

UNIT HISTORICAL SKETCH



HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

CINCINNATI, OHIO

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion was organized on Nov. 22, 1900, at Manchester, Ohio as Company G, 7th Separate Infantry Battalion. On Oct. 11, 1910, the unit was transferred to the 1st Infantry Regiment as Company L. During World War I the unit was reorganized as Company L, 148th Infantry and served in France and Belgium with the 37th Division.

The company returned to Manchester in February 1921 and served as Company F, I and E, 147th Infantry. On Oct. 15, 1940, Company E was inducted into federal service and sent to Camp Shelby, Miss. for training. The 147th Infantry was sent to the South Pacific in 1942 and saw combat as a separate regimental combat team on Guadalcanal, British Samoa, New Caledonia, Emirau Island, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. The company was inactivated on Dec. 20, 1945, at Fort Lawton, Wash.

On Jan. 20, 1947, the unit was reorganized as Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 147th Infantry and returned as an element of the 37th Infantry Division. From 1952 to 1954, the company returned to active duty at Camp Polk, La. during the Korean War. While the unit did not deploy to Korea, Soldiers were sent to theater as individual replacements. After returning to Manchester in 1954, the unit was redesignated again as Company E, 147th Infantry.

On Sept. 1, 1959, a general reorganization of the Ohio National Guard occurred and Company E was converted to an engineer unit and designated as Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion. On Oct. 1, 1993, the Manchester Armory closed and Company B was consolidated with the unit in Felicity as Company C, 216th Engineer Battalion. The Felicity unit was organized on Sept. 1, 1963, as Battery A, 1st Battalion, 137th Artillery.

On Sept. 1, 1997, the unit was reorganized as Detachment 1, Headquarters and Service Company, 216th Engineer Battalion. The detachment mobilized to Iraq from 2004 to 2005 in support of the 1st Infantry Division, where it earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

The unit came under its present designation on Sept. 1, 2007, when the Felicity facility was closed and the detachment was consolidated with the parent unit in Cincinnati. The consolidated unit was designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion. The company was mobilized in 2021-2022 in support of security operations along the Southwest Border.



1st Sgt. Jack E. Pettit Armory, Manchester, Ohio.



LINEAGE AND HONORS

Organized 22 November 1900 in the Ohio National Guard at Manchester as Company G, 7th Separate Infantry Battalion

Redesignated 20 June 1901 as Company G, 7th Infantry Regiment

Redesignated 11 October 1910 as Company L, 1st Infantry Regiment

Redesignated 15 February 1913 as Company L, Unattached Infantry

Redesignated 10 March 1914 as Company L, 1st Infantry Regiment

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

Redesignated 25 October 1917 as Company L, 148th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division

Demobilized 22 April 1919 at Camp Sherman, Ohio

Reorganized and Federally recognized 4 February 1921 in the Ohio National Guard at Manchester as Company F, 1st Infantry Regiment

Reorganized and redesignated 1 July 1921 as Company F, 147th Infantry, an element of the 37th Division



Company E, 147th Infantry Regiment, Camp Perry, Ohio, 1935.

Redesignated 1 January 1922 as Company I,
147th Infantry

Redesignated 1 October 1930 as Company E,
147th Infantry

Inducted into Federal service 15 October 1940 at
Manchester

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

Relieved 31 July 1943 from assignment to the
37th Infantry Division

Inactivated 20 December 1945 at Ft. Lawton,
Washington

(147th Infantry assigned 10 June 1946 to the
37th Infantry Division)

Reorganized and Federally recognized 20 January
1947 in the Ohio National Guard at Manchester
as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d
Battalion, 147th Infantry

Reorganized and redesignated 16 March 1950
as Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 147th
Infantry

Ordered into active Federal service 15 January
1952 at Manchester

(Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 147th
Infantry [NGUS] organized and Federally recognized
15 January 1954)

Released from active Federal service 15 June
1954 and reverted to state control; Federal
recognition concurrently withdrawn from
Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 147th
Infantry (NGUS)

Federal recognition withdrawn 14 September 1954; concurrently Company E, 147th Infantry organized and Federally recognized 15 September 1954

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1959 as Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion and relieved from assignment to the 37th Infantry Division

Consolidated 1 October 1993 with Company C, 216th Engineer Battalion (see ANNEX 1); consolidated unit designated as Company C, 216th Engineer Battalion; location changed to Felicity

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1997 as Detachment 1, Headquarters and Service Company, 216th Engineer Battalion

