Hannon, Edward
Hansberry, Peter
Hansen, Carl Y.
Hansen, Sophus G.
Henry, Edward J.
Hibbott, William H.
Hough, Isaac G.
Hughes, Patrick W.
Jansen, Fred
Johnson, Scott L.
Jones, Harold
Journey, Joseph H.
Kester, Herbert
Kiefer, Peter P.
Konvalinka, William F.
Larsen, Harold L.
Lerner, Harry
Leslie, Walter M.
Levens, Augustus
Lindenmeyer, Alfred C.
Lund, Fred
May, Frederick A.
Marshall, Claude F.
Marxman, Carl
McKee, Harold J.
McKee, William J.
Meehan, Thomas C.
McCollum, Edgar D.
McDonnell, Thomas J.
Mellors, Charles H.
Mills, William H.
Mulcahy, John P.
Murphy, Michael B.

Privates:

Nystrom, Albert H.
Ortgiesen, George G.
Palmer, Joe W.
Parks, Glen D.
Pascente, Sollie
Pasquale, Cesidio
Pelland, Raymond L.
Petras, Frank
Plouffe, William A.
Rankin, Drue A.
Rasmussen, Svend A.
Renshaw, Harry F.
Richards, Charles R.
Robinson, Robert T.
Ross, Clarence J.
Sandberg, Samuel A.
Scholl, Herbert P.
Schuett, Clifford W.
Schultz, Louis R.
Secky, Charles
Sherman, Walter W.
Speechley, Charles A.
St Hoor, Paul V.
Steiner, Louis H.
Stuart, Stanley
Sutherland, Thomas
Tanck, Edwin
Volk, Emory W.
Wall, Stewart Y.
Wallin, Charles A.
Warren, Harry C.
Watts, Ray H.
Weinberg, William A.
Wells, Leroy W.

Privates:

West, William A.
Wiersbowski, Bennie
Wilson, George W.
Wing, Lloyd R.
Young, Walter F.

Privates:

Zasadil, Edward T.
Zeitz, William C.
Zeigler, Benjamin M.
Zychal, Frank
Dougherty, Frank T.

The trip across the Atlantic was made without special incident and on May 18th company debarked at Brest, France, and proceeded to Pontanezen Barracks, three miles from Brest where it remained until May 25th when it entrained at Brest and proceeded to Oisemont, arriving there at 1:30 a. m., May 27th. The regiment went into bivouac and later the same day marched to Tailly, Avesnes and Etrejust.

At Etrejust, the company, along with the Second Battalion, went into billets and remained at this station until the 13th of June, when the regiment was ordered by train to Poulanville. The various units of the regiment were then provided with guides and marched to the various bivouacs which they occupied during practically the entire time while in this sector of the Somme. The guide for Company "F" apparently lost his way causing the company to make a very long, hard march, at last arriving at Manor Copse between Amiens and Villers Brettoneaux.

In this sector the regiment performed its first work under direct fire, which work consisted in the construction of various forms of fortifications in the defense system, being engaged in actual work of organization of ground for defense with the Royal Engineers.

Companies "A," "B" and "C" were placed at the disposal of the 3rd British Corps and Companies "D," "E" and "F," Headquarters and Train at the disposal of Australian Corps, British 4th Army, all under the



THE PRIZE GOLD BRICKS.

command of the C. E. of the 33rd Division. Company "F" was, for the most part, directly under Maj. Lamanbee, C. R. E. Australian Corps, British 4th Army.

The woods in which we were camped during this time was also occupied by one of the heavy tank sections of the British Army, and the decision having been made to put on a little show for the celebration of July 4th, the Hamel stunt was planned and brilliantly executed, the tanks from the woods participating and afforded Company "F" their first "close up" of sanguinary fighting. The interest of the boys of the company was divided between watching the numerous German prisoners coming back from the front and the various games which were played before a large audience of Australians and French; the most exciting one being the ball game with the Ambulance Corps attached to the 37th French Territorial Division then stationed at Boves. The enjoyment of the day was materially increased by the almost continuous music furnished by a neighboring Australian Band. The Australians on this front during, the entire time we were stationed there, kept the line in practically as much turmoil as did the 33rd Division later,—constant raiding parties and artillery strafing made it impossible to locate the actual front as it changed nightly.

During the month of July and the first part of August the entire regiment was busy constructing the final defense line for the City of Amiens, digging a complete system of trenches in the chalk hills and supervising the work of hundreds of British labor troops, and during the latter part of July built a number of improved concrete machine gun emplacements and strong points, being able to make some valuable improvements in the cement work and methods of construction.

The evening of August 7th the company was called together and informed they were to take part in an im-

portant operation that would require all their endurance, and at 6:30 p.m. they marched to the support line through the village of Gentelles and Cachy, at which latter place they were reported to a Lieutenant of the Mounted Engineers of the British forces. Company was held at Cachy until dark and then commenced to fill trenches and open up the bands of barb wire to the front line trenches making a clear passage for the Canadian and Australian Cavalry, 20 yards wide. The enemy was suspicious and restless, and considerable shell and machine gun fire was swept over the Allied positions but this part of the work was accomplished without losses.

Reaching the front line trenches it was found full of Canadian Infantry ready for the "hop over" and the company entered an abandoned trench to await the opening barrage which fell at 4 a. m. and at the "H" hour or twenty minutes later the infantry left the trenches and Company "F" following, started to fill the first line trench. This was half completed when Jerry's counter-barrage fell and we lost five men in as many minutes but the task was soon complete and the company moved over to Jerry's wire and trenches which were found full of dead and wounded Boche and terribly cut up by the British barrage. At one time during the operation a large shell brushed the sleeve of one of the men and buried itself in the earth where it would have cost a platoon had it not proved a dud.

The English Engineers on learning that it was the men's first time "over" praised and admired their grit and spirit and remarked "They will do."

The fog on this morning was so thick that a line of men had to be established between working parties to avoid their going astray. By the time work on the second Jerry trench was under way the first line of tanks, same being males, passed, and five minutes later the

second line of tanks, which were females, went forward, the third line consisting of supply tanks and whippets coming some time later.

Immediately after the infantry had reached Jerry's lines an ever-increasing stream of prisoners began to come back accompanied by wounded of both enemy and friends, and by 8:30 a. m. the captured were coming in by hundreds and due to the swiftness of the advance many officers, some of high rank, were included.

The work was completed by 7:15 a. m. and one division of Canadians, one company of mounted engineers, a mounted signal company and a regiment of light artillery passed over the road.

The initial attack of the heavy Allied Offensive in front of Amiens had many interesting features and the secrecy of the preparations was greatly augmented by several days of wet and cloudy weather, which not only concealed the movement of immense supplies and tremendous additions to artillery strength, but also restricted Boche aero bombing expeditions for which this front was particularly noted and where a clear night meant a certainty of many earth racking explosions, some of the larger bombs then coming into use weighing half a ton or more, and despite elaborate British anti-aircraft preparations and night flying battle planes, much damage was often accomplished.

A stunt tried out in this initial move was to place four extra machine gunners and an officer in each of the large tanks which were to go to a pre-arranged line some miles back of the German front and protect these small groups until they were "set" in some improvised position and then to leave them and cruise back to the fighting zone for supplies and to aid in reducing any resistance found to be still holding out and later to return to the outposts they had established. This plan which un-

doubtedly aided greatly in demoralizing the enemy and cost him dearly was, however, "fini" for the brave men in the little parties, as few of them escaped, owing to the impossibility of sufficient ammunition supply.

The attack was pushed with great vigor and speed and right behind the infantry, heavy and light tanks followed, many "supply" tanks loaded with ammunition, rations, barbed wire, etc. During the swift advances of the first few days following, water and ammunition was frequently taken to advance units by aeroplane which delivered the supplies via small parachutes and the planes were of immense assistance in indicating strong points, bombing enemy lines of retreat or reinforcement and in directing artillery support.

Company "F" returning from its all night and most of the morning job of opening up the way for the cavalry was met and personally complimented on the speed and intelligence with which its part had been executed, by the Major commanding the Mounted Engineers, and the cavalry made a wonderful spectacle going out in the early dawn, in the pink of condition and with perfect discipline to strike terror wide and swift behind the German lines.

The work of this night was divided between Companies "D" and "F," the former one being assigned to the rear area operation and the latter to keep in touch with the infantry and work forward.

The following description of the day's and night's work by Company "F" written by Sergeant Michael Hanley, who participated in the operation is both vivid and interesting:

"The morning of August 8th will always be remembered by Company "F" 108th Engineers, and their gallant comrades in arms, who carried out one of the most eventful and successful feats of our offensive on the Western Front.



FIRST PLATOON.

Heretofore, our experiences had been confined to strengthening the supports and seeing Jerry's shells sparsely scattered in our vicinity, witnessing an occasional aeroplane fight, and seeing our big guns in action. Certain men had been detailed to familiarize themselves with engineering work along the front line and quite a few who considered themselves slighted made stolen marches and returned brimful with news.

Wednesday evening we were informed that a little stunt was to be carried out and that we were expected to do our utmost to insure its success. The unflinching spirit and tenacious effort displayed by our boys a few hours afterwards proved conclusively that they were in it heart and soul. Towards the zero hour, the officer in command, Lieut. Urbom, with a British officer as guide, got the men lined up, put them in charge of non-coms. and enjoined them to show what they were made of. Each detail had its special task and no German shell or machine gun bullets were to deter them from their purpose. Sergeant Hay was selected to establish communication with the infantry; undismayed by Jerry's opening barrage, he soon had a bunch of volunteers—Murphy, Casey, Tom Clark, Wierzbowski and Williams, through Jerry's shot and shell, they groped their way to the infantry position and soon returned, but not all to report their mission completed. Emmett Casey, who had shown unflinching courage and bravery throughout was destined to pay the price. A piece of shrapnel glancing from Sergeant Hay's helmet struck him below the heart. He soon regained consciousness and tried to belittle the event but gradually became weak and succumbed to his wounds within an hour. Casey's unselfishness, socialibility and fearlessness had won him the admiration of all and his name shall ever be endeared by his many friends and comrades. Tom Clark and Williams were also wounded

on this occasion. The other of the company boys were no less immune from danger. Through the barrage they went tearing down barbed wire fences, filling in trenches and building a highway ahead of the advancing cavalry.

The Boche machine gunners were on the job, but owing to a fog in the early hours of the morning they did not meet with their coveted success in picking any big number of us off. We did not evade them all, however; and some of the boys have souvenir bullets that glanced off their helmets or were inbedded in their shoes. Quite a few of the boys were wounded in the arms or legs, and one more of our old pals got a fatal hit from a piece of shell. This comrade, Ross, was liked by everybody. Though of a quiet and apparently timid disposition, he possessed a latent courage which proclaimed him second to none in that night's adventures. The boys will not soon forget him.

A profusion of courage and grit was displayed by privates, as well as officers and non-coms. The officers and sergeants, however, had the greater responsibility. The coolness and courage of Lieutenants Urbom, Ward, Richards and Cole instantaneously won the confidence of the men. This confidence was further instilled by the examples of courage set by Sergeants Morgan, Kohout, Kausch, Benson, Caswell, Jones, Winnege, Rathert, Burt and Brownlea.

Company "F" did its part, and did it well, and a new bond of friendship and confidence has been spun among the boys who participated."

In recognition of the excellent work done by the Second Battalion of the 108th Engineers while in this sector, the following letter was received by the Commanding General 33rd Division from H. W. Higginson, Major General, Commanding 12th Division Army in France:

*“To the General Commanding,
33rd. American Division.*

Will you convey to the officer commanding, and all ranks of the 2nd Bn. 108th U. S. Engineers, the thanks and high appreciation of all ranks of the 12th Division for their valuable assistance during the recent operations. The work carried out by this Battalion very materially assisted in strengthening the sector then held by the Division under my command. I much regret that as we were engaged in active operations against the enemy I was unable to personally thank the officers and men for their loyal co-operation and valuable work, and also that I have been unable to write before, as the 12th Division has been continuously engaged with the enemy since August 8th. I desire also to express to you my personal thanks for having placed your fine Battalion at my disposal. It has been a great source of pleasure to all ranks of the division under my command to have had the opportunity of serving alongside their comrades of the American Army in our struggle with the common enemy.

(Signed)

H. W. HIGGINSON,
Major General.
Commanding 12th Division
British Army in France.

2nd September, 1918.”

The following letter from A. E. W. Harman, Major-General, Commanding 3rd Cavalry Division, is quoted:

“General Staff, 3rd Cavalry Div.
G. B. 100-138, 15-8-18.

Fourth Army.

I desire to bring to the notice of the Army Commander the excellent work accomplished by “D” and

“F” Companies of 108 Battalion U. S. A. Engineers during and prior to the recent operations.

