

Rooney, Leo

24 Local Men "Shovel Soldiers" With New Guinea Engineer Unit

AUG. 14 1944

Twenty-four Bethlehem boys, all members of the same Engineering Construction Battalion in New Guinea, are in search of a camera large enough to take a group picture for The Globe-Times, according to word from Sgt. Geza Gergar. "But that is quite a task here," he says.

In a letter to The Globe-Times, Gergar writes: "No doubt the people of Bethlehem aren't sure of where their sons are, so we thought this was just as good a time as any to let them know about our group." He reports that originally there were more Bethlehem boys in the battalion, but that some of them have

transferred to other branches of service.

The 24 men:

1st Sgt. Leo Rooney, Sgt. Geza Gergar, Sgt. Al Calvo, Sgt. John Sabo, Sgt. Francis Minarik, Sgt. Albert Yavorsky, Sgt. Cyril Pramick, Cpl. Joseph Harvilla, Cpl. George Karabin, Cpl. John Yavorsky, Cpl. Edward Gawlikowski, Cpl. Martin Takacs, Cpl. Jack O'Donnell.

Cpl. John Husser, Cpl. Joseph Matus, Sgt. Victor Hallowell, Pvt. Joseph Marcincin, Pfc. John Mingora, Pvt. Stephen Pecsek, Pvt. Walter Helinsky, Pfc. Francis Riccaboni, Cpl. Robert Kennedy, Pfc. Howard Michael and Cpl. Joseph Pelizoto.

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