Ordered into active Federal service 18 December 2003 at Felicity; released from active Federal service 16 April 2005 and reverted to state control

Consolidated 1 September 2007 with Headquarters and Service Company, 216th Engineer Battalion (see ANNEX 2); consolidated unit designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion; location changed to Woodlawn

Location changed 15 September 2016 to Cincinnati

Ordered into active Federal service 29 September 2021 at Cincinnati; released from active Federal service 12 December 2022 and reverted to state control

ANNEX 1

Organized and Federally recognized 1 September 1963 in the Ohio Army National Guard at Felicity as Battery A, 1st Missile Battalion, 137th Artillery

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1969 as the 337th General Support Company

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1974 as the 26th Engineer Company

Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1977 as Company C, 216th Engineer Battalion

ANNEX 2

Constituted 24 March 1942 in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 14th Ordnance Battalion

Activated 7 May 1942 at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina

Inactivated 31 December 1945 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey

Allotted 14 August 1946 to the Ohio National Guard and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment 38th Ordnance Battalion

Organized and Federally recognized 23 November 1948 at Cincinnati

Ordered into active Federal service 19 August 1950 at Cincinnati

(Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 38th Ordnance Battalion [NGUS] organized and Federally recognized 9 October 1952)

Released from active Federal service 3 December 1954 and reverted to state control; Federal recognition concurrently withdrawn from Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 38th Ordnance Battalion [NGUS]

Consolidated 1 September 1959 with Company A (see ANNEX 3) and B (see ANNEX 4), 112th Engineer Battalion; consolidated unit designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1963 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Group



Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
2d Battalion, 147th Infantry, Camp
Atterbury, Ind., 1950



Brig. Gen Stephen Mundy, assistant division
commander (Support) for the 1st Infantry
Division, congratulates Spc. Jonathan Bundy
of Headquarters and Service Company,
216th Engineer Battalion, after presenting
him the Purple Heart Medal for wounds
received in combat in Iraq, Aug. 23, 2004.



Soldiers from Headquarters and
Headquarters Detachment, 38th Ordnance
Battalion stand outside of a building marked
"Cook Quarters" during training at Camp
Perry, Ohio, circa 1950.

Redesignated 1 April 1971 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 134th Engineer Group

ANNEX 3

Organized and Federally recognized 5 November 1952 in the Ohio Army National Guard at Blue Ash as Company C, 878th Engineer Aviation Battalion

Location changed 1 January 1981 to Hamilton

Reorganized and redesignated 1 October 1996 as Headquarters and Service Company, 216th Engineer Battalion

Reorganized and redesignated 7 September 1956 as Company A, 112th Engineer Battalion, an element of the 37th Infantry Division

Consolidated 1 September 1997 with Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion (see ANNEX 5); consolidated unit designated as Headquarters and Service Company, 216th Engineer Battalion

ANNEX 4

Organized and Federally recognized 17 March 1953 in the Ohio Army National Guard at Blue Ash as the 945th Engineer Company

Ordered into active Federal service 18 December 2003 at Hamilton; released from active Federal service 16 April 2005 and reverted to state control

Reorganized and redesignated 7 September 1956 as Company B, 112th Engineer Battalion, an element of the 37th Infantry Division

Location changed 1 January 2006 to Woodlawn



Soldiers from Company B, 112th Engineer Battalion test their "do it yourself" ferry on Des Islet Lake, Camp Breckinridge, Ky., 1958.

ANNEX 5

Organized and Federally recognized 27 June 1951
in the Ohio Army National Guard at Middletown as
Battery A, 180th Antiaircraft Artillery Battalion

Reorganized and redesignated 1 September 1959
as Battery A, 1st Gun Battalion, 174th Artillery

Reorganized and redesignated 15 February 1968
as Battery A, 1st Battalion, 174th Artillery

Converted, reorganized and redesignated 1
February 1972 as Company A, 372d Engineer
Battalion

Location changed 1 April 1991 to Kettering

Location changed 1 October 1991 to Dayton

Reorganized and redesignated 1 October 1993 as
Company B, 216th Engineer Battalion

Location changed 1 April 1995 to Hamilton

HOME STATION: Cincinnati

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

World War I

Ypres-Lys
Meuse-Argonne
Lorraine 1918

World War II

Air Offensive, Japan
Guadalcanal
Northern Solomons
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

War on Terrorism

Iraq:
Transition of Iraq
Iraqi Governance

DECORATIONS

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer
embroidered EUROPEAN THEATER

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer
embroidered IRAQ 2004

HERALDIC ITEMS



DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA

Description/Blazon: A Silver color metal and enamel device 1 1/8 inches (2.86 cm) in height overall consisting of a shield blazoned: Gules, on a fess Argent, a section of a girder Sable, issuant from base a masoned tower embattled of the second, in chief five lightning flashes radiant of the last. Attached below and to the sides of the shield a Silver scroll inscribed "FIGHT AND BUILD" in Black letters.