They were employed on the construction of the Cavalry track from Tronville Wood via Caehy to our original front line. This work was carried out and completed between the hours of 9 p. m. on August 7th and 4 a. m. on August 8th.

After our infantry advanced the track was continued over the enemy’s line.

I consider the rapidity and efficiency with which the task was carried out, often under shell fire, reflects great credit on the U. S. A. Engineers. It was largely due to the energy shown by them that the Cavalry were able to advance without any interruption.

I propose to submit certain names as soon as possible for immediate recognition.

(Signed)

A. E. W. HARMAN,
Major-General,

Commanding 3rd Cavalry Division.

18th August, 1918.”

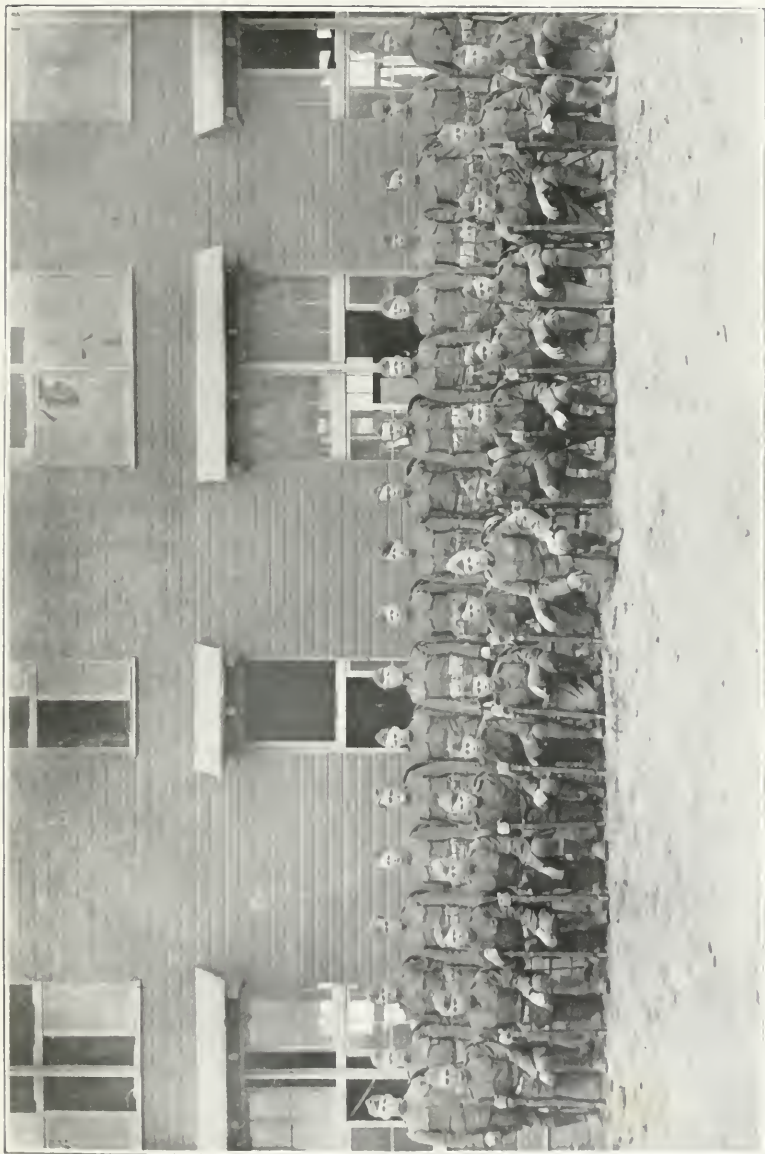
“33rd American Division.

The Army Commander has much pleasure in directing me to forward the above letter from the G. O. C. 3rd Cavalry Division, and to thank “D” and “F” Cos. of the 108th Bn. U. S. A. Engineers for the great assistance they gave to the success of the recent operations.

Major-General,
General Staff, Fourth Army.

H. Q., Fourth Army,
17th August, 1918.”

Also, in recognition of the work done by the 33rd Division while in this area, the Commanding General of the Division, received the following letter from H. Rawlinson, General, Commanding the Fourth Army:



SECOND PLATOON

“33rd Illinois Division.

On the departure of the 33rd Division from the Fourth Army I desire officially to record my admiration of the energy, keenness and soldierly qualities exhibited by all ranks during their period of training under my orders. The marked advance which has been made and the satisfactory standard fighting efficiency that has been reached reflect high credit on all concerned, and guarantee that the Division will render brilliant service to the Allied cause wherever it may be employed as a fighting division in face of the enemy.

My regret is that it will not have further opportunity for offensive action whilst in the Fourth British Army, but portions of the Division have already acquitted themselves most gallantly, and I desire to tender my warm thanks to those units engaged for their brilliant successes in the Hamel offensive and at Gressaire Wood.

I greatly regret the departure of the Division and offer to General Bell and all ranks under his command the best of good fortune in the strenuous times which lie before them.

(Signed)

H. RAWLINSON,
General,
Commanding Fourth Army.

H. Q., Fourth Army,
21st August, 1918.”

An echo of the above stunt was in the conferring of the British military medal on Captain William M. Ward (then acting first lieutenant) and First Lieutenant Simon D. Hay (then sergeant first class) for the conspicuous and valuable part they played in the above operation.

August 9th found us under orders to move to a little valley back of Morlancourt, dubbed by the boys of the Battalion “Death Valley.” During progress of this

march halt was made to inter the bodies of our fallen comrades of the August 8th operation, with full military honors in the Austral cemetery south of Blangy, burial services being conducted by Captain Ralph C. Harris. Our sojourn in this valley was a busy one—adding and strengthening new positions occupied by the British troops northeast of Corbie, much of the work being performed at night, and at times under heavy shell fire and gas.

While bivouacked at this place an excellent piece of work was performed by the company in the clearing of the Amiens-Bray road.

In this connection it is to be noted that Company "F" was one from which a detail could be chosen for dangerous, arduous duty or just plain work, and each man had enough sense of loyalty to stick on the job and were still there when the job was finished and until ordered to return to camp.

Company was withdrawn from the Morlancourt front and regiment was assembled at Querrieu Woods August 21st, remaining there three days, preparatory to entraining for the American front at Verdun, breaking camp at Querrieu Woods at 7:15 P. M., August 24th, and marching to Amiens, entraining from the St. Roche station 1:25 A. M. of the 25th, proceeding by "Slow Train in Arkansas" via Beauvais, the southern outskirts of Paris; Chateau-Thierry, recently taken from the Germans; Epernay and Bar-le-Duc, to detrain at Nancois-le-Grande, near Ligny, at which place Division Headquarters was established, having moved in "40 Homme and 8 Chevaux," and detraining early in the morning of August 26th. March was taken up to the village of Stainville, where the regiment went in training until the evening of the 31st, when it started on a long march to Gery, arriving 3:15 A. M., September 1st, pitching camp southeast

of town. After five days training regiment marched four miles, the evening of the 5th taking auto trucks to Nixe-ville, where it arrived 8:30 A. M. of the 6th, and at which point the regiment went into barracks, remaining for two days; broke camp at 7:45 P. M. of the 8th and Company "F" marched to Longbut Farm where it arrived 10:00 P. M. same date and was quartered in dugouts. Eight days were spent at this camp on road work and reconnaissance of the Meuse Sector, after which, on the evening of the 16th, 8:00 P. M., company marched to Montzeville, arriving at 11:00 P. M. During the following six days company was employed in strengthening defense of Hill 304 and making reconnaissance in the Forges Creek Bottom, considerable of this work was done under shell fire. Material for this work was drawn at the Germonville dump. At 8:00 P. M., on the 22nd, on orders from regimental headquarters, company broke camp at Montzeville and marched to Fort Choisel, where company was quartered in dugouts, and started on road work and reconnaissance in front of Cumieres and along the River Meuse, checking up on bridge mines in the district, and taking the depths of the River Meuse. On regimental order, 7:00 P. M., of the 25th, company left camp at Ft. Choisel and moved to Cumieres where the men were armed with picks, shovels and duck boards, in addition to rifles, ammunition and packs, and proceeded to Gallowitz Tunnel, going through to the front line trenches and following the 132nd Infantry in attack on Bois-de-Forges. After a severe bombardment of the wood by the American artillery, in which thermit shells were used for the first time in any quantity and whose brilliant flashes were an awe-inspiring spectacle, the wood was cleared in quick time by an ably executed turning movement and the company assisted the infantry in consolidating positions on the east of the wood, facing the River Meuse, returning the same even-

ing to work on the road from Cumieres to Forges, removing tram rails and starting the filling in of shell holes, sleeping for a few hours in the morning in some old trenches and a drizzling rain, continuing the following day repairs on the Cumieres Forges road, which road was badly needed for the bringing up of the artillery and rations necessary for the progress of operations beyond Dannevaux. Work on this road continued up to the 7th of October and was accomplished under direct observation and shell fire, including gas, heavy and light H. E. and shrapnel, day and night, many days a total of four to five hundred coming over. Two bridges were necessary and were built over Forges creek, as at this point the stream was divided; stringers for the same were taken from the destroyed enemy strong points in the village of Forges, and the road was kept passable at all times for the transport of ammunition and rations, in spite of difficulties in procuring material and almost continuous rain.

The work of the 108th Engineers in this operation was complimented highly, as is attested in the following memorandum from the 66th Infantry Brigade Headquarters:

HEADQUARTERS
66TH INFANTRY BRIGADE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

October 2, 1918.

MEMORANDUM NO. 10.

1. On the morning of the 10th September, 1918, this Brigade took over the lines occupied by part of the 120th (French) Division. This famous front, where for four years some of the most desperate battles of the war have been staged, is known as the DEAD MAN'S HILL Sector. Since the beginning of the war more than a million



THIRD PLATOON.

men have been killed and wounded in this formidable stronghold. Opposite to us the enemy were so strongly entrenched, having a swamp, a river and heavily fortified heights as protection, that they did not even anticipate an attempt on our part to make an attack at this point.

In spite of these obstacles we decided to cross and prepared to bridge the swamp and the Forges Creek by means of bundles of fascines, duck boards and planks which were brought up and placed in the outpost trenches during three nights before the attack. Enough material was brought forward to construct four bridges, each 200 yards in length.

On the night before the morning of the attack, the extremely difficult and dangerous operation of cutting lanes through barbed wire entanglements was accomplished. These bands of wire stretching all along in front of our trenches in places exceeded 200 yards in width. The assembly of the troops before the signal to attack was also a very difficult and complicated task, but the lines of columns were formed ready to file out of the lanes in the wire without confusion.

The night of the attack was very quiet and as there was a full moon we expected to have difficulty in getting out of the trenches without being observed; but fortunately, as the moon rose, a heavy ground mist gathered which undoubtedly saved us many lives. About midnight the big guns of the Corps and Army began their preparation and from then on kept up an ever-increasing roar. At 5:30 A. M. when our Division Artillery began their barrage on the enemy front lines and our infantry left the trenches, the bombardment was terrific.

Our plan was to attack with both regiments side by side in the line, each supported by its own reserves, and by two companies of machine guns. Under the protection of our barrage, they left the trenches in an orderly

manner, crossed the bridges which our engineers had pushed out over the swamp, and formed upon the other side of the Forges stream.

The 132nd Regiment on the right had, as its task, to attack and drive the enemy from FORGES WOOD. This wood which was at first thought to be fairly open, turned out to be a tangle of trees and underbrush thickly sown with wire entanglements and machine guns. Our troops performed their task with bravery and dispatch, and, making a turning movement, surrounded some of the enemy who were heavily entrenched with machine guns near the bend of the river to the south, and attacked them from the rear, much to their surprise. This brought the 132nd Regiment to their objective on schedule time and with remarkably few casualties considering the formidable obstacles they had to overcome.

The 131st Regiment had to attack independently of any support, excepting its own reserves, in a northerly direction through the fortified remains of two towns and along the edge of the celebrated JURE Woods. The Division on their left having been held up, they still proceeded and attained their objective (the river MEUSE) according to schedule without wavering, and with faithful obedience to their orders.

The Machine Gun Companies, which accompanied the Battalions in the attack, rendered excellent service. Notwithstanding the difficulties in getting their guns across FORGES Creek and Woods, they followed closely behind the Infantry and maintained perfect liaison with it. The machine gun barrage was delivered accurately and offered good protection in covering the creek.

A Company of Corps Gas troops accompanied the advance and aided by laying smoke screens at certain points.

The courage and tenacity of the Engineers, who had

to precede the Infantry and who remained to hold and repair the bridges over which the Infantry passed under the fire of the enemy is to be specially commended.

