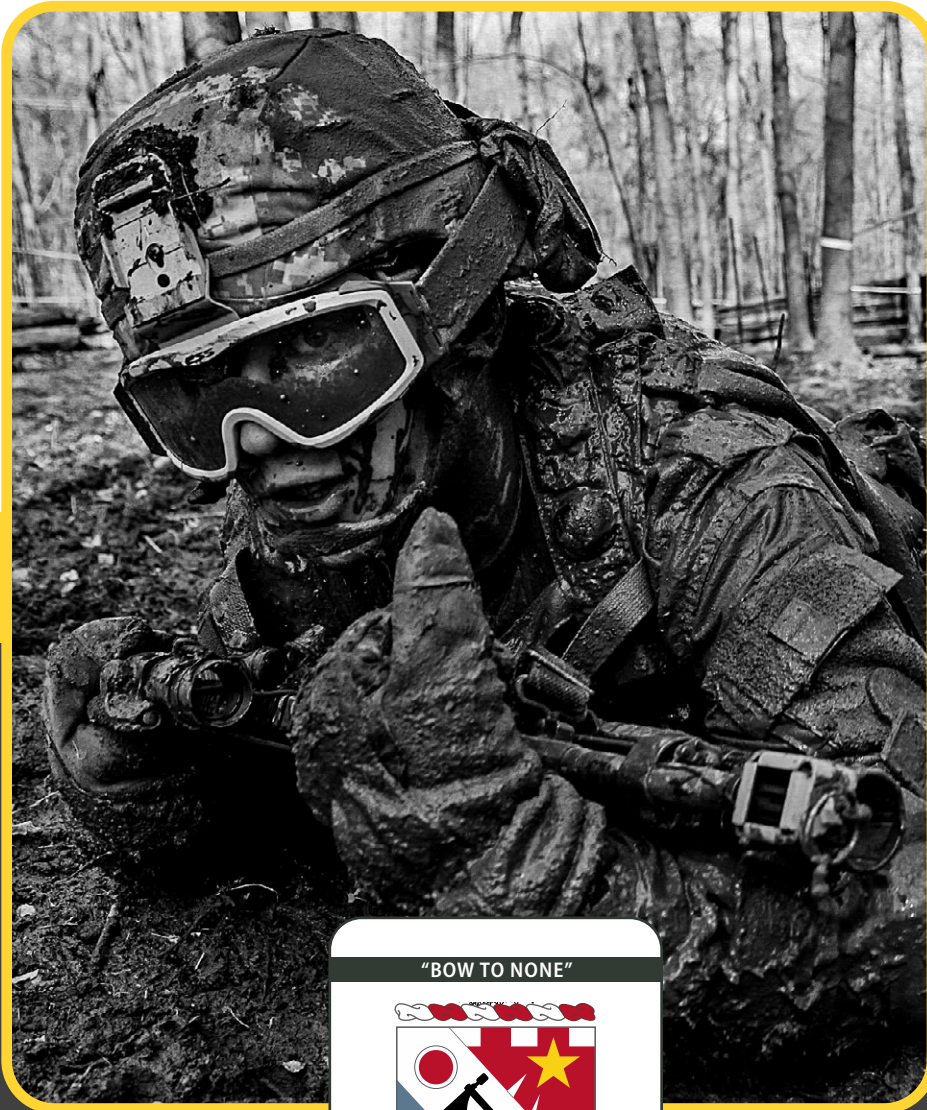


**UNIT HISTORICAL SKETCH**



**COMPANY B,  
837TH ENGINEER BATTALION**  
LIMA, OHIO

# COMPANY B

## 837TH ENGINEER BATTALION

Company B, 837th Engineer Battalion was organized May 25, 1900 at Spencerville, Ohio as Company F, 2d Infantry Regiment. The company was organized by Capt. Jacob R. Welch and was the first Ohio National Guard unit organized in Spencerville. The company saw active service along the Mexican Border in 1916-1917 and fought in France and Belgium as Company L, 146th Infantry, 37th Division during World War I.



When the state reorganized after the war, Spencerville was home to elements of the 148th Infantry including Company K; Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion; and Company F. In 1938, Leon L. Van Autreve (left) enlisted as a private in the unit, serving until 1940. Van Autreve would later be selected as the 4th Sergeant Major of the Army.

On Oct. 15, 1940, Headquarters Detachment, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry was inducted into federal service for World War II. After training at Camp Shelby, Miss., and Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., the unit moved to the Pacific Theater. The 148th served on Fiji and Guadalcanal, and fought battles on New Georgia, Bougainville and Luzon, totaling nearly 600 days in combat. The unit received a Presidential Unit Citation for its part in the Battle of Hill 700 on Bougainville in Mar. 1944. Additionally, the regiment earned the same award for its part in the liberation of Manila in Feb. 1945.