Symbolism: Red and white (silver) are the colors used for Engineers. The three divisions of the field refer to the Battalion's mission of construction, maintenance, and demolition. The lightning flashes represent the five battle honors awarded the unit for service in World War II, and also allude to the impact of the Engineers' destructive forces in hindering enemy movement. The girder symbolizes the unit's strength and stability in maintaining their work. The wall denotes the sturdy construction and fortification provided by the Engineer Battalion.

Background: The distinctive unit insignia was approved on 2 March 1960.



COAT OF ARMS

Description/Blazon:

Shield: Gules, on a fess Argent, a section of a girder Sable, issuant from base a masoned tower embattled of the second, in chief five lightning flashes radiant of the last.

Crest: That for the regiments and separate battalions of the Ohio Army National Guard: On a wreath of the colors Argent and Gules, a sheaf of seventeen arrows Argent bound by a sprig of buckeye (Aesculus glabra) fructed Proper (two leaves with bursting burr).

Motto: FIGHT AND BUILD

Symbolism: Red and white are the colors used for Engineers. The three divisions of the field refer to the Battalion's mission of construction, maintenance, and demolition. The lightning flashes represent the five battle honors awarded the unit for service in World War II, and also allude to the impact of the Engineers' destructive forces in hindering enemy movement. The girder symbolizes the unit's strength and stability in maintaining their work. The wall denotes the sturdy construction and fortification provided by the Engineer Battalion.

Background: The coat of arms was approved on 2 March 1960.



SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA

Description/Blazon: On a scarlet disc 2 inches (5.08cm) in diameter two white towers, each embattled of three merlons and with scarlet windows and entranceways, crossed in saltire all within a 1/8 inch (.32cm) white border.

Symbolism: The colors scarlet and white are used for Engineers. The two crossed towers, forming a saltire - a symbol used during the Crusades to reward those who scaled town walls - refer to the combat aspects of the Engineers. Furthermore, the saltire, a form of brace, alludes to engineering support to other components within the organization. The saltire formed by the two crossed towers simulates an X, the map symbol used for brigades and also simulates the Roman numeral ten (X) which with the three merlons of each tower alludes to sixteen (16), the numerical designation of the organization.

Background: The shoulder sleeve insignia was approved on 4 December 1969.

PAST COMMANDERS

COMPANY G, 7TH INFANTRY

1900-1905: Capt. Wilber V. Cooley

1906-1910: Capt. Leroy T. Darnell

COMPANY L, 1ST INFANTRY

1910-1914: Capt. Leroy T. Darnell

1917: Capt. Royal Mattice

COMPANY L, 148TH INFANTRY

1918: Capt. Thomas H. Morrow

COMPANY I, 147TH INFANTRY

1922-1930: Capt. Albert G. Lockhart

COMPANY E, 147TH INFANTRY

1930-1936: Capt. Albert G. Lockhart

1936-1940: Capt. Harry Yates

1940-1941: Capt. John M. McGuffin

1942-1943: Capt. John Lovko

HQ & HQ COMPANY,

2D BATTALION, 147TH INFANTRY

1946-1947: Capt. Earl C. Downey

1950-1952: Capt. Carl B. Slade Jr.

1954: Capt. John O. Mahaffey

COMPANY E, 147TH INFANTRY

1954-1955: Capt. John O. Mahaffey

1955-1959: Capt. Richard M. Lockhart

COMPANY B, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1959-1961: Capt. Richard M. Lockhart

1961-1962: Capt. John O. Mahaffey

1962-1969: Capt. Gerald G. Naylor

1969-1970: Capt. Daniel R. Naylor

1970-1974: Capt. Dewey W. Moore

1974-1975: 1st Lt. Larry K. Hill

1975-1978: Capt. James C. Phipps III

1979: Capt. Robert A. Hahn

1980-1983: Capt. Calvin W. Campbell

1985-1987: Capt. Robert M. Sanders

1988-1990: Capt. James A. Dillinger

1990-1991: Capt. Michael L. Hissom

1992: Capt. Donald G. Rutherford

1992-1993: Capt. Curt L. Hefner

COMPANY C, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1993-1995: Capt. Bryan M. Prosch