Over 1000 prisoners, including 28 officers, were captured by the Brigade, many of these were from famous Prussian regiments.

Many batteries of cannon, both heavy and light, 150 machine guns (many of which were turned upon the retreating enemy), enemy signals, ammunition, and much war material were also captured.

The comparatively small losses of our own troops were due to the systematic way in which the attack was planned and carried out, and to the admirable initiative on the part of officers and men in keeping their formations and proper direction so that none interfered with the other and everyone's effort was co-ordinated to the attack as a whole.

Unusual judgement was used in reducing machine gun nests with very little loss, by attacking them on the flanks and rear.

Special care was taken that details of the attack were known by platoon leaders, and privates were informed of the extent of the attack and what was expected from them.

Our liaison arrangements were admirable and we were enabled to keep in touch with each other throughout the battle and during the consolidation.

2. The Brigade Commander directs that this Memorandum be read to each platoon in all organizations of the Brigade.

3. He wishes to express his satisfaction with the results accomplished by the Brigade, and congratulates his command on their successes.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WOLF:

H. P. ERSKINE, Captain, Bde Adjutant.

In further recognition of the work of the 33rd Division in the Battle of the Meuse-Argonne, the following General Orders issued from Headquarters 33rd Division, are quoted below:

HEADQUARTERS 33RD DIVISION
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

A. P. O. 750 FIH-wlj-grj.

Luxemburg, 24th January, 1919.

General Orders)
No. 11)

MEUSE-ARGONNE BATTLE

A corrected copy of G. O. 232, H. A. E. F., dated 19th December, 1918, has been received from G. H. Q. and is published below for information and compliance with the final paragraph thereof. Bulletin No. 141, Headquarters 33rd Division, dated 28th December, 1918,—which published the original copy of G. O. 232—is, therefore, cancelled.

It is with a sense of gratitude for its splendid accomplishment, which will live through all history, that I record in General Orders a tribute to the victory of the First Army in the Meuse-Argonne battle.

Tested and strengthened by the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient for more than six weeks you battered against the pivot of the enemy line on the western front. It was a position of imposing natural strength, stretching on both sides of the Meuse River from the bitterly contested hills of Verdun to the almost impenetrable forest of the Argonne; a position, moreover, fortified by four years of labor and designed to render it impregnable; a

FOURTH PLATOON.



position held with the fullest resources of the enemy. That position you broke utterly, and thereby hastened the collapse of the enemy's military power.

Soldiers of all of the Divisions engaged under the First, Third and Fifth American Corps and the Second Colonial and Seventeenth Corps—the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 26th, 28th, 29th, 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 37th, 42nd, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 89th, 90th and 91st American Divisions, the 18th and 26th French Divisions, and the 10th and 15th French Colonial Divisions—you will be long remembered for the stubborn persistence of your progress, your storming of obstinately defended machine gun nests, your penetration, yard by yard, of woods and ravines, your heroic resistance in the face of counter-attacks supported by powerful artillery fire. For more than a month, from the initial attack of September 26th, you fought your way slowly through the Argonne, through the woods and over the hills west of the Meuse; you slowly enlarged your hold on the Cotes de Meuse to the east, and then, on the 1st of November, your attack forced the enemy into flight. Pressing his retreat, you cleared the entire left bank of the Meuse south of Sedan, and then stormed the heights on the right bank and drove him into the plain beyond.

Soldiers of all army and corps troops engaged—to you no less credit is due; your steadfast adherence to duty and your dogged determination in the face of all obstacles made possible the heroic deeds cited above.

The achievement of the First Army which is scarcely to be equalled in American History, must remain a source of proud satisfaction to the troops who participated in the last campaign of the war. The American people will remember it as the realization of the hitherto potential strength of the American contribution toward the cause

to which they had sworn allegiance. There can be no greater reward for a soldier or for a soldier's memory.

This order will be read to all organizations at the first assembly formation after its receipt.

By Command of Major General Bell,
William H. Simpson,
Lieut.-Colonel, General Staff,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

Frederic L. Huidekoper,
Lieut.-Colonel, A. G.
Division Adjutant.

In connection with the stunt of September 26th, 1918, the following narrative written by Sgt. Hanley of the company is both interesting and vivid:

“Previous to the big push north of Verdun, along the Meuse, the company had been located part of the time at Longbut Farm and the remaining part at Montzeville. The roads adjacent to the front were in very poor condition and it was the engineers' job to put them in repair. Occasionally Fritz sent forth his compliments in the shape of h. e.'s but nothing to speak of. It had been whispered round that a consignment of iron rations was being prepared to express to Fritz but nobody seemed to know exactly when or where that event was coming. However, on September 25th our suspense was ended—the order had arrived. We were instructed to make up our packs and prepare to hike to Cumieres, with arms and ammunition. On the previous evening we had been to Cumieres and had taken some fascines from there to ‘No Man's Land.’ The job was more tiresome than hazardous. Those old bundles were feeling heavier at every step and it was some relief to pained shoulders when the journey was ended. Our task on the night of September



"LAYOUT INSPECTION" DURING TRAINING PERIOD AT CAMP LOGAN, TEXAS.

25th was no less tiring, with a pack, pick, shovel, rifle and ammunition, we were detailed to take some duck boards through a tunnel on to 'No Man's Land.' On the way some one distributed hard tack amongst us, but those who succeeded in holding on to that precious acquisition until they reached their destination were in the minority.

Our first task completed we were lined up along the front line trenches and ordered to 'stand to' and be ready to go over with the infantry after the zero hour. In the meantime a large number of men from the engineers had been detailed to build a way through a marsh crossing 'No Man's Land.' This was a hazardous task, as the enemy's patrols had become wise and transferred the information to the rear. As a result, artillery and machine gun fire opened up, and some of the men got wounded and the majority narrowly escaped. At the zero hour our guns opened up with a terrific crash; the dough boys were in line waiting to jump the parapet and sustain the good name already won by the 132nd in their battles of the Somme. Artillery, Engineers and Signal Corps may count a good deal, but the tenacity of the dough boy, leaping over the parapet and defying the combing barrage of the enemy machine guns, is the zenith of valor and value.

Our company went over with the second wave of the infantry, some of the boys getting wet in the swamp, this however, seemed but an insignificant annoyance at the moment and our hike along the side of Forges wood gave us time to get dried out. In our passage through 'No Man's Land,' Jerry's counter barrage seemed ineffective, but on our arrival in the woods he certainly made up for it and rained shells thickly round us. Here also we had a rather novel experience with a Boche aeroplane—which was probably bent on a reconnoitering tour, at the sight of us he swooped down and turned his machine gun

on us. The boys thought it a grand opportunity for displaying their prowess as marksmen, and soon a regular rifle barrage was turned on the Boche, who quickly retreated. It was rather disappointing not to witness a nose dive, but later it was rumored that the Boche had been seen to come to terra firma a little further to the north. After rushing through the woods, and striking a lucky find—one of Jerry's kitchens—we had a much relished, hasty repast. This, with a short rest, gave us renewed vigor. We set out again toward the Meuse and on the side of the hill facing Jerry, and not more than 800 yards distant, laid out a line of trenches and partially completed them. At Consenvoye, across the river, we could see a few Germans moving about and one running helter skelter from the bridge which he had mined and set off the fuse. Lieut. Richards, who was with us, took a few pop shots at them but a few seconds later the bridge went up. Some kind fate prevented Jerry from turning his machine guns on us, probably from fear of revealing his gun positions; anyhow, luck was with us and we returned to Cumieres just about all in, after some thirty hours' constant grind and without sleep for forty-eight hours."

One evening, about October 5th, between the time of the grand attack September 26th and the extension of the same to the east bank of the Meuse, October 8th, a never to be forgotten sight took place on our immediate front. A combined Allied daylight aeroplane bombing expedition was made and big triplane bombers went over us in flocks of five to forty, together, taking the usual battle formation of the wedge similar to flocks of geese, and each squadron was accompanied by numbers of battle and observation planes. Over three hundred planes were in sight at one time, and as soon as the flocks began to swing over the Jerry lines a few desultory shots were



OUR FIRST STOP IN FRANCE, PONTANEZEN BARRACKS AT BREST BUILT
BY NAPOLEON.



OFFICERS OF COMPANY "F" MAY 10TH, 1919.

fired at them by the anti-aircraft guns, and everything was still except for the hum of the big machines and the deep, distinct detonations of the bombs being rained on the enemy positions. It took some hours for the enemy to revive enough to start his usual shell fire schedule, and prisoners captured later said that the effect was highly demoralizing.

October 8th, the company, by regimental order, crossed the river Meuse at Champ Neuville, following the French "over" at Samognaux, and immediately starting repairs on the road to Brabant for the passage of support to the American infantry engaged at Brabant and Consenvoye; removing tank mines and putting the road in passable condition as far as Brabant by evening of the same day, continuing operations on to Consenvoye the following three days under severe shelling, after which the company was ordered to their former work on the road through and beyond Forges, until it was moved out of this sector.

The Division was complimented in G. O. 155, which is here quoted:

Headquarters 33rd Division
American Expeditionary Forces
France, Oct. 18th, 1918.

General Orders

No. 155

1. The Commanding General calls attention with pleasure to the following communication, dated 15th Oct. 1918, from Hqrs. 17th French Army Corps:

"Officers, N. C. O's. and soldiers of the 29th and 33rd Divisions (U. S. Divisions), 16th, 26th and 10th Divisions.

You have conquered Lawavrille, Bois-de Caures and Bois-d'Haumont, you have reached the crest of the l'ORMONT and passed le RICHENE and Boise-de-Chaume.

The Austro-Germans have lost in an arc of 15 kilo-

meters their observation points which had defied the heroic defenders of Verdun.

The 6th of Oct. you advanced with a magnificent dash on the formidable slopes and across powerful and deep enemy breast works. The following day you pursued and attempted to advance and held against all enemy counter attacks. You obliged him to bring hastily a number of reinforcements which did not succeed in taking from you one handful of ground; 5800 prisoners, more than 50 guns and material and machine guns not yet counted, are the achievement of these great days.

All Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Aviators, Staffs and service have your part in the success. American soldiers, French soldiers, both white and black, you have rivaled in valor and comradeship to tear off the bandage which still afflicts our immortal Citadel.

I am proud to have commanded you.

Signed "Claudel"

By Command of Major General Bell

William K. Naylor,

Brigadier General, Chief of Staff.

Official

H. S. Hooker

Maj. A. G.

Acting Div. Adj.

At 8:00 p. m. on the night of Oct. 19th the company marched with the regiment to Verdun, arriving about midnight and were quartered in the old Citadel, and the boys had an opportunity of viewing this old and once beautiful city, now largely in ruins.

At 10 p. m. the night of the 20th, the company, with the regiment marched to Dugny, arriving at 1:30 a. m., and was billeted in the village. After two days' rest they were moved out of Dugny, 12:30 a. m., Oct. 24th,



"A" TYPE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTED BY "F" COMPANY NEAR RIAVILLE,



BRIDGE BUILT BY COMPANY "F" IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GRANTING OF THE ARMISTICE TO FACILITATE FOLLOWING UP OF BOCHE ARMY.

going to Mouilly, where they slept in the village church, which had been partially wrecked by shell fire. The next day the company was moved into dugouts in Mouilly Woods. During this march the regiment was in reserve to the First Army, then occupying the St. Mihiel Sector. Immediately on arrival at Mouilly Woods, the company was employed in road repairing between Les Esparges and Tressaveaux, and later between Tressaveaux and Fresnes, and Tressaveaux and Combres, also laying out a line of redoubts and in doing much reconnaissance, Company "F" being the northwesternmost company of the regiment. Regimental Headquarters being established at Tilly-sur-Meuse.

This Sector, which was reputed to be a quiet one, immediately began to warm up with the arrival of the 33rd Division, as most of them usually did, and after the first few days of work, which was accomplished out of observation at Les Esparges, orders came to repair the road through Tressaveaux, and with the protection of two dark drizzly days, the road through the town, which had no attention for almost four years and been shelled numberless times, was put in fair shape, but the following day being a bright one, the enemy took photographs of the work and from that time on the men were constantly under shell fire. It seemed thereafter the enemy practice to fire on this village at more or less regular intervals of from ten to thirty minutes with from five to thirty shells, and one night there was thrown into the town approximately one thousand gas shells. Many narrow escapes from casualties in serious number were avoided and the company with its seemingly unfailing good luck had but few and only slight wounds.

During the latter part of October the company sustained a great loss in the separation of Captain Harris from the organization and his return to the States, hav-

ing been recommended for a majority in a new unit which, happily, was never needed and not, therefore organized.

To Captain Harris, who had been company commander through its entire existence up to that time must be credited in a great measure the development of a body of men, second to none in efficiency and esprit de corps and a discipline so thoroughly inoculated into all the older men of the company that it could never be eradicated, and was in great measure the cause of their comparative immunity from danger in their various undertakings.