After World War II, the unit reorganized in Spencerville as Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry and returned to active duty from 1952 to 1954 for the Korean War. The company trained at Camp Polk, La. and although the unit did not deploy to Korea, nearly all the men rotated in as individual replacements.

Numerous changes impacted the unit in the 1960s and '70s with frequent reorganizations as various elements of the 147th and 148th Infantry were stationed at the armory. In 1961, as Combat Support Company, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry, a consolidation with a detachment of the unit stationed in Lima occurred. The Lima unit was organized on Oct. 20, 1919 as Troop E, 1st Cavalry and carried with it World War II service in Europe as Battery A, 987th Field Artillery. In recent years, that battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its support of the 30th Infantry Division during the Battle of Mortain, France in Aug. 1944.

On May 1, 1977, the unit was reorganized as Detachment 1, 837th Engineer Company, which was the combat engineer company of the 73d Infantry Brigade. In 1989, the Spencerville Armory was closed and the unit was consolidated with the rest of the 837th Engineer Company in St. Marys. The parent unit was organized July 1, 1908 at St. Marys as Company K, 2d Infantry Regiment. The unit fought in World War I as Company B, 146th Infantry and during World War II as Company K, 148th Infantry.

In 1993, the 73d Infantry Brigade was removed from Ohio's force structure and shortly after, the unit was redesignated as Company D, then Company A, 612th Engineer Battalion. On Nov. 10, 2004, the unit again entered federal service for the War on Terrorism and a mobilization to Iraq. Company A performed difficult route clearing missions and earned the Valorous Unit Award for its role in support of the 3d Infantry Division.

On Sept. 1, 2007, the company was reorganized as Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), and served as the brigade's combat engineer company during a 2008 mobilization in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The company then deployed to Afghanistan in 2011-2012, where it earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

On Sept. 1, 2018, the unit was reorganized as Company B, 837th Engineer Battalion and remained an element of the 37th IBCT. On Sept. 1, 2020, the St. Marys Armory was closed and the unit was moved to Lima.



A color guard, comprised of Soldiers from Company B, 837th Engineer Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, march forward to post the colors during a memorial dedication ceremony on Nov. 11, 2022, at Memorial Park in St. Marys, Ohio.



# LINEAGE AND HONORS

Organized 25 May 1900 in the Ohio National Guard at Spencerville as Company F, 2d Infantry Regiment

Mustered into Federal service 19 June 1916 at Camp Willis, Ohio; mustered out 24 March 1917 at Fort Sheridan, Illinois

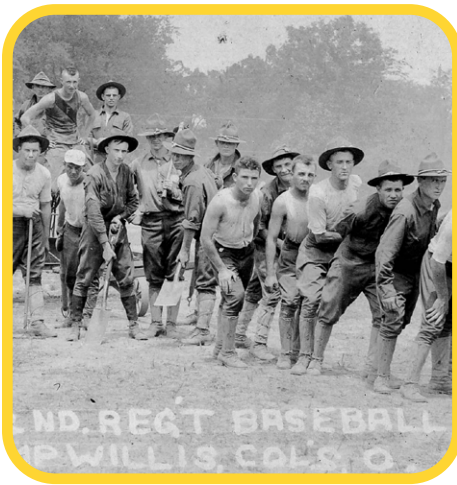
Called into Federal service 15 July 1917; Drafted into Federal service 5 August 1917

Reorganized and redesignated 25 October 1917 as Company L, 146th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Demobilized 10 April 1919 at Camp Sherman, Ohio

Reorganized and Federally recognized 21 December 1920 in the Ohio National Guard at Spencerville as Company H, 2d Infantry Regiment

Redesignated 1 May 1921 as Company K, 2d Infantry Regiment



Members of Company F, 2d Infantry Regiment, work at preparing the regimental baseball field at Camp Willis, Ohio in the summer of 1916.



Company F, 148th Infantry, 37th Division, Camp Perry, Ohio, 1935.



Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry marches in review at the conclusion of annual training at Camp Atterbury, Ind., 1949.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 July 1921 as Company K, 148th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1922 as Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 June 1923 as Company F, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 28 April 1937 as Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1940 as Headquarters Detachment, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Inducted into Federal service 15 October 1940 at Spencerville

(37th Division redesignated 1 February 1942 as the 37th Infantry Division)

Reorganized and redesignated 1 December 1942 as Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Inactivated 5 December 1945 at Camp Anza, California

Reorganized and Federally recognized 30 January 1947 in the Ohio Army National Guard at Spencerville as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry



Five members of Spencerville's Mortar Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry, are shown training on the assembly, aiming and maintenance of a 4.2-inch mortar in the community park in May 1963.

