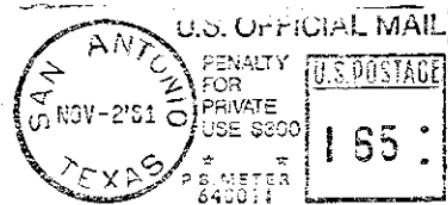


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M A I L

R E T U R N R C P T R E Q U E S T E D

## RANCH HAND II STUDY - FACT SHEET

### INTRODUCTION

- The USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, Texas, is conducting the study.
- You are being invited to participate in this study because of your specific duties and period of assignment in South Vietnam.

### PURPOSE

- To determine whether there is a causal relationship between certain symptoms and exposure to Herbicide Orange.

### METHODS

- An in-depth health questionnaire will be administered to you by a member of a health evaluation team from Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.
- A complete profile of your current health will be obtained by a physical examination which will be conducted by a nationally recognized outpatient clinic.
- Follow-up abbreviated health questionnaires and physical examinations will be conducted at years 3, 5, 10, 15, and 20 of the study.
- Travel expenses (including board and lodging) for the physical examination will be paid by the Air Force.
- Stipend of \$100 per day will be paid to study participants who are not on active duty, Government employed or otherwise precluded by law from receiving such a stipend.
- Confidentiality is to be maintained except in two cases:
  - A judicial order to release personal medical data following an Air Force and Justice Department defended lawsuit.
  - Serious medical findings which impact public health and safety. Two examples of situations in which public health and safety would raise the questions of disclosure are: a participant has typhoid fever, a participant who directly impacts the safety of others either in his profession, or as a volunteer, is found to have a serious nerve, heart or mental disorder. In this instance a committee composed of a physician (whose specialty is the area of the identified problem), a physician of your choice, a flight surgeon, a judge advocate (lawyer) and a representative from your field of expertise will be convened to review the medical findings. Before any disclosure is made to medical authorities, the committee must determine that the findings jeopardize the public health and safety.

## BENEFITS TO YOU

- You will receive a complete health review and physical examination of top level executive calibre at no cost to yourself.
- You will be completely informed of all examination results.
- The information from this study will be provided to a physician of your choice if you so request.
- Questions concerning the study may be referred to the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, Epidemiology Division, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas 78235, or by calling collect AC 512 536-3309.
- If you have recently changed your address or have an unlisted phone number, please advise the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine at the above address and phone number so that your records may be properly updated.