On the night of November 9th the company was withdrawn from the Tresaveaux Combres Road and with the entire regiment rested and prepared for an early morning move November 11th when regimental order placed the entire available strength and all the transport of the company at the disposal of the Commanding Officer of the 130th Infantry, which was drawn up on the reverse slope of the hill back of Herbueville ready to lead the reserve across the zone of advance and prepared to make passage possible for the artillery and troops following. The company stood all the morning on this hillside and at 11:00 a. m. word came in by telephone that the armistice had been signed; company then returned to camp, arriving at 2:00 p. m.

Following is roster of Company F as of November 11, 1918:

COMPANY "F"

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

C. O., Captain Ralph C. Harris (acting Maj. 2nd Bn.)

1st Lt. Julian C. Campbell

1st Lt. Robert P. Richards

1st Lt. Philip E. Cole

2nd Lt. Norman L. Huffaker

2nd Lt. Ralph H. Baughman



REGIMENTAL BAND COMES UP FROM ECHTERNACH TO BERDORF TO
SERENADE 2ND BN.



MEMBERS OF COMPANY "F" RESTING AT ROADSIDE IN LUXEMBOURG

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

<i>Grade and Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
1st Sgt. Edward D. Bunker.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. 1st cl. Frederic E. Benson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. 1st cl. George Kausch.....	Cleveland, O.
Sgt. 1st cl. Frank W. Kohout.....	Ft. Atkinson, Iowa
Sgt. 1st cl. George Moore.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. 1st cl. Herman O. Winnegge.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant John R. Beall.....	Mattoon, Ill.
Sergeant Albert F. Burt.....	Momence, Ill.
Sergeant Robert H. Elliott.....	Downers Grove, Ill.
Sergeant Earl S. Gale.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant Harry S. Green.....	Albion, Ill.
Sergeant Randolph W. Hellwig.....	Marengo, Ill.
Sergeant Patrick W. Hughes.....	Freeport, Ill.
Sergeant Edward Mullauer.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant Frank Novak.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant Henry A. Rathert.....	Mora, Minn.
Sergeant Philip W. Redington.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant Max Ruzich.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sergeant Roy G. West.....	Elgin, Ill.
Sergeant Roy C. White.....	Chicago, Ill.
Supply Sgt. Harry R. Wood.....	Chicago, Ill.
Mess Sgt. Thomas F. Horrigan.....	Chicago, Ill.
Stable Sgt. Howard L. Hoyt.....	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal George S. Brada.....	Charles City, Iowa
Corporal Thomas Clark.....	Lakewood, Ohio
Corporal Albert Clausen.....	Evanston, Ill.
Corporal John J. Corrigan.....	Maywood, Ill.
Corporal Ross C. Damon.....	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Charles F. Engle.....	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Frank P. Frandsen.....	South River, N. J.
Corporal Raymond J. Fry.....	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Matt J. Gardner.....	Wausau, Wis.

<i>Grade and Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Corporal Michael Hanley	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Philip A. Hoffman	Belle Plaine, Wis.
Corporal George A. Jones	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Andrew Liska	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Joseph H. Journey	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Leonard Mayfield	Zion City, Ill.
Corporal Thomas J. McDonnell	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Ernest E. McEldowney	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Charles H. Mellors	Coffeyville, Kansas
Corporal Charles E. Moore	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Charles R. Muller	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Daniel Murray	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal William C. Niemuth	Oshkosh, Wis.
Corporal Charles J. Olsen	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal John L. Redington	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Chester R. Robinson	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Schuyler J. Rumsey	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal John Samulowitz	Peosotum, Ill.
Corporal Marcel E. Saelens	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal William J. Small	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Vincent Standish	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Carl M. Teutsch	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal Fred H. Wallin	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal William A. West	Marshfield, Wis.
Corporal Ralph E. Wood	Chicago, Ill.
Corporal John B. Whitelaw	Chicago, Ill.
Bugler William K. Cary	Oak Park, Ill.
Bugler Fred Jansen	Davenport, Iowa
Cook Adolph Barnowski, Jr.	Edgar, Wis.
Cook Horace B. Burnham	Chicago, Ill.
Cook Daniel P. J. Cronin	Providence, R. I.
Cook Edward M. Donovan	Chicago, Ill.
Cook Mathew A. Racyk	Cicero, Ill.

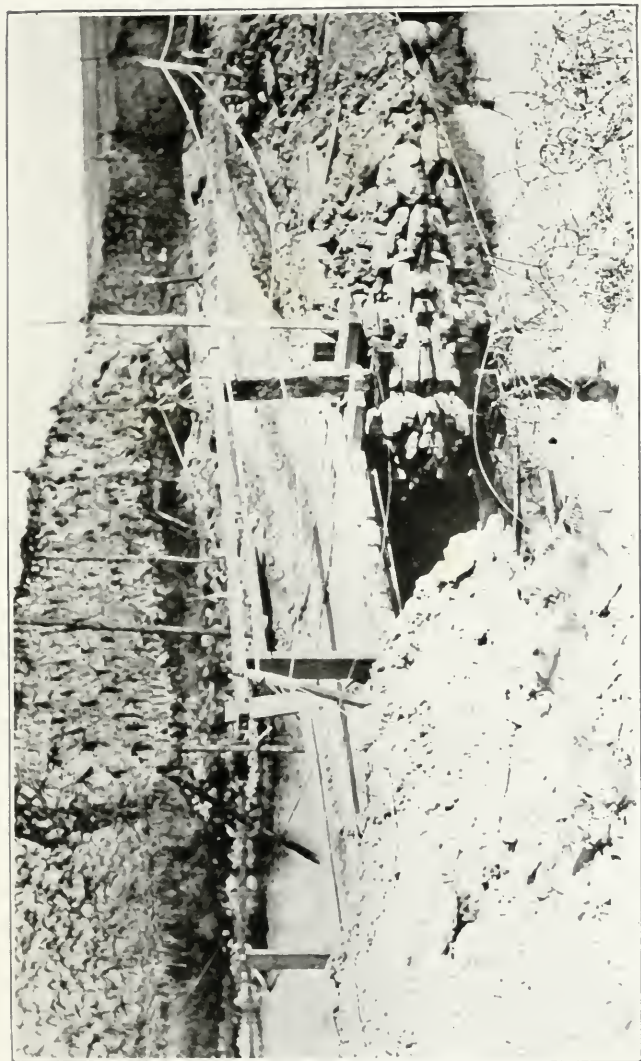
<i>Grade and Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Horse-shoer Robert E. Brand.....	Chicago, Ill.
Wagoner Victor L. Bergstrand.....	Chicago, Ill.
Wagoner Ray E. Brown.....	Chicago, Ill.
Wagoner Thomas Lowry	Chicago, Ill.
Wagoner Thomas Meehan.....	Fontana, Wis.
Wagoner Glen D. Parks	Canton, Ill.
Wagoner Leslie J. Pilcher.....	Loda, Ill.
Wagoner William A. Plouffe.....	Chicago, Ill.
Wagoner Joseph F. Winchell.....	Lewistown, Nebr.

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS

Arthur Anderson	Chicago, Ill.
Simon J. Babian.....	Chicago, Ill.
Crispen E. Bengtson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sam Berlly	Chicago, Ill.
William A. Bishop.....	Chicago, Ill.
Frank T. Blanchard.....	Chicago, Ill.
George Blaney	Green Bay, Wis.
George W. Bullock.....	Calumet, Okla.
Thomas F. Burr.....	Chicago, Ill.
Harold F. Buttrick.....	Hillsboro, N. H.
Owen C. Clark.....	Fond du Lac, Wis.
John W. Claskey, Jr.....	Chicago, Ill.
William Dierkes	Chicago, Ill.
Ralph Flower	Zion City, Ill.
Albert O. Gilbertsen	Chicago, Ill.
Antoni Glowacki	Chicago, Ill.
Thomas J. Green.....	South Bend, Ind.
Lewis Greg	Chicago, Ill.
Tito Grossi.....	Palos Park, Ill.
Edward Hannon.....	Chicago, Ill.
Robert A. Hendricksen.....	Chicago, Ill.
Isaac G. Hough.....	Appleton, Iowa

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS—Continued

<i>Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Byron R. Jackson.....	Argos, Ind.
Charles W. Kesch.....	St. Louis, Mo.
George R. Kersten.....	Chicago, Ill.
Herbert Kester	Chicago, Ill.
George H. Lewis.....	Chicago, Ill.
Fred Lund	Chicago, Ill.
Frederick A. May.....	Grand Rapids, Wis.
Martin J. Mentgen.....	Chicago, Ill.
Robert J. Mulcahy.....	Chicago, Ill.
Thomas Penny	Chicago, Ill.
Frank E. Polley.....	Oshkosh, Wis.
William Polacek	Chicago, Ill.
Drue A. Rankin.....	Monmouth, Ill.
Charles R. Richards.....	Chicago, Ill.
Cyril Robrecht	Highland Park, Ill.
Norman W. Sanders.....	Sidnaw, Mich.
Martin H. Schellenberg.....	Scribner, Nebr.
Clifford W. Schuett.....	Chicago, Ill.
Thomas Sutherland	Evanston, Ill.
Frank J. Topp	Chicago, Ill.
Anund H. Vick.....	Stoughton, Wis.
Charles A. Walton.....	Chicago, Ill.
William A. Weinberg.....	Chicago, Ill.
Wayne E. Weinberg.....	Chicago, Ill.
Ralph B. Whitney.....	Chicago, Ill.
Lloyd R. Wing.....	Chicago, Ill.
Obie F. Wielneke.....	Brussels, Ill.
Paul E. Williams.....	Chicago, Ill.
George W. Wilson.....	Lake Forest, Ill.
Edward T. Zasadil.....	Chicago, Ill.
Vincent J. Wiltgen.....	Chicago, Ill.



BRIDGE, ROAD AND CAMOUFLAGE NEAR FORGES, FRANCE.

PRIVATES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Joseph F. Anderson.....	Cleveland, O.
Harry Appelson	Chicago, Ill.
William L. Barnes.....	Carbondale, Ill.
John D. Barrett.....	Passaic, N. J.
Howard R. Bassett.....	Taunton, Mass.
Joseph J. Blaha.....	Chicago, Ill.
William C. Bodin.....	Chicago, Ill.
Arthur Boscamp	Chicago, Ill.
Raymond O. Brown.....	Chicago, Ill.
Ray J. Burns	Menominee, Mich.
Gordon C. Campbell.....	Escanaba, Mich.
Arthur W. Carlson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Paul L. Carlson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Archie J. Christensen.....	Halfway, Ore.
Einar H. Christensen.....	Chicago, Ill.
William Considine	Chicago, Ill.
Louis Cooper	Lansing, Mich.
John A. Cooper.....	Chicago, Ill.
John C. Davis.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
Carmen DeSalvo	Chicago, Ill.
Frank T. Dougherty.....	Chicago, Ill.
Robert J. Dunlap.....	Michigan City, Ind.
Francis H. Dwyer.....	New York, N. Y.
George B. Eddy.....	Chicago, Ill.
Edward J. Edgecomb.....	Greenwood, Ill.
Elzie Everman	Kirkland, Ind.
Stewart B. Fox.....	Plymouth, Pa.
Aloysius Franz	Crown Point, Ind.
Francis J. W. Funk.....	Okmulgee, Okla.
Robert E. Garrity.....	Holyoke, Mass.
Patrick J. Gilseman.....	Chicago, Ill.
Otto Glosser	Patrolia, Ill.

PRIVATES—Continued

<i>Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Emil J. Godenrath.....	Chicago, Ill.
Thomas W. Glowania.....	Chicago, Ill.
Carl Gran	Chicago, Ill.
Ben Gurney	Stevens Point, Wis.
Joe W. Mack.....	Michigan City, Ind.
William Hamlin	Macon, Ga.
Peter J. Hansberry.....	Beloit, Wis.
Carl Y. Hansen.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sophus G. Hansen.....	Chicago, Ill.
William F. Harnack.....	New York, N. Y.
Edward J. Henry.....	Chicago, Ill.
William H. Hibbott.....	Chicago, Ill.
James A. Johnson.....	East St. Louis, Ill.
Scott L. Johnson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Harold Jones	Chicago, Ill.
Welzie Jones	Owensville, Ind.
Peter P. Kiefer.....	Chicago, Ill.
George A. King.....	Washington, D. C.
Harold E. Larson.....	Chicago, Ill.
Harry Lerner	Chicago, Ill.
Walter Leslie	Chicago, Ill.
Augustus Levens	Rodden, Ill.
Alfred C. Lindenmeyer.....	Lake Forest, Ill.
Joseph W. Losekamp.....	Harrison, O.
Leroy W. Mathews.....	Tiosa, Ind.
Albert J. McCahn	Lynn, Mass.
Harold J. McKee.....	Milwaukee, Wis.
Edgar D. McCollum	Downers Grove, Ill.
William H. Mills.....	Chicago, Ill.
William Mobley	Gaithersburg, Md.
John P. Mulcahy	Chicago, Ill.
Albert H. Nystrom.....	Chicago, Ill.