Ordered into active Federal service 15 January 1952 at Spencerville

(Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry [NGUS] organized and Federally recognized 19 January 1954)

Released from active Federal service 15 June 1954; Federal recognition concurrently withdrawn from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry (NGUS)

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1959 as Combat Support Company, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry

Consolidated 15 May 1961 with Reconnaissance Platoon, Combat Support Company, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry (see ANNEX 1); consolidated unit designated as Combat Support Company, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1963 as Ground Surveillance Section and Battalion Reconnaissance, Mortar, Davy Crockett, Anti-Tank and Support Platoons, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1964 as 2d Rifle and Weapon Platoons, Company C, 2d Battalion, 148th Infantry Reorganized and redesignated 15 November 1965 as Company C, 2d Battalion, 147th Infantry and relieved from assignment to the 37th Infantry Division

Reorganized and redesignated 15 February 1968 as 2d and 3d Rifle Platoons, Company A, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry, an element of the 38th Infantry Division

Redesignated 1 April 1970 as Detachment 1, Company A, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry

Converted and redesignated 1 May 1977 as Detachment 1, 837th Engineer Company, an element of the 73d Infantry Brigade

Consolidated 1 May 1989 with the 837th Engineer Company (see ANNEX 2); consolidated unit designated as the 837th Engineer Company; location concurrently changed to St. Marys

(73d Infantry Brigade redesignated 6 September 1992 as the 37th Infantry Brigade)

Relieved 1 September 1993 from assignment to the 37th Infantry Brigade

Consolidated 31 March 1994 with Company D, 612th Engineer Battalion (organized and Federally recognized 2 December 1993 at St. Marys); consolidated unit designated as Company D, 612th Engineer Battalion

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1994 as Company A, 612th Engineer Battalion

Ordered into active Federal service 10 November 2004 at St. Marys; released from active Federal Service 29 March 2006 and reverted to state control



Under the watchful eyes of Pfc. Mark Hightower (right), 121st Chemical Detachment, Capt. Richard Musser, 837th Engineer Company commander, gets into MOPP gear during a decontamination class at Camp Custer, Mich., in 1990.



Company A, 612th Engineer Battalion, Iraq, 2005.



A Soldier from Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team throws a grappling hook in order to identify possible enemy mines during an eXportable Combat Training Capability exercise at Camp Grayling, Mich., Aug. 21, 2015.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 2007 as Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

Ordered into active Federal service 4 January 2008 at St. Marys; released from active federal service 9 January 2009 and reverted to state control

Ordered into active Federal service 15 October 2011 at St. Marys; released from active Federal service 17 November 2012 and reverted to state control

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 September 2018 as Company B, 837th Engineer Battalion

Location changed 1 September 2020 to Lima

#### ANNEX 1

Organized and Federally recognized 20 October 1919 in the Ohio National Guard at Lima as Troop E, 1st Cavalry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 July 1921 as Troop E, 107th Cavalry, an element of the 22d Cavalry Division

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 January 1922 as Battery A, 135th Field Artillery, an element of the 37th Division

Redesignated 1 February 1922 as Battery D, 135th Field Artillery

Redesignated 1 June 1937 as Battery D, 136th Field Artillery

Inducted into Federal service 15 October 1940 at Lima

Reorganized and redesignated 1 February 1942 as Battery D, 174th Field Artillery and relieved from assignment to the 37th Infantry Division

Reorganized and redesignated 25 February 1943 as Battery A, 987th Field Artillery Battalion

Inactivated 27 October 1945 at Camp Cooke, California

Reorganized and Federally recognized 29 January 1947 in the Ohio Army National Guard at Lima as Battery A, 140th Field Artillery Battalion, an element of the 37th Infantry Division

Ordered into active Federal service 15 January 1952 at Lima

(Battery A, 140th Field Artillery Battalion [NGUS] organized and Federally recognized 19 January 1954)

Released from active Federal service 15 June 1954 and reverted to state control; Federal recognition concurrently withdrawn from Battery A, 140th Field Artillery Battalion (NGUS)

Converted and redesignated 1 September 1959 as Reconnaissance Platoon, Combat Support Company, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry



Battery D, 135th Field Artillery, Fort Knox, Ky., 1933.



Company K, 148th Infantry, Camp Perry, Ohio, 1937.