Capt. Cooley



Capt. Morrow



Capt. Lockhart



Capt. Yates



Capt. McGuffin



Capt. Lovko



Capt. Downey



Capt. Slade



Capt. Mahaffey



Capt. Lockhart



Capt. Naylor



Capt. Phipps



Capt. Campbell



Capt. Sanders



Capt. Hissom

PAST COMMANDERS

HQ & HQ COMPANY,

216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

2007-2008: Capt. Amy R. Fullenkamp

2008-2010: Capt. Daniel R. Eakins

2010-2011: Capt. Sephan A. Frazier

2012-2014: Capt. Tyler Hoffman

2014-2016: Capt. Michael Antonas

2016-2018: Capt. Christopher J. Lautner

2018-2020: Capt. Ryan A. Slate

2021-2023: Capt. Adam P. Krueger

2024-: Capt. Thomas M. Sylvester



Capt. Fullenkamp



Capt. Eakins



Capt. Frazier

ANNEX 1

26TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1974-1976: Capt. Edward G. Brenner Jr.

1976: Capt. James C. Hadley

1976-1977: Maj. Stephen L. Kollstedt



Capt. Hoffman



Capt. Antonas



Capt. Lautner

COMPANY C, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1977-1980: Capt. Patrick L. Garner

1980-1981: Capt. John T. Coggins Jr.

1981-1982: Capt. Dennis H. Shinkle

1982-1985: Capt. Billy A. Woodall

1985: Capt. Michael L. Ernst

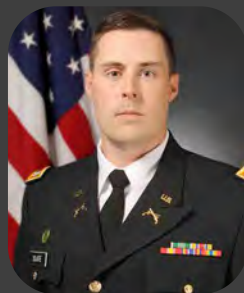
1986-1988: Capt. Michael L. Ernst

1988-1989: Capt. Robert M. Sanders

1989: 1st Lt. Mark B. Buelsing

1990: Capt. Joseph L. Knott

1990-1993: Capt. Otho E. Moore



Capt. Slate



Capt. Krueger



Capt. Sylvester

ANNEX 2

HQ & HQ DETACHMENT,

38TH ORDNANCE BATTALION

1948-1950: Capt. Robert A. Meier

HQ & HQ COMPANY, 134TH ENGINEER GROUP

1972-1973: Capt. Terrence D. Dalrymple

1973-1976: Capt. James E. Story

1976-1977: Capt. Michael G. Rothberg

1977: Capt. Louie H. Sligh

1977-1979: Capt. James E. Story

1979-1980: Capt. Walter J. Bailey Jr.

1981: Capt. Walter S. Telford Jr.

1981-1984: Capt. John A. Lynch Jr.

1984-1985: Capt. Glenn C. Hammond III

1987: 1st Lt. Tommy R. Tigar



Capt. Woodall



Capt. Ernst



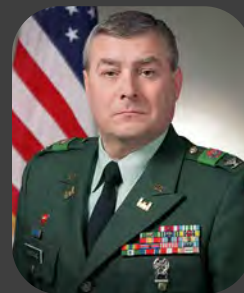
Capt. Knott



Capt. Moore



Capt. Dalrymple



Capt. Hammond

PAST COMMANDERS

HQ & HQ COMPANY,

134TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONTINUED)

1988-1990: Capt. Susan Petty

1990: Capt. Russell Parsley

1991-1993: Capt. Lawrence P. Fanning

1993-1994: Capt. Myra J. Leeper

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE COMPANY, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1996: Capt. Leonard S. Genders

1996-1998: Capt. Scott D. Evans

1998-1999: Capt. Brian J. Grassa

1999-2002: Capt. Thomas P. Caldwell

2002-2003: Capt. Michael C. Arnold

2003-2004: Capt. Kenneth L. Caubbe

2004-2005: Capt. John R. Vagnier II

ANNEX 5

BATTERY A,

180TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BATTALION

1951-1953: Capt. Andrew J. Dobrossi

1953-1959: Capt. Louis Chamberlain

BATTERY A, 1ST BATTALION, 174TH ARTILLERY

1969-1970: Capt. Raymond E. Trickler

1970-1971: Capt. Herschell H. Phillips Jr.