PRIVATES—Continued

<i>Name</i>	<i>Where From</i>
Joe W. Palmer	Chicago, Ill.
Sollie Pascente	Chicago, Ill.
Cesidio Pasquale	Maywood, Ill.
Frank Petras	Chicago, Ill.
Svend A. Rasmussen	Chicago, Ill.
Harry F. Renshaw	Chicago, Ill.
Robert T. Robinson	Munising, Mich.
Claude H. Robertson	Williamson, W. Va.
Peter Rybinski	Detroit, Mich.
Hebert P. Scholl	Chicago, Ill.
William Schrader	Auburn, Ind.
Lewis Schultz	Beloit, Wis.
Charles Secky	Chicago, Ill.
William B. Skillen	Whitinsville, Mass.
John Slagter	Grand Rapids, Mich.
Paul V. St. Hoor	Chicago, Ill.
Edward Stark	Detroit, Mich.
Lewis H. Steiner	Chicago, Ill.
Edwin Tanck	Chicago, Ill.
Lambert W. Thayer	Chicago, Ill.
Edward Thulis	Chicago, Ill.
Emory W. Volk	Oconto Falls, Wis.
Stewart Y. Wall	Chicago, Ill.
Charles A. Wallin	Chicago, Ill.
Harry C. Warren	Liverpool, Ill.
Ray H. Watts	Clinton, Ill.
George A. Weber	Chicago, Ill.
Bennie Wierzbowski	Ludington, Mich.
Walter F. Young	Joliet, Ill.
George A. Zak	Chicago, Ill.
William C. Zeitz	Wilson, N. Y.
Frank Zychal	Chicago, Ill.

Following is a list of casualties suffered by Company "F" while engaged in active operations:

Grade and Name.	Cause.	Extent.	Date.	Place.
Pvt. Icl. Emmett M. Casey.....	Shrapnel	Killed	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Private Clarence J. Ross.....	Shrapnel	Killed	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Sergeant Milton A. Jones.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Sergeant Frank Novak.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Corporal Thomas Clark.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Corporal Herbert Buxton.....	Shrapnel	Seriously wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Corporal George S. Brada.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Corporal Lambert W. Thayer.....	Machine gun Bullet	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Private Paul E. Williams.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Private Cesidio Pasquale.....	Shrapnel	Seriously wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Private Scott L. Johnson.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Aug. 8, 1918	Villers, Bretonneaux
Corporal John B. Whitelaw.....	Gas	Slight	Aug. 17, 1918	Morlancourt
Corporal Gordon C. Campbell.....	Gas	Slight	Aug. 17, 1918	Morlancourt
Private Stanley Stuart.....	Gas	Slight	Sept. 26, 1918	Forges
Private Byron R. Jackson.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Sept. 27, 1918	Forges
Private Peter P. Kiefer.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Sept. 27, 1918	Forges
Private George H. Lewis.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Oct. 2, 1918	Forges
Private George W. Gassmere.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Oct. 8, 1918	Consenvoye
Private Frank M. Boemmels.....	Shrapnel	Seriously wounded	Oct. 8, 1918	Consenvoye
Private Scott L. Johnson.....	Shrapnel	Slightly wounded	Oct. 8, 1918	Consenvoye
Sergeant Henry A. Rathert.....	Mine Explosion	Killed	Nov. 21, 1918	Riaville
Private William C. Zeltz.....	Mine Explosion	Seriously wounded	Nov. 21, 1918	Riaville



SECTION OF CAMOUFLAGED ROAD.



BRIDGE AND RUINS OF FRENES.

Following members of Company "F" died from disease while in the A. E. F.:

Corporal Frank P. Frandsen.....Pneumonia
Pvt. 1st cl. Vincent J. Wiltgen.....Pneumonia

During the period from November 12th to December 6th the company, being on the left wing of the regiment, was engaged in making repairs to roads—Tressaveaux, Fresnes and Riaville—removing tank walls and barricades from same. Six bridges were constructed by the company within its working area, same being built entirely from salvage and material from German dumps. Also, during this time the company made a thorough search in a district assigned by regimental order for road mines and mine fields, and where found, were neutralized and withdrawn, in an area bounded by Fresnes, Hennemont, Buzy, St. Jean, Allamont and Harville. Approximately twelve hundred mines and tank traps were removed during the time.

While removing a tank trap on the morning of November 21st, Sergeant Henry A. Rathert was killed and Private William C. Zeitz wounded, due to accidental explosion of a mine. Private Zeitz was evacuated to a hospital and Sergeant Rathert's body was interred in an American cemetery located at Hannonville morning of November 22nd. Burial services were conducted by the Chaplain of the 131st Infantry.

While engaged on the above work many Italian and Russian prisoners, released by the Germans, were returned through this sector and, as the company had orders to feed all such prisoners, our mess sergeant took good care of them and saw that plenty of bully beef and hard tack was handed out to them, much to the satisfaction of the company, who had been living quite largely on these rations for some time.

In recognition of the efficient work done by the 33rd Division while in the Troyon Sector, General Orders No. 150, Headquarters 33rd Division, is here quoted:

HEADQUARTERS 33RD DIVISION
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Luxemburg, 16th December, 1918.

General Orders)
No. 150)

1. The following letter is published to the Division in recognition of its work in the Troyon Sector:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY
Amer. E. F.

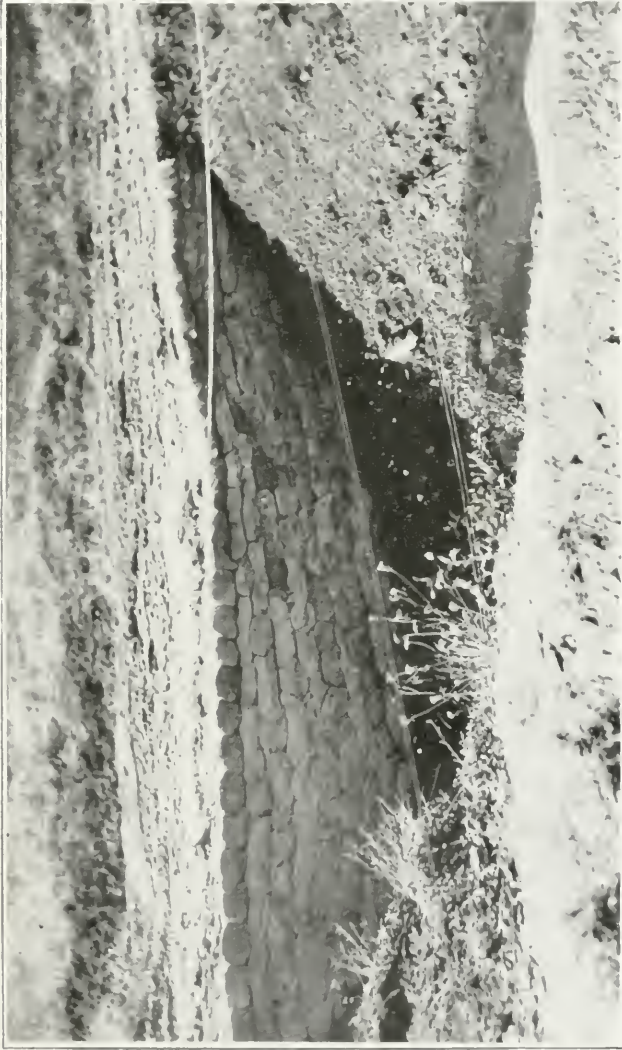
France, 12th December, 1918.

From: Commanding General, Second Army.
To: Commanding General, 33d Division, Amer.E.F.
Subject: Activity of the 33rd Division prior to the Armistice.

1. Upon the transfer of the 33rd Division, from the Second to the Third American Army, I desire to express to you my gratification at the vigorous and successful activities of your division during the period of active operations preceding the Armistice.

2. The 33rd Division, although occupying a broad front, was called upon to advance towards Conflans, and was engaged in the performance of this mission at the time that hostilities ceased.

3. On November 6th to 7th, when accurate information of the enemy's intentions was greatly desired, raiding parties from your division penetrated to Chateau



SAND BAG REVETMENT TO SUPPORT ROAD PASSING OVER PORTION OF A
MINE CRATER.

d'Aulnois and captured 21 prisoners, including one officer. On November 7th to 8th, your reconnaissance patrols entered Bois d'Harville and St. Hilaire and brought back eight prisoners. On November 9th to 10th, you drove the enemy from the towns of St. Hilaire and Marcheville and, at the time of cessation of hostilities, your division had occupied these towns, as well as the towns of Butgneville and Riaville.

4. The conduct of the 33rd Division exemplified its ability to execute promptly and thoroughly the tasks which were given to it. There was shown, on the part of both officers and men, an efficiency and fighting spirit which are highly commendable.

(Sgd) R. L. Bullard,
Lieut.-General, U. S. A.

This order will be read to the troops at the first formation after receipt, by the Commanding Officers of each unit.

By Command of Major General Bell.
William H. Simpson,
Lieut. Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Chief of Staff.

Official:

Frederic L. Huidekoper,
Lieut. Colonel, A. G.,
Division Adjutant.

General Orders No. 144, Headquarters 33rd Division, 11th November, 1918, are here quoted, which cover the activities of the 33rd Division from the date of its arrival in France to the signing of the armistice, November, 11th:

HEADQUARTERS 33RD DIVISION
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

France, 11 November, 1918.

General Orders)
No. 144)

The armistice has been signed and hostilities have ceased, at least for the present. The Division Commander takes this opportunity of expressing his appreciation and pride to all ranks for their efficient and effective work.

Shortly after leaving New York in May, 1918, the Division took station with the British in the defense of Amiens. On the morning of July 4th, 1918, part of it attacked, and Americans for the first time in history were associated on the battlefield with Australians, winning the victory of Hamel, described by the Commanding General of the Australians as "an historic event of much significance that will live forever in the annals of our respective nations." The dash and gallantry displayed on this occasion was recognized by the British Commander-in-Chief and recorded by the King. The engagement had far reaching results. On the 9th of August at Gressaire Wood and Chippily the Division materially assisted the beginning of what developed into the final British advance and were again honored by the British nation. On September 26th and October 9th, as part of the First American Army, it carried all its objectives in the Verdun Sector and held the territory won on both sides of the Meuse. It has been awarded decorations by our Government and our former French Corps Commander has asked that recommendations be submitted for the Croix de Guerre. Such is the record of this Division.

The Commanding General congratulates officers and men, soldiers of the Great War, on these things done by them in the service of their country.

This order will be read to the troops at the first formation after receipt by the Commanding Officer of each unit.

By Command of Major General Bell,
William K. Naylor,
Brigadier General, General Staff,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

W. S. Hooker,
Maj. A. G.
Actg. Div. Adjutant.

December 6th found the company under orders from regimental headquarters to move forward; company left camp at Mouilly Woods at 3:15 p. m. that date, marched to Hannonville, where mess was served at 8:30 p. m., and resumed march and marched to Bugteneville, where they were billeted for the night, occupying billets formerly occupied by the Germans. This town was occupied by the Germans up to November 10th when they were driven out by the 33rd Division.

December 7th, company left Bugteneville 9:30 a. m. and marched with the regiment to Droitmont, arriving at 3:30 p. m. Stop was made near Friaucville for noon mess. Company was billeted in a three-story brick building at the mouth of one of the iron ore mines, of which this part of France is famous.

December 9th, regiment left Droitmont at 8:00 a. m. and marched to Briey, arriving at 3:00 p. m. Stopped for noon mess near Aubue.

December 10th, regiment left Briey at 9:30 a. m. and marched to Mont, arriving at 2:30 p. m. Stopped near Mainville for noon mess.

December 11th, regiment left Mont at 9:15 a. m. and

marched to Ruxweiler, arriving at 3:45 p. m. Stopped near Bollingen for noon mess.

December 12th, regiment left Ruxweiler at 10:00 a. m. and marched to Tetingen and Kayl, Luxemburg, arriving at 12:15 p. m.

December 14th, regiment left Tetingen and Kayl at 10:30 a. m. and marched to Fentange, arriving at 3:00 p. m. Stop was made near Battinbourg for noon mess.