## ANNEX 2

Organized 1 July 1908 in the Ohio National Guard at St. Marys as Company K, 2d Infantry Regiment

Mustered into Federal service 19 June 1916 at Camp Willis, Ohio; Mustered out 24 March 1917 at Fort Sheridan, Illinois

Called into Federal service 15 July 1917; Drafted into Federal service 5 August 1917

Reorganized and redesignated 25 October 1917 as Company B, 146th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Demobilized 10 April 1919 at Camp Sherman, Ohio

Reorganized and federally recognized 23 June 1919 in the Ohio National Guard at St. Marys as Company K, 2d Infantry Regiment

Redesignated 2 August 1920 as Company K, 3d Infantry Regiment

Redesignated 20 December 1920 as Company K, 2d Infantry Regiment

Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1921 as Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment

Reorganized and redesignated 1 July 1921 as Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1922 as Company K, 148th Infantry



Capt. Carl McKinistry (left), assistant surgeon, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry, and Lt. Harry L. Rubenfield, Company K, 148th Infantry, enjoy their first hot meal in weeks using a helmet as a bowl, New Georgia, Aug. 17, 1945.



Company K, 148th Infantry officers on Bougainville, 1944: 1st Lt. Gerald E. Van Pelt (front row, from left), Capt. Labin Knipp, 1st Lt. Pete M. Mahon and 1st Lt. James A. Gillett; 2d Lt. Robert M. Viale (back row, from left), 2d Lt. Leo M. Williams and Lt. Shivers.



Company K, 148th Infantry crossing a foot bridge at a river about 2 miles north of abandoned Japanese barracks near Isabella, Luzon, Philippine Islands, June 19, 1945.

## MEDAL OF HONOR

**Second Lieutenant Robert M. Viale**

**Company K, 148th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division  
February 5, 1945 - Manila, Luzon, Philippine Islands**

CITATION: He displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. Forced by the enemy's detonation of prepared demolitions to shift the course of his advance through the city, he led the 1st platoon toward a small bridge, where heavy fire from 3 enemy pillboxes halted the unit. With 2 men he crossed the bridge behind screening grenade smoke to attack the pillboxes. The first he knocked out himself while covered by his men's protecting fire; the other 2 were silenced by 1 of his companions and a bazooka team which he had called up. He suffered a painful wound in the right arm during the action. After his entire platoon had joined him, he pushed ahead through mortar fire and encircling flames. Blocked from the only escape route by an enemy machine gun placed at a street corner, he entered a nearby building with his men to explore possible means of reducing the emplacement. In 1 room he found civilians huddled together, in another, a small window placed high in the wall and reached by a ladder. Because of the relative positions of the window, ladder, and enemy emplacement, he decided that he, being left-handed, could better hurl a grenade than 1 of his men who had made an unsuccessful attempt. Grasping an armed grenade, he started up the ladder. His wounded right arm weakened, and, as he tried to steady himself, the grenade fell to the floor. In the 5 seconds before the grenade would explode, he dropped down, recovered the grenade and looked for a place to dispose of it safely. Finding no way to get rid of the grenade without exposing his own men or the civilians to injury or death, he turned to the wall, held it close to his body and bent over it as it exploded. 2d Lt. Viale died in a few minutes, but his heroic act saved the lives of others.



Inducted into Federal service 15 October 1940 at St. Marys

(37th Division redesignated 1 February 1942 as the 37th Infantry Division)

Inactivated 18 December 1945 at Camp Anza, California

Consolidated 31 March 1947 with Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry (see ANNEX 3); consolidated unit Federally recognized in the Ohio Army National Guard at St. Marys as Company K, 148th Infantry

Ordered into active Federal service 15 January 1952 at St. Marys

(Company K, 148th Infantry [NGUS] organized and federally recognized 18 January 1954)

(Federal recognition withdrawn 14 May 1954 from Company K, 148th Infantry [NGUS]; concurrently Company H, 148th Infantry [NGUS] organized and federally recognized 15 May 1954)

Released from active Federal service 15 June 1954 and reverted to state control; Federal recognition concurrently withdrawn from Company H, 148th Infantry (NGUS)

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1959 as 1st Rifle and Weapon Platoons, Company C, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 1 February 1960 as 2d Rifle and Weapon Platoons, Company C, 2d Battle Group, 148th Infantry

Redesignated 1 April 1963 as 2d Rifle and Weapon Platoons, Company B, 2d Battalion, 147th Infantry and relieved from assignment to the 37th Infantry Division

Reorganized and redesignated 15 November 1965 as Company A, 2d Battalion, 147th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 15 February 1968 as Company A, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry, an element of the 38th Infantry Division

(148th Infantry assigned 1 March 1977 to the 73d Infantry Brigade)

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 January 1984 as the 837th Engineer Company