1971-1972: Capt. Edward C. Erlandson

COMPANY A, 372D ENGINEER BATTALION

1972-1975: Capt. Edward C. Erlandson

1975-1977: Capt. Gerald R. Schoettmer

1977-1980: Capt. Ernest R. Adkins

1981-1984: Capt. James J. Pettit Jr.

1989: Capt. Calvin W. Campbell

1989-1990: Capt. Matthew P. Mitchell

1991-1992: Capt. Edward S. Freese

COMPANY B, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1994-1995: Capt. Leonard S. Genders



Capt. Petty



Capt. Genders



Capt. Evans



Capt. Grassa



Capt. Caldwell



Capt. Vagnier



Capt. Trickler



Capt. Adkins



Capt. Pettit



Capt. Mitchell

PAST FIRST SERGEANTS

COMPANY G, 7TH INFANTRY

1900: 1st Sgt. Robert A. Masterson

1906-1907: 1st Sgt. Joseph H. Lowery

COMPANY E, 147TH INFANTRY

1938-1940: 1st Sgt. Leslie H. Pennywitt

HQ & HQ COMPANY,

2D BATTALION, 147TH INFANTRY

1947: 1st Sgt. Robert J. Franz

COMPANY B, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1964-1984: 1st Sgt. Jack E. Pettit

1984: 1st Sgt. James C. Trefz

1986: 1st Sgt. Jack E. Pettit

1988-1990: 1st Sgt. William R. Conn

1991-1992: 1st Sgt. Robert T. Jones

HQ & HQ COMPANY,

216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

2008-2011: 1st Sgt. Christina Sunderhaus

2011-2013: 1st Sgt. Kenneth S. White

2013-2014: 1st Sgt. Anthony McGraw

2014-2015: 1st Sgt. Robert Blackburn

2015: 1st Sgt. John T. Botts Jr.

2015-2019: 1st Sgt. Joseph D. Bernert

2020-2021: 1st Sgt. Joseph A. Shilling

2021-2023: 1st Sgt. Courtney C. Campbell

2024-: 1st Sgt. Aaron C. Edwards

ANNEX 1

26TH ENGINEER COMPANY

1975-1976: 1st Sgt. Robert R. Smith

COMPANY C, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1983: 1st Sgt. Clinton R. Bailey

1986-1988: 1st Sgt. Henry U. Grant

1989-1990: 1st Sgt. Robert W. Scholle

ANNEX 2

HQ & HQ COMPANY, 134TH ENGINEER GROUP

1975-1976: 1st Sgt. James A. Rich

1976: 1st Sgt. Douglas White

1984: 1st Sgt. Robert D. Cox

1987-1991: 1st Sgt. Barry S. Wilson

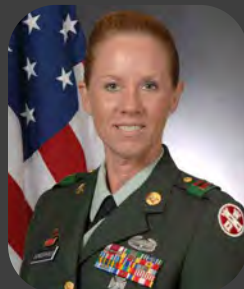
1991-1992: 1st Sgt. Charles Curtin

1993-1994: 1st Sgt. Michael Johnson

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE COMPANY, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1997-2001: 1st Sgt. Mitchell Singleton

2003-2006: 1st Sgt. Haldor M. Torgimson



1st Sgt. Sunderhaus



1st Sgt. White



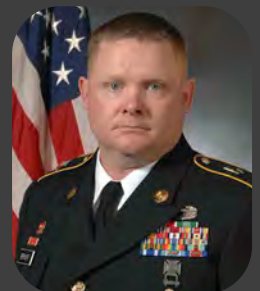
1st Sgt. McGraw



1st Sgt. Blackburn



1st Sgt. Botts



1st Sgt. Bernert



1st Sgt. Edwards



1st Sgt. Wilson



1st Sgt. A. Cox



1st Sgt. Brown



1st Sgt. Chambers

ANNEX 5

COMPANY A, 372D ENGINEER BATTALION

1975: 1st Sgt. Donald R. Spencer

1975-1976: 1st Sgt. Archie V. Cox

1978-1979: 1st Sgt. Charles A. Gilbert

1979-1984: 1st Sgt. Thomas G. Brown

1987-1989: 1st Sgt. Danny L. Chambers

1989-1990: 1st Sgt. James E. Fetters

1991: 1st Sgt. Barry S. Wilson

1993-1995: 1st Sgt. Mitchell Singleton

COMPANY B, 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION

1993-1995: 1st Sgt. Mitchell Singleton



Updated as of Nov. 14, 2025

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:

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or joshua.d.mann.civ@army.mil