December 15th, regiment left Fentange at 10:00 a. m. and marched to Rammeldange and Hostert, arriving at 3:00 p. m., where the Second Battalion was billeted.

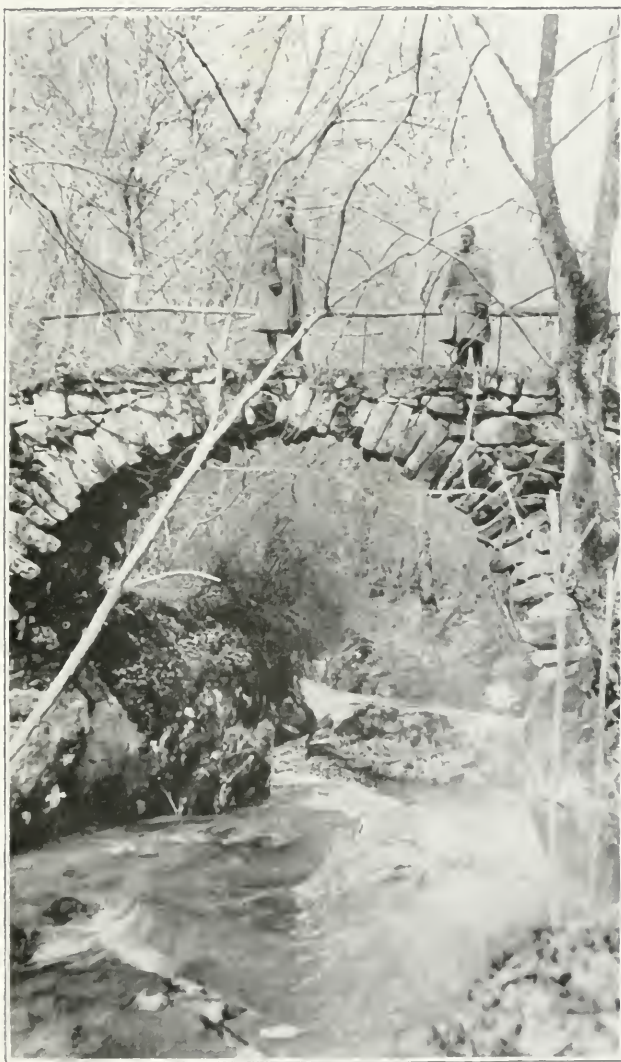
December 18th, company with regiment, which was in nearby villages, left Rammeldange at 10:15 a. m. and marched to Haller, arriving at 4:15 p. m.

December 22nd, Second Battalion left Haller at 9:30 a. m. and marched to Berdorf, arriving at 1:00 p. m.

From the time of arrival in Berdorf, Luxemburg, began the long and arduous wait until orders would move us homeward. The people of the little Duchy gave us an exceptionally hearty welcome, but during the succeeding months the sentiment best expressed in the following phrase was predominant, "War is hell, but peace is worse."

During the stay considerable effort was made to regain the proficiency the company, battalion and regiment had formerly attained in drill and in which they had grown "rusty" while engaged in actual engineering operations. The tedium was also relieved in a measure by small road repair details and others of similar nature.

The company finally moved with Second Battalion out of Berdorf April 29th by truck to Ettelbruck, where they entrained for Brest, France, at which point the regiment underwent more inspections and finally embarked



BEAUTIFUL SPOT NEAR MULLERTHAL,
FOUR OR FIVE MILES FROM BERDORF.

on the U. S. S. Harrisburg, homeward bound, May 15th, proud of the two service chevrons on their sleeves.

Few troops beside the 108th Engineers were on board the vessel and after an uneventful trip of eight days we steamed into New York mid the tooting of whistles and the huzzahs of friends who had come out on harbor craft to welcome us. Disembarkation was followed at once by a bountiful meal served by the Red Cross, and the regiment entrained for Camp Mills after being ferried to Brooklyn.

At Camp Mills another round of inspections and delousings, plus a few days' delay, and the regiment was on its way to Camp Grant via Chicago, arriving in Chicago early June 5th and meeting friends and relatives at Grant Park, then followed a triumphant march down Michigan Boulevard before wildly cheering hundreds of thousands of admirers. A banquet at the Morrison Hotel tendered by a proud city and friends followed. The same day saw the regiment detraining at Camp Grant, Illinois, and speedily mustered out, the paper work being completed and the boys of Company "F" leaving the camp June 9th, 1919.

The friendships formed and the memories of days spent together under heavy stress and strain will forever hold the members of the company in a bond of loyalty which will grow stronger as the years pass.

At the end of all this must be entered an appreciation of a few of the many individual men who have shown keen intelligence, willingness to co-operate and a deep sense of duty and responsibility, which make for efficiency in any organization, but particularly in an engineer unit, and though some of these men have already been honored by promotion, numbers more would have been called to assume higher duties had the great struggle continued,—

Sergeants Brownlea, Kohout, Morgan, Kausch, Burt Hughes, Novak, Hellwig, Corporals Liska, Clark, Clausen and McEldowney.

The above does not begin to cover the conspicuously valuable members of the company nor does it take account of an unusually even-handed first sergeant, Sergeant Bunker; a most reliable and efficient man in charge of company paper work, Sergeant Beall; a wide awake and forehanded supply sergeant, Sergeant Wood, and assistant, Sergeant West; a loyal stable sergeant, Sergeant Hoyt, and our transport men, and last, but not least, the "man of many griefs," our much berated but much loved Mess Sergeant Horrigan, and his busy crew.

In valedictory, it must be said that, to the intense interest, close attention and foresight of the commander of the regiment, of which this company is a part, Colonel Henry A. Allen, that any success, past, present or future, of the company, is largely due.



BEGINNING OF PASARELLE ACROSS FORGES SWAMP.



JERRY "PILL BOX" IN RUINED DWELLING IN FORGES AT TURN OF THE ROAD.

APPENDIX.

The following is the passenger list of the company as it embarked from France, together with the addresses at which they can be reached or information had of them:

Robert P. Richards, first lieutenant.....939 W. 2nd St., Pomona, Cal.
 William M. Parkhurst, 1st Lt.....520 Clark St., Stevens Point, Wis.
 Lewis E. Eastwood, 1st Lt.....7030 Tulip St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Norman L. Huffaker, 1st Lt.....4430 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Walter Kishbaugh, 2nd Lt.....Second St., Newquehoning, Pa.
 John B. Morgan, 2nd Lt.....6331 Peoria St., Chicago, Ill.
 Corydon R. Cook, 2nd Lt.....431 Bauer St., Hammond, Ind.
 Edward D. Bunker, 1st Sgt.....7222 S. Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.
 John R. Beall, Sgt. 1st class.....921 Lawndale Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Frederick E. Benson, Sgt. 1st class...530 N. Harvey Ave., Oak Park, Ill.
 Randolph W. Hellwig, Sgt. 1st class..R. R. No. 3, Sta. C., Columbus, O.
 George Kausch, Sgt. 1st class.....1011 E. 76th St., Cleveland, Ohio
 Herman O. Winnege, Sgt. 1st class...257 W. 48th Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Walker Faust, Sgt. 1st class.....1511 Olive Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Fred D. Smith, Sgt. 1st class.....Gen. Del., Volga City, Iowa
 Harry R. Wood, Sup. Sgt.....2159 Sayre Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Thomas F. Horrigan, Mess Sgt.....252 Lafayette Ave., Dayton, Ohio
 Howard L. Hoyt, Stable Sgt.....Gen. Del., Pecatonica, Ill.
 Chester R. Robinson, Corporal.....1115 S. Grant St., Chanute, Kan.
 Adolph Barnowski, Cook.....Box 41, Edgar, Wis.
 Daniel P. J. Cronin, Cook.....51 W. River St., Providence, R. I.
 Edward M. Donovan, Cook.....837 N. Crawford Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Mathew A. Racyk, Cook.....5003 32nd St., Cicero, Ill.
 William Skillen, Cook.....11 C. St., Whitinsville, Mass.
 William K. Cary, Bugler.....2700 Piedmont Ave., Berkely, Cal.
 Fred Jansen, Bugler.....101 Michigan Ave., Davenport, Iowa
 Robert H. Elliott, Sgt.....Gen. Del., Downers Grove, Ill.
 Max Ruzich, Sgt.....2518 Augusta St., Chicago, Ill.
 Philip A. Hoofman, Corp.....Gen. Del., Belle Plaine, Wis.
 Roy G. West, Sergeant.....439 Villa St., Elgin, Ill.
 Herbert Kester, Private.....6543 Carpenter St., Chicago, Ill.
 Emory W. Volk, Private.....Gen. Del., Oconto Falls, Ill.
 Walter M. Leslie, Private.....7836 Emerald Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles B. Miller, Corporal.....5318 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Joseph J. Blaha, Private.....818 S. Tripp Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Leonard Heilman, Private.....2115 Fulton St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Archie J. Christensen, Private.....R. F. D. No. 1, Halfway, Oregon
 Bennie Wierzbowski, Private.....R. F. D. Box 48, Ludington, Mich.
 Alfred C. Lindenmyer, Private..709 Washington Circle, Lake Forest, Ill.
 Crispin E. Bengtson, Private.....1342 Winona St., Chicago, Ill.
 Paul L. Carlson, Private.....11359 Church St., Chicago, Ill.
 Fred H. Wallin, Corporal.....3312 W. 61st Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Joseph W. Journey, Private.....3120 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.
 Anund H. Vick, Private.....R. F. D. No. 3, Stoughton, Wis.
 Russel M. Wanless, Private.....Gen. Del., Strome, Alberta, Can.
 Schuyler J. Rumsey, Private.....208 W. Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.

APPENDIX

Elzie F. Everman, Private.....Gen. Del., Kirkland, Ind.
 Thomas J. Penny, Private.....3440 Union Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 John L. Redington, Corporal.....Gen. Del., Hageman, Ill.
 Otto Glosser, Wagoner.....Gen. Del., Petrolia, Ill.
 William A. Plouffe, Wagoner....3655 W. Arthington St., Chicago, Ill.
 Stewart Y. Wall, Private.....7 N. Hermitage Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Edgar D. McCollum, Private.....110 Saratoga St., Downers Grove, Ill.
 William C. Niemuth, Corporal.....17 Vinland St., Oshkosh, Ill.
 Ray J. Burns, Private.....618 Dunlap Ave., Menominee, Mich.
 Frank T. Dougherty, Private.....1315 Travis St., Chicago, Ill.
 Edward Hannon, Corporal.....309 Prairie Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Albert J. McCahan, Private.....214 2nd St., Huntingdon, Pa.
 Paul V. St. Hoor, Private.....6243 Drexel Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Sophus G. Hausen, Private.....1345 N. Campbell Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Leroy E. Mathews, Private.....R. R. No. 1, Tiosa, Ind.
 William M. Mobley, Private.....5 Brooks Ave., Gaithersville, Md.
 Isaac G. Hough, Private.....General Delivery, Appleton City, Mo.
 Lewis Greg, Private.....2902 Emerald Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Ralph E. Wood, Corporal.....4907 W. Ohio St., Chicago, Ill.
 Eric N. Spruling, Private.....224 S. Ridgeland Ave., Oak Park, Ill.
 Coye C. Vergowe, Private.....1111 N. Fife St., Tacoma, Wash.
 George A. King, Private.....2825 Olive Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.
 Robert P. Robinson, Private.....332 Superior St., Munsing, Mich.
 George W. Bullock, Private.....General Delivery, Calumet, Okla.
 William C. Bodin, Private.....2301 Belmont Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Ralph Flower, Private.....2408 Elisha Ave., Zion City, Ill.
 Vincent Standish, Private.....2617 4th St., Ocean Park, Cal.
 Charles A. Walton, Private.....7029 Harper Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Guy I. Quillen, Private.....General Delivery, Delmar, Del.
 Clarence A. Walseth, Private.....General Delivery, Ajus, Fla.
 Welzie, Jones, Private.....General Delivery, Owensville, Ind.
 Patrick W. Hughes, Sergeant.....1930 N. Koster Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Frank Novak, Sergeant.....2419 S. Ayres Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Daniel Murray, Sergeant.....7159 Honore St., Chicago, Ill.
 Harry S. Green, Sergeant.....General Delivery, Albion, Ill.
 Paul E. Williams, Private.....409 46th St., Moline, Ill.
 Svend A. Rasmussen, Private.....7013 N. Elizabeth St., Chicago, Ill.
 Robert J. Mulcahy, Private.....7136 Peoria St., Chicago, Ill.
 George A. Jones, Corporal.....4610 Harding Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Albert H. Nystrom, Private.....5412 Ingleside Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Victor L. Bergstrand, Wagoner.....4646 Race Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 James A. Johnson, Private....1237 Cleveland Ave., East St. Louis, Ill.
 George B. Eddy, Private.....5958 Midway Park, Chicago, Ill.
 Charles R. Richards, Private....6623 Kenwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Francis H. Dwyer, Private....65 St. Andrews Place, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Thomas C. Mechan, Wagoner.....2806 S. G. St., Tacoma, Wash.
 Marcel E. Saelens, Corporal....7215 S. Campbell Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Martin H. Schellenberg, Private.....Box 304, Schribner, Neb.
 Patrick J. Gilsenan, Private....551 N. Laramie Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Ben Gurney, Private.....1263 Baker St., Grand Rapids, Mich.
 John Slagter, Private.....10 Mulder Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich.
 Arthur W. Carlson, Private.....8612 S. Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.
 Cyril J. Kirby, Corporal.....715 Roscoe St., Chicago, Ill.