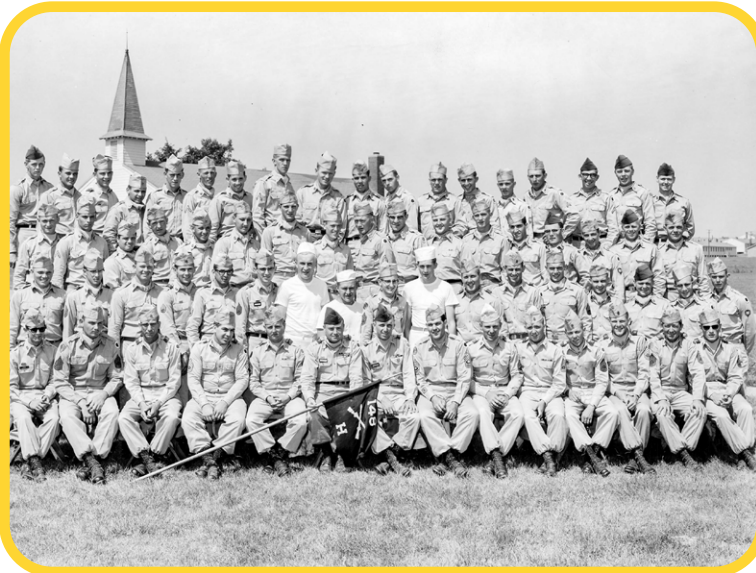
### ANNEX 3

Organized and Federally recognized 26 April 1926 in the Ohio National Guard at St. Marys as Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1940 as Headquarters Detachment, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Inducted into Federal service 15 October 1940 at St. Marys

(37th Division redesignated 1 February 1942 as the 37th Infantry Division)



Company H, 148th Infantry, Camp Breckinridge, Ky., 1959.



Command Sgt. Maj. Hans Woesner (left), 73d Infantry Brigade command sergeant major, presents the McMillen Award for Brigade Soldier of the Year to Staff Sgt. Richard Rower of the 837th Engineer Company, at the St. Marys Armory, 1985.



Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry marching past crowd at Camp Perry, Ohio, July 13, 1937.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 December 1942 as Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 148th Infantry

Inactivated 18 December 1945 at Camp Anza, California

HOME STATION: Lima

#### CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

##### World War I

Ypres-Lys  
Meuse-Argonne  
Lorraine 1918

##### World War II

Northern Solomons (with arrowhead)  
Luzon (with arrowhead)  
Normandy (with arrowhead)  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe

##### War on Terrorism

Global War on Terrorism  
*Iraq:*  
Iraqi Governance  
National Resolution

##### *Afghanistan:*

Transition I

#### DECORATIONS

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered BOUGAINVILLE

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered MORTAIN

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered LUZON

Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered IRAQ 2004-2005

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered AFGHANISTAN DEC 2011 – SEP 2012

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered 17 OCTOBER 1944 TO 4 JULY 1945

Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action at ST. VITH

# HERALDIC ITEMS



## DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA

Description/Blazon: Silver color metal and enamel device 1 1/8 inches (2.86 cm) in height overall consisting of a shield blazoned as follows: Per bend Gules and Azure issuing from chief four billets Argent, in sinister chief a mullet Or radiating to dexter base two lightning flashes of the third; overall on a bend of the last a tomahawk Sable below in chief a torteau fimbriated Argent. Attached below the device a black tri-partite motto scroll inscribed "BOW TO NONE" in silver letters.

Symbolism: Shawnee Chief Tecumseh, head of the Indian inhabitants who first occupied the part of Ohio where the unit is now stationed, is represented by the star in reference to his name, meaning "Shooting Star," and by the pipe tomahawk, which symbolizes also the warrior spirit of Tecumseh. The lightning flashes represent the communications and electronic warfare missions of the unit and denote speedy response to mission requirements. Black and white (silver) signify the ability of the unit to function night and day. The embattled top edge of the shield recalls the unit's engineer function, scarlet indicates courage and sacrifice. The scarlet roundel with white edging is taken from the flag of the State of Ohio and pays tribute to the 37th "Buckeye" Division.

Background: The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 1 November 2007 for the Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. It was redesignated for the 837th Engineer Battalion on 1 September 2018.

## COAT OF ARMS

Description/Blazon:

Shield: Per bend Gules and Azure issuing from chief four billets Argent, in sinister chief a mullet Or radiating to dexter base two lightning flashes of the third; overall on a bend of the last a tomahawk Sable below in chief a torteau fimbriated Argent.

Crest: That for the regiments and separate battalions of the Ohio Army National Guard: From a wreath Argent and Gules, a sheaf of buckeye (aesculus glabra) fructed Proper (two leaves with bursting burr).