APPENDIX

Stanley Stewart, Private..... 323 Lincoln St., Dayton, Ohio
 Frank J. Topp, Private..... 2316 23rd St., Chicago, Ill.
 Thomas F. Burr, Private..... 7621 N. Marshfield Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles A. Wallin, Corporal..... 7524 Cornell Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Stewart B. Fox, Private..... 13 Willow St., Plymouth, Pa.
 Joseph F. Winchell, Wagoner..... General Delivery, Burchard, Neb.
 Leonard Mayfield, Corporal..... 2604 Elisha Ave., Zion City, Ill.
 Thomas Lowry, Wagoner..... 6445 S. Winchester Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Lambert W. Thayer, Private..... 5464 Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles J. Olsen, Private..... 2359 Ballou St., Chicago, Ill.
 Harry Appilson, Private..... 52 E. Long St., Columbus, Ohio
 Albert O. Gilbertsen, Corporal..... 1650 N. Lawndale Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 John P. Mulcahy, Private..... 717 W. 63rd Pl., Chicago, Ill.
 Chester H. Fay, Corporal..... 330 Foster Ave., Bellville, Ont., Can.
 Lloyd Wade, Private..... Gen. Del., Sorento, Ill.
 William Schrader, Private..... R. R. No. 1, Auburn, Ind.
 William Dierkes, Private..... 224 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.
 George A. Weber, Private..... 1508 N. Avers Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 George A. Zak, Private..... 4035 Fillmore St., Chicago, Ill.
 Norman W. Sanders, Private..... Gen. Del., Sidnaw, Mich.
 Thomas Clark, Corporal..... 1282 Edwards Ave., Lakewood, Ohio
 Joe W. Palmer, Private..... 106 N. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
 John D. Barrett, Private..... 450 Highland Ave., Passiac, N. J.
 Horace R. Tudor, Private..... 4257 Botanical Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
 Robert E. Garrity, Private..... 771 Dwight St., Holyoke, Mass.
 Philip W. Redington, Sergeant..... Gen. Del., Hageman, Ill.
 Roy C. White, Sergeant..... Gen. Del., Alabaster, Mich.
 Michael Hanley, Sergeant..... 537 W. 42nd Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Arthur Anderson, Private..... 4417 Calumet Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Harold F. Butrick, Private..... Gen. Del., Hillsboro, N. H.
 Harry F. Renshaw, Private..... 3915 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Matt J. Gardner, Corporal..... 623 Werle Ave., Wassau, Wis.
 Harold J. McKee, Private..... 10 32nd St., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Clint D. Woodrum, Private..... 1239 10th St., Miami, Fla.
 Frank T. Blanchard, Private..... 1625 N. W. Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Ralph B. Whitney, Private..... 6200 Dorchester Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 John W. Clasky, Jr., Private..... 3134 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.
 Tony Gunick, Saddler..... Gen. Del., Bement, Ill.
 Clifford W. Schuett, Private..... 963 Pleasant St., Beloit, Wis.
 Charles H. Mellors, Corporal..... Gen. Del., Haddam, Kan.
 Glen D. Parks, Wagoner..... R. F. D. No. 1, Table Grove, Ill.
 Leslle J. Pilcher, Wagoner..... Gen. Del., Lodi, Ill.
 William Hamlin, Private..... 304 Morgan Ave., Macon, Ga.
 Claude H. Robinson, Private..... Gen. Del., Crandall, Tex.
 Martin J. Mentgen, Private..... 6036 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.
 Ray E. Brown, Private..... Gen. Del., Grand Tower, Ill.
 Robert B. Brand, Horseshoer..... 4443 Wilcox Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles F. Engle, Corporal..... 450 E. 39th St., Chicago, Ill.
 Joseph W. Losecamp, Private..... R. R. No. 4, Harrison, Ohio
 John L. Stottlemeyer, Private..... Gen. Del., New Canton, Ill.
 Frank E. Polley, Private..... 473 John St., Appleton, Wis.
 Owen C. Clark, Private..... 649 Indiana Ave., N. Fon du Lac, Wis.
 Carl Y. Hansen, Private..... Gen. Del., Borup, Denmark

APPENDIX

Frank Petras, Private.....	4638 Komensky Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Charles W. Kepsch, Private.....	4524 N. 9th St., St. Louis, Mo.
Andrew Liska, Corporal.....	1610 S. Paulina St., Chicago, Ill.
Harold Jones, Private.....	1522 N. Central Park Ave., Chicago, Ill.
William H. Hibbott, Private.....	6222 Dorchester Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Horace B. Burnham, Private.....	1310 N. 35th St., Omaha, Neb.
Raymond O. Brown, Private.....	4210 W. 26th St., Chicago, Ill.
Obie F. Weineke, Private.....	Gen. Del., Brussels, Ill.
Albert W. Staehle, Private.....	3727 Cote Brilliante Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
William Harnack, Private.....	355 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y.
John Samulowitz, Corporal.....	R. F. D. No. 55, Peostum, Ill.
William Armbruster, Private.....	Gen. Del., Yorkville, Ill.
Louis Cooper, Private.....	122 S. St. West, Lansing, Mich.
Edward J. Edgecomb, Private.....	1400 15th St., Troy, N. Y.
William A. West, Corporal.....	246 Jackson St., Oshkosh, Wis.
Gordon C. Campbell, Private.....	715 Wells Ave., Escanaba, Mich.
Herbert P. Scholl, Private.....	10308 Ave. N., S. Chicago, Ill.
George S. Brada, Corporal.....	404 Riching St., Charles City, Iowa
Robert J. Dunlap, Private.....	1001 Kentucky St., Michigan City, Ind.
George W. Wilson, Private.....	Brushwood Road, Lake Forest, Ill.
Charles Secky, Private.....	1902 E. 9th St., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
William H. Mills, Private.....	10145 Ave. M., S. Chicago, Ill.
Thomas W. Glowania, Private.....	1900 Harvey St., Chicago, Ill.
Carl Gran, Private.....	234 5th Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ross C. Damon, Corporal.....	6420 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Charles E. Moore, Corporal.....	18 N. Sacramento St., Chicago, Ill.
John C. Davis, Private.....	906 Fairfield Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
Ray H. Watts, Private.....	305 N. E. St., Bloomington, Ill.
Albert F. Burt, Sergeant.....	Gen. Del., Momence, Ill.
Albert Clausen, Sergeant.....	1002 Davis St., Evanston, Ill.
Earl S. Gale, Sergeant.....	610 W. 56th St., Chicago, Ill.
William Polacek, Private.....	4735 Western Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
Raymond L. Pelland, Private.....	Gen. Del., Bend, Ore.
Carmen De Salvo, Private.....	762 Bunker St., Chicago, Ill.
Carl M. Toutsch, Corporal.....	2931 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, Ill.
William A. Bishop, Private.....	2650 Wilcox Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Robert A. Hendrickson, Private.....	627 N. Drake Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Sam Berly, Private.....	739 Paulina St., Chicago, Ill.
Peter P. Kiefer, Private.....	4942 S. Wells St., Chicago, Ill.
Arthur Boscamp, Private.....	1933 S. Jefferson St., Chicago, Ill.
Peter Hansberry, Private.....	1156 5th St., Beloit, Wis.
Thomas J. Green, Private.....	620 S. Fellow St., S. Bend, Ind.
John H. Corrigan, Corporal.....	213 N. 3rd Ave., Maywood, Ill.
Harry Lerner, Private.....	1019 S. Seely Ave., Chicago, Ill.
William Considine, Private.....	452 W. 47th St., Chicago, Ill.
Harry C. Warren, Private.....	Gen. Del., Liverpool, Ill.
Alfred P. G. Quade, Private.....	R. R. No. 2, Blue Island, Ill.
Joe. F. Anderson, Private.....	14113 Ardenall Ave., Cleveland, Ohio
George H. Lewis, Private.....	2202 W. 107th Place, Chicago, Ill.
John A. Cooper, Private.....	2317 Belmont Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Thomas J. McDonnell, Private.....	356 W. Marquette Rd., Chicago, Ill.
Antoni Glowacki Private.....	4235 Melrose Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Robert A. Snow, Private.....	R. R. No. 1, Basic City, Va.



SAMPLES OF GERMAN TANK MINES. HUNDREDS OF WHICH "F" COMPANY
REMOVED.



TERRAIN FORMERLY COVERED BY FOREST, DEVASTATED BY YEARS OF WAR
IN VICINITY OF ST. REMY, FRANCE.



JERRY PRISONERS ON ROAD WORK.

APPENDIX

Thomas F. Werner, Private.....4821 Melrose St., Frankford, Phil., Pa.
 William A. Weinberg, Private.....2836 N. Richmond St., Chicago, Ill.
 Frank M. Boemmels, Private.....Main St., Martin Grove, Ill.
 Cesidio Pasquale, Private.....2405 Ave. L., S. Chicago, Ill.
 Edward M. Thulis, Private.....4643 Union Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Ernest E. McEldowney, Corporal.....5458 Crystal St., Chicago, Ill.
 Cyril Robrecht, Private.....4635 Greenwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Stanislaws Rastankowski, Private.....260 Person St., Buffalo, N. Y.
 Louis R. Schultz, Private.....962 Pleasant St., Beloit, Wis.
 Einar H. Christensen, Private.....1775 Berteau Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles H. Speechley, Private.....32 S. Albany Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Louis Waters, Private.....1629 Wells St., Ft. Wayne, Ind.
 Raymond J. Fry, Private.....1038 S. Sangamon St., Chicago, Ill.
 William F. Cassel, Private.....647 Kohn St., Morristown, Pa.
 Robert L. Earle, Private.....1807 University Ave., Des Moines, Iowa
 Adam J. Wilcheck, Private.....51 Marcy Lane, Ashley, Pa.
 Eloysius M. Franz, Private.....Gen. Del., Crown Point, Ind.
 Claude W. Fenton, Private.....Gen. Del., Big Springs, Tex.
 Sollie Pascente, Private.....918 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park, Ill.
 Edward J. Henry, Private.....1933 Mohawk St., Chicago, Ill.
 Tito Grossi, Corporal.....Box 16, Chicago Ridge, Ill.
 Peter Rabinski, Private.....1001 St. Aubun Ave., Detroit, Mich.
 Frederick A. May, Private.....R. R. No. 3, Grand Raplds, Wis.
 Frank Zychal, Private.....2255 Marshall Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
 Simon J. Babian, Private.....2418-20 W. North Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Lloyd R. Wing, Private.....2052 Cullom Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Edward T. Zasadil, Private.....2868 W. 21st Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Joe Hack, Private.....117 Fogarty St., Michigan City, Ind.
 Thomas Sutherland, Private.....2800 Harrison St., Evanston, Ill.
 Louis H. Steiner, Private.....Gen. Del., Trenton, Ill.
 Wayne E. Weinberg, Private.....4354 Berkley Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Charles W. Belleu, Corporal.....Gen. Del., Wyco, W. Va.
 Robert O. Hempstead, Private.....807 E. 9th St., Little Rock, Ark.
 Fred Lund, Corporal.....4935 Henderson St., Chicago, Ill.

(Clipping from English "Daily Mail")
FINE WORK OF AMERICAN ENGINEERS

Crossing a Marsh to the Attack

American Army, October 1, 1918.

The American Army is consolidating its gains in the Argonne region, and it is improving roads with an energy that promises to solve one of the most difficult problems they are confronted with.

There is a unit here consisting mostly of lads from Chicago. In the recent attack its flank was resting on the Meuse just above Verdun. German guns had been concentrated on the other side of the river in expectation of an attack in that direction, but they actually attacked northwards over steep thickly-wooded heights and amid deep ravines.

Their first difficulty was to cross the marshland at the Forges Brook and to penetrate the dense Forges Wood covering one side of a formidable height.

The Germans dismissed the possibility of an attack over the marshes and massed their troops behind Forges Village, southeast of the wood, where they thought the firm soil would attract the United States troops in preference to the brook.

But the doughboys, with great audacity, crossed the marshes and the brook and sent two columns forward, one to swing to the right through the wood behind the Germans and the other in a direct line for Gercourt.

The operation was a complete success. The Germans were taken by surprise, and this accounted in a great degree for the haul of over 1,000 prisoners in this section and many guns.

But, striking as the tactics were, the plans were equally fine. In the dark, engineers laid down duckboards and avenues of laced twigs, by which the infantry could get a firm foothold on the marshes. Small bridges were thrown over the brook, and when the Infantry crossed Engineers standing in the water held them up to prevent them from giving way under the tramp of thousands of feet. The Infantry started out in a thick fog. They had to pass through 100 yards of barbed wire and then cross marshland. Following a trail of ropes and duckboards they reached the brook 6,000 strong. Many crossed over the bridges, but the majority waded the water, and in the face of the enemy's fire followed close behind their own barrage up the wooded height called Forges Wood.

At the same time a heavy machine-gun barrage was maintained by the Americans on the Village of Forges, which materially aided in deceiving the Germans.

Three officers and 70 men were captured in a dugout before they had time to realize that the Americans had advanced. All the defenses and barbed wire in the wood could not stop the dashing Americans, and they swept the place clear. They then swung up the west bank of the Meuse and took Drillancourt and Gercourt, Dannevoux was captured later.

The Germans, realizing their mistake, hurriedly rushed up reserves to Brieuilles on the Meuse. These were seen by the Americans, and soon the artillery was pouring shells into the mass of railway trucks containing the Germans.

October 2.



WAYSIDE SHRINE SET IN TREE NEAR BERDORF, LUXEMBOURG

THE PRAIRIE DIVISION.

By William Lewis Judy.

(All rights reserved except where credit is given.)

The Thirty-third Division has a nick-name, a distinguishing insignia, and a rattling reputation.

In the States they called us the "Prairie Division." Over here we are the "Yellow Cross Division." When we shall shake hands again with the Goddess of Liberty and smell again that familiar smell of the Chicago Stock Yards, we shall once more be the "Prairie Division."

Now, who are we, anyhow? Well, we fought with the bloomin' British on the plains of Picardy in Northern France in July and August, 1918, and when the decorations were handed out on that bright summer's day on the green behind the old chateau at Molliens-au-Bois, King George himself was there to pin the medals on the breasts of the Illinois boys.

We fought side by side with the Tommies,—good pals they were,—and with the Americans of the British Empire—those fighters after our own hearts—the Aussies—I mean the Australians, the daredevils of a rough and ready Empire. They it was who paid us the biggest compliment ever given a Yank crowd over here. The whole world now knows the famous phrase and I'll tell you how it came about. The Aussies celebrated the Fourth of July with us at Hamel when we went over the top together up near Albert, and after it was all over, they took us by the hand and said: "You'll do us, digger, but you fellows are damned rough." Here, too, took place an event that shall be forever glorious in the annals of England and America,—here for the first time in history the soldiers of the two mighty nations fought side by side in a common cause, and this event shall grow more glorious and more sacred in years to come when these two mighty nations look back to it as the first symbol of the new and greater union between them.

We fought with the French and now we are to get fifty Croix de Guerre. The King of Belgium heard about us and is sending us eight of his medals. The Congress of the United States gave us seven Medals of Honor. They have given forty-eight to the whole A. E. F. and the Prairie Division is wearing one-seventh of the total. Pretty good, eh? The big safe at Division Headquarters is now too small for it is crammed with D. S. C.'s, from our own G. H. Q.—one hundred and ten to date, to be exact—and more of them on their way.

We have a lot of doughboys like Corporal Paul Hobschied of the 131st infantry. He's wearing a D. S. C. because up to Chipilly Ridge he laughed at the Boche snipers, made a dash at them, on his way stopped at a German dug-out, rapped on the door with a few hand grenades, and single handed chased out thirty Germans yelling "Kamerad," and brought them back as prisoners.

Then there is Corporal Jake Alex, another of Joe Sanborn's boys. Jake and his squad charged a machine gun nest and himself stuck the bayonet into five Germans. The fifth Boche was tough and the Corporal's bayonet broke off inside of him. But Jake gave him the butt of the rifle, sent one more German to Kingdom Come, and captured the

remainder of the crew. In the Prairie Division, we don't look down on Corporals since these things happened.

We've a buck private in the 124th Machine Gun Battalion, Clayton Slack—slack by name but not by nature. He's going to get a Belgium Medal, a Croix de Guerre, a Medal of Honor, and may be a lot of others, because all alone he rushed a machine gun nest, tagged ten Germans as prisoners, grabbed two loaded machine guns which were killing our men, turned 'em around and gave the Germans Hail Columbia with a shower of their own bullets.

Now I come to the grand old men of 'em all—Colonel Joe of the 131st, of the Dandy First of the Old Illinois National Guard. He's sixty-three but likes a fighting spree. Out in the front he went at Gressaire Wood, and led his men over the top, across No Man's Land, and on the run, took a hill that the Germans said they'd hold forever. They're still there holding the hill, but hiding under the ground and some wooden crosses. Well, the Colonel had his steel hat knocked off by the burst of a shell, but say—have you seen him on dress parade? There's a Distinguished Service Order which the King of England gave him and I think he's the only American officer wearing one of 'em. There's our own D. S. C.—he's got that, of course. And there's a Belgium medal too that is his pride.

Ask a Boche where he had the hottest time of his life and he'll tell you at Consenvoye Bridge, when Colonel Allen's engineers in the lead, the Prairie Division chase him out of the Bois de Forges, held by the enemy for four years with the boast of the Boche that it could never be captured—especially by Americans.

We have fought everywhere in the A. E. F. We have been with the British, with the French, with the French Colonials, and with our own troops. There are three American Armies—First, Second and Third—and we've been in all of 'em. There are nine American Corps and we've been in all of them except the First and Eighth. We've got the record in this regard.

Our troops have camped along the North Sea, on the Somme, on the Meuse, and on the Moselle. They have passed through Chateau Thierry; they have bivouaced in Germany, they have rested in the shadow of the Amiens cathedral; they have marched through the shell torn streets of Verdun; they have eaten bully-beef in Alsace-Lorraine; and now they are wintering in Diekirch, that famous resort of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. From Texas to Deutschland we have traveled and now we know it's true when they say—"Join the Army and see the world."

What Division captured more prisoners and more guns, and advanced more kilometers than any other Division except three or four? The Prairie Division.

What Division captured 1,436 prisoners in one day? The Prairie Division.

What Division has a general wearing a wound chevron? The Prairie Division.

What Division was one of the five American Divisions rated by the German High Command as first class? The Prairie Division.

What Division Commander was praised by G. H. Q. because the horses of his Division and the care of them "stood as a perfect model

of the standards that ought to exist in these matters throughout the Army? The Prairie Division.

Our Division colors are yellow and black; fast colors, guaranteed not to run. The design is a yellow cross on a black circular background two inches in diameter. Yellow is an unusual color for a fighting crowd, but in far-away Texas, when we marked our equipment for over-seas, Colonel Gardenhire had only yellow paint, and that is why we have used yellow. It's a good color. It is the distinguishing color of the Cavalry and, in the Philippines, the Yellow Cross on Government property terrified the superstitious natives and kept them from stealing it. Over here it had the same effect on the Boche.

We are proud of the Yellow Cross and proud of the fighter who has been our leader from the day the Division was organized—Major General Geo. Bell, Jr., known by all the rank and file of the Regulars as "Do it Now" Bell.

When the French officially took possession of the City of Metz, the capital of Lorraine, on the 8th of October, 1918, bringing to pass their dream of half a century, the troops selected from the entire A. E. F. to represent the United States in the grand parade before the President of the French Republic, before Premier Clemenceau, Marshal Foch, Marshal Petain, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and our own General Pershing, were none other than a bunch of Chicago lads, the battle scarred doughboys of the 131st Infantry, who had carried the Yellow Cross to victory every time they "hopped the bags." They led the procession at Metz and the Governor-General of Lorraine said that their appearance and conduct merited the highest praise.

The boast of the Thirty-third is that it never lost a fight, that it never received an order in battle which it did not carry out, and that an objective was never given to it that it did not take from the enemy on scheduled time. It is more than a boast—it is cold truth recorded in the books of the German armies as well as in the records of our own G. H. Q.

We came to France with a great reputation to uphold and high standards to maintain, for we are the Prairie Division; we hail from the fields of Illinois, out where the prairies begin their stretch, out where the East joins the West, and the best of the two is kept. Behind us are the traditions and glories of a great State—a State which in that other great war—the greatest until its time—gave to the nation its great leader in the White House—Abraham Lincoln, and its great leader on the field of battle—Ulysses S. Grant.

We have fought as worthy sons of worthy sires. We shall return from our long journey strong men and noble, victors and proud, because in the hottest of the battle, in the front ranks of the bravest, we fought as only Americans can fight. We shall march down Michigan boulevard, victors and glad, yet with a bit of shadow in our faces, for we are not forgetful of our brave comrades who went away with us and with us did not return, because on the sacred soil of France they fell fighting bravely for their flag and the honor of their Division, and forever more they rest on the fields where their fame was won—in the shades of the forests of the Argonne and by the banks of the Somme.

They did not die in vain, neither have we fought in vain who fought by their side as they fell. They who in later years shall wear

the Yellow Cross in token that they fought with the Prairie Division, shall wear a badge of high honor, and a fitting distinction for the brave men and fearless fighters they showed themselves to be.

Written at Diekirch, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Europe, Fourteenth day of March, nineteen nineteen.

The following, by Richard Henry Little, is taken from the Chicago Tribune of May 5th, and shows how mistified the Germans were when they tried to analyze the American Army, and how convinced they were that they would, with or without provocation attempt the impossible.

"BRAVE BUT TEMPERAMENTAL

The first observation the Major read was that 'Americans are very brave and active but highly temperamental,' I said, 'Like a prima donna?' The Major said that was it exactly. He amplified the record by saying that one could never tell just what Americans were going to do, because he didn't believe that they knew themselves. He said the German high command thought the Americans did not take the war as seriously as the French, who were fighting in front of their own homes, while with the Americans it was more of a sporting proposition and the men wanted to get all the adventure and excitement out of it possible.

ADVANCE AT ANY TIME

The next observation noted down at Spa was to expect the Americans to try to advance almost at any time, whether the advance was advisable from a military standpoint or not. The Major amplified this record by saying that suppose the Americans were in woods with a swamp in front of them commanded by the enemy guns, military science would argue against pushing the American line forward at that point. If the Germans were confronted with English or French troops in such a piece of country, they would thin down their line, because they would know that no advance would be attempted.

With the Americans it was different. Their own officers might order them over or else the men might get tired of sitting round in the woods and decide for themselves to go across the swamps, or perhaps the flies might be bighting them, or mosquitoes, or they might get mad because their rations had not come up. In any of these events they might try to take it out on the enemy."

The following from the "Pontanezen Duckboard" of May 14th, 1919, may be of interest, it being the official paper of the American camp at Brest.

"HAIR RAISING ROAD JOB DONE BY THE 108TH ENGINEERS

The first regiment of divisional engineers to pass through Pontanezen for service at the front, was the 108th Engineers of the 33rd Division, under the command of Colonel Henry A. Allen. That was a year ago. They are here again, this time bound for home.



WORKING PARTY OF ENGINEERS SLIPPING OUT INTO "NO MAN'S LAND" IN THE EVENING DUSK.



COMPANY "F" "AT REST" PENDING FINAL INSPECTION BY GENERAL BELL, DIVISION COMMANDER.



The 108th has made a fine record, both on the Somme with the British and in the Meuse-Argonne with our own army. In fact their work began right here at Pontanezen. They landed from the George Washington on May 18th and the next day had construction details on barracks, a Y. M. C. A. hut, at the light plant and at the Penfield waterworks.

WITH ENGLISH

On May 23rd the 108 Engineers entrained for the unknown, and a few days later found themselves among the 'Tommyes' and the 'Aussies' of the British Fourth Army. The training there was actual work with the Royal Engineers, in the line from Amiens to Albert. Hamel—Chipilly Ridge—Morlancourt—Villers Brettaneaux—all these are of personal significance to these men from Illinois who were making acquaintance with the 'Auzzies,' the gruelling job of the Engineer, the 'cootie' and the budding British offensive in quick succession. Dugouts, trenches, wire, pontoon bridges, roads and water supply became familiar. The most ambitious undertaking in this sector probably, was the building of the track for the combined Cavalry attack on August 8th by companies "D" and "F." This required the building of a road twenty yards wide and about three thousand yards long through the first line wire and trench positions under artillery fire and the menace of the German protective barrage. This bit of work was highly praised by the British high command and was part of a brilliant and highly successful use of the combined attack of large bodies of Cavalry, Tanks and Infantry supported by the Artillery."

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