Motto: BOW TO NONE



Symbolism: Shawnee Chief Tecumseh, head of the Indian inhabitants who first occupied the part of Ohio where the unit is now stationed, is represented by the star in reference to his name, meaning "Shooting Star," and by the pipe tomahawk, which symbolizes also the warrior spirit of the unit. The motto of the Special Troops Battalion, "Bow To None," is taken from a speech by Tecumseh. The lightning flashes represent the communications and electronic warfare missions of the unit and denote speedy response to mission requirements. Black and white (silver) signify the ability of the unit to function night and day. The embattled top edge of the shield recalls the unit's engineer function, scarlet indicates courage and sacrifice. The scarlet roundel with white edging is taken from the flag of the State of Ohio and pays tribute to the 37th "Buckeye" Division. The crest is that of the Ohio Army National Guard.

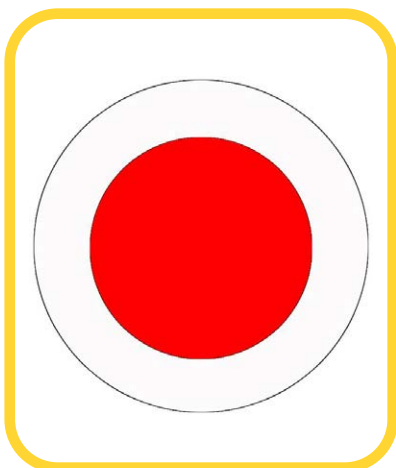
Background: The coat of arms was approved on 1 November 2007 for the Special Troops Battalion, 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. It was redesignated for the 837th Engineer Battalion on 1 September 2018.

## SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA

Description/Blazon: On a white disc 2 1/4 inches (5.72 cm) in diameter a red disc 1 1/2 inches (3.81 cm) in diameter.

Symbolism: The red and white disc is taken from the State Flag of Ohio.

Background: The shoulder sleeve insignia was originally approved for the 37th Division on 5 November 1918. It was redesignated for the 16th Engineer Brigade on 9 July 1968. It was canceled on 4 December 1969. The insignia was reinstated and redesignated effective 1 September 2007, for the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, with the description updated and a symbolism added.



# PAST COMMANDERS

## COMPANY F, 2D INFANTRY REGIMENT

1900: Capt. Jaob R. Welch  
1901-1904: Capt. Corwin H. Post  
1905-1908: Capt. Frank E. Arnold  
1908-1909: Capt. Charles D. Gamble  
1910-1917: Capt. J. Smith Howe

## COMPANY K, 148TH INFANTRY

1922: Capt. Ralph E. Neidhardt

## COMPANY F, 148TH INFANTRY

1923-1931: Capt. John L. Watson

## HQ COMPANY,

### 2D BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1938-1941: 2nd Lt. Hubert Hayes  
1941: 1st Lt. George F. Graf  
1942: 1st Lt. Robert F. Miller  
1944: Capt. Byron B. Hughes  
1944: Capt. Stanley I. Grad  
1944-1945: Capt. Donald A. Kincaid  
1945: 1st Lt. Fred C. Miller

## HQ & HQ COMPANY,

### 3D BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1951: Capt. Robert P. Mitchell  
1952: Capt. John R. Kennedy  
1954: 1st Lt. Carl H. Koch Jr.  
1958: 1st Lt. Ralph E. Purdy  
1958-1959: 1st Lt. Donald L. Kinkle

## COMBAT SUPPORT COMPANY,

### 2D BATTLE GROUP, 148TH INFANTRY

1959: Capt. Donald L. Kinkle

## 837TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1989-1992: Capt. Richard E. Musser  
1993-1994: Capt. Rodney Kaiser

## COMPANY A, 612TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1994-1997: Capt. Dean Ervin  
1997-1999: Capt. Wayne A. Moening  
1999-2001: Capt. David S. Rhoads  
2001-2002: Capt. Michael Powell  
2003-2006: Capt. Kevin Bigenho  
2007: Capt. Robert Haenszel

## COMPANY A, SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION, 37TH INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

2007: Capt. Robert Haenszel  
2007-2009: Capt. Matthew J. Molinski  
2009-2012: Capt. David K. Swisher  
2013-2015: Capt. Andre C. Ballard  
2015-2018: Capt. Daniel J. Bentley



Capt. Watson



2nd Lt. Hayes



1st Lt. Graf



Capt. Kennedy



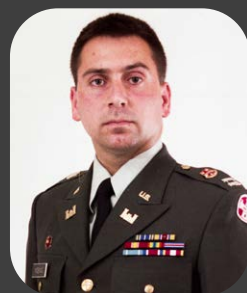
1st Lt. Koch



Capt. Musser



Capt. Ervin



Capt. Moening



Capt. Rhoads



Capt. Bigenho



Capt. Haenszel



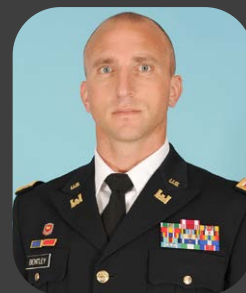
Capt. Molinski



Capt. Swisher



Capt. Ballard



Capt. Bentley

# PAST COMMANDERS

## COMPANY B, 837TH ENGINEER BATTALION

2018-2019: Capt. Daniel J. Bentley  
2019-2021: Capt. Charles T. Dix  
2021-2022: Capt. Devin R. Port  
2022-2025: Capt. Austin T. Pitcock  
2025-: Capt. Brandon M. Barda

## ANNEX 1

### TROOP E, 1ST CAVALRY

1920: Capt. Harry C. Horner

### TROOP E, 107TH CAVALRY

1922: Capt. Kenneth R. Kerr

### BATTERY D, 135TH FIELD ARTILLERY

1923: Capt. Calvin F. Selfrdige  
1924-1925: Capt. Neil R. Poling  
1926-1929: Capt. George W. Nicholas  
1930-1931: Capt. Lawrence W. Jenkinson

### BATTERY D, 136TH FIELD ARTILLERY

1938-1941: Capt. Clarence W. Loescher

### BATTERY A,

#### 140TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

1946: Capt. Vincent C. Gels  
1952: Capt. David Lavigne  
1954: 1st Lt. Jack E. Sharp

## ANNEX 2

### COMPANY K, 2D INFANTRY REGIMENT

1908: Capt. Charles Mooney  
1909: Capt. Elbert L. Heusch  
1909-1913: Capt. Emil H. Finke  
1914-1916: Capt. George M. Raudabaugh  
1917: Capt. Guy O. Shaffer

### COMPANY B, 146TH INFANTRY

1918: Capt. Samuel J. Cole

### COMPANY K, 2D/3D INFANTRY REGIMENT

1919-1921: Capt. Emil F. Marx

### COMPANY K, 148TH INFANTRY

1922-1924: Capt. Emil F. Marx  
1925-1932: Capt. Thomas J. Needels  
1932-1937: Capt. Theodore R. Black  
1937-1941: Capt. Carl Henne  
1941-1942: Capt. Howard W. Schultz



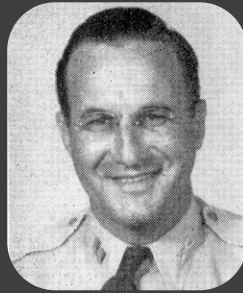
Capt. Dix



Capt. Pitcock



Capt. Loescher



Capt. Lavigne



1st Lt. Sharp



Capt. Radabaugh



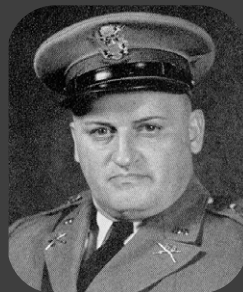
Capt. Cole



Capt. Marx



Capt. Needels



Capt. Black



Capt. Henne



Capt. Schultz

# PAST COMMANDERS

## COMPANY K, 148TH INFANTRY (cont)

1942-1943: Capt. Thomas W. Fort

1943: 1st Lt. Harry L. Rubenfeld

1943: Capt. Vernon B. McMillen

1944-1945: Capt. Labin W. Knipp

1945: 1st Lt. Thomas R. Smith

1945: 1st Lt. Bruce H. Donald Jr.

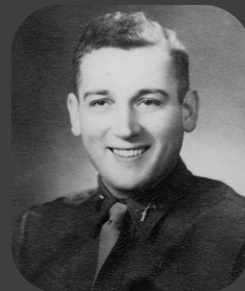
1947-1948: Capt. Charles P. Clogher

1951: 1st Lt. Lynn A. Fisher

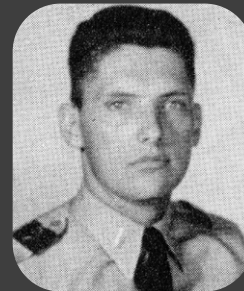
1951-1952: Capt. Benjamin Rupert



Capt. McMillen



Capt. Knipp



1st Lt. Fisher

## COMPANY H, 148TH INFANTRY

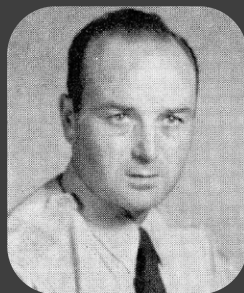
1954-1959: Cap. Benjamin Rupert

## COMPANY A,

### 2D BATTALION, 147TH INFANTRY

1965-1967: 1st Lt. Charles E. Centers

1967-1968: Capt. Lloyd D. Gilbert



Capt. Rupert



Capt. Schwartz



Capt. Stratton

## COMPANY A,

### 1ST BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1968-1971: Capt. David R. Rider Jr.

1971: Capt. Tommie G. Smith

1971-1973: Capt. William J. Bruns

1973-1976: Capt. Thomas R. Altenbach

1976-1978: Capt. Larry E. Schwartz

1978-1980: Capt. Terrence J. Siemer

1980-1982: Capt. William Stratton

1982-1984: Capt. Mark K. Mueller



Maj. Wilder



Capt. Roberts



1st Lt. Walsh

## 837TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1984-1985: Maj. James C. Wilder

1985-1988: Capt. Ronald Roberts

1988-1989: Capt. Richard E. Musser

## ANNEX 3

### HQ COMPANY,

#### 3D BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1926-1935: 1st Lt. Joseph E. Walsh

1935-1940: 1st Lt. Robert W. Reed

1941: 1st Lt. Ralph R. Swartz

1942: 1st Lt. William D. Leathers

1944-1945: Capt. William J. McNamara



1st Lt. Reed



1st Lt. Swartz

# PAST FIRST SERGEANTS

## COMPANY F, 2D INFANTRY REGIMENT

1903: 1st Sgt. Raymond R. Kennedy

1904-1907: 1st Sgt. J. Smith Howe

1907-1910: 1st Sgt. Guy O. Shaffer

## HQ COMPANY,

### 2D BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1941: 1st Sgt. Joe M. Wright

1944: 1st Sgt. Reuben Mortz

1945: 1st Sgt. Ben W. Mescher

## 837TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1988-1990: 1st Sgt. Gilbert N. Meyer

## COMPANY A, 612TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1994-1999: 1st Sgt. Randy J. Averagesch

2003-2007: 1st Sgt. Charles Edwards

## COMPANY A, SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION, 37TH INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

2007-2009: 1st Sgt. Charles Edwards

2009-2013: 1st Sgt. Jerry Piddock

2013-2016: 1st Sgt. Preston Keith

2016-2018: 1st Sgt. David W. Egbert

## COMPANY B, 837TH ENGINEER BATTALION

2018-2019: 1st Sgt. David W. Egbert

2019-2022: 1st Sgt. Ryon E. Elmore

2022-2025: 1st Sgt. Ryan M. Ritchie

2025-: 1st Sgt. Bret M. Woodyard

## ANNEX 1

### BATTERY D, 136TH FIELD ARTILLERY

1938: 1st Sgt. Clarence W. Bradford

## ANNEX 2

## COMPANY K, 2D/3D INFANTRY REGIMENT

1920-1921: 1st Sgt. Thomas J. Needels

### COMPANY K, 148TH INFANTRY

1921-1922: 1st Sgt. Thomas J. Needels

1933: 1st Sgt. Hubert E. Davenport

1938-1940: 1st Sgt. Charles R. Kramer

1940-1941: 1st Sgt. John D. Campbell

1943: 1st Sgt. Carl A. Schrolucke

1944-1945: 1st Sgt. Roy A. McMurray

## COMPANY A,

### 1ST BATTALION, 148TH INFANTRY

1968-1974: 1st Sgt. Jimmie D. Herfurth

1977-1980: 1st Sgt. Barry A. Swallow

1980-1984: 1st Sgt. David F. Mahlie

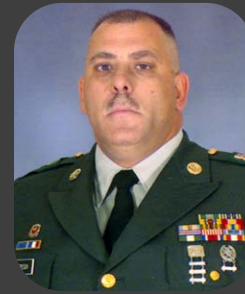
## 837TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1984-1986: 1st Sgt. Leonard L. Pyles Jr.

1986-1988: 1st Sgt. Gilbert N. Meyer



1st Sgt. Wright



1st Sgt. Averagesch



1st Sgt. Edwards



1st Sgt. Keith



1st Sgt. Egbert



1st Sgt. Elmore



1st Sgt. McMurray



1st Sgt. Pyles



Updated as of May 4, 2026

This historical sketch is published IAW AGOR 870-5 by the office of the Historian, Ohio National Guard. This history reflects the approved lineage and honors of the unit as determined by the U.S. Army Center of Military History. All photographs used, unless otherwise cited, are from the Ohio National Guard Heritage Center. Errors, corrections and suggestions may be submitted to:

State of Ohio, Adjutant General's Department, ATTN: NGOH-HIS, 2825 West Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789  
or [joshua.d.mann.civ@army.mil](mailto:joshua.d.mann.civ@army.mil)