

Please type or use pen to provide the requested information. This data will be used for the Ranch Hand History Project and then placed in the Archives at Texas A&M. It is your information. If you wish to restrict any part of this material, please indicate so:

I hereby authorize the scholarly use of the following information, except as indicated.

GRAY JAMES EDWARD James E. Gray 10/23/81
Name (last first middle signature date)

Specific Information

Please answer the following questions in the spaces provided. Be specific.

1. Ranch Hand service: From SEPT 67 to JULY 1968. Where? BIG N HOA RVN
2. RH/C-123 training: Where/when? AUG HULBERT FIELD FLA.
3. Rank while in RH? SSGT Present/retired rank? TSGT
4. Duty(s) while in Ranch? FLIGHT ENGINEER dates? OCT 67 thru JUL 68
5. Other Vietnam service? Where/when? TOY DANANG RANCH HAND JUN 68
TOY PHUNG RANG THRASH HAULER 3 weeks Nov 67
6. If aircrew member:
 - a. Number of missions: RH 159 Other (specify) 11 trash hauling
 - b. Combat flying hours: RH 572.2 Other (specify) 50 hrs approx

Narrative Information

On a separate sheet(s) of paper, please answer the following questions with as much detail as possible. Write too much, rather than too little. Use names and dates, if possible. If you want a name "blacked out" before this goes in the archives, just circle the name. On the sheets, indicate the number of the question you are answering, and put your last name and the form number in the upper right-hand corner of each sheet.

7. Special missions/operations participated in? (name, when, where, what, who else)
8. Decorations? (If Purple Heart, DFC, or above, give date and details of the act. If you have a copy of the narrative justifying the medal, please attach a copy.)
9. Were you present during an attack against the base, Ranch site, or quarters? Explain.
10. Were you present when a Ranch aircraft was shot down or crashed? Give all details.
11. Were you present when a Ranch crew member was killed or wounded? Give as much data as possible, even if you didn't directly observe it or are not sure of date or names.
12. Did you ever see or repair unusual battle damage (more than routine skin holes)?
13. Did you ever help plan RH missions? If so, what was the procedure?
14. How did you get into the Ranch? What did you know about the mission beforehand?
15. What were you told about the chemicals used? In Vietnam? Before Vietnam?
16. Other than something already discussed (or going home), what is your happiest memory of the Ranch (or Vietnam)? What is your unhappiest (saddest)?
17. What unusual, odd-ball, weird, funny, etc., thing happened to you in VN or training?
18. Same as question 17, but you saw it happen to another person(s).
19. What were your quarters like? Your routine day? Your parties? Anything else?
20. We know that the Ranch was unique. What should I tell the reader that will help him understand why this was a special outfit of special people? What or who should I not talk about?

Other data: Do you have any good pictures (especially of RH members), any journals, notes, diaries, letters, briefing notes, maps, etc., that I could copy? If so, DO NOT SEND THEM with this form. Repeat...DO NOT SEND THEM!!!! Describe the items on a separate piece of paper, with your name and form number on it. I will write and give you instructions on when to send them, or how to get them copied, at a later date. All materials will be protected and returned to you!!! Thank you for your help and time.

Please return this form and the narrative sheets in the enclosed envelope to Texas A&M.

7-

8. 8 air medals

9. Dec (Jan 1) 1968 Several rockets fell in compound at Bien Hoa
Several other attacks to the base later but not so close
to home.

10. —

11. not on the same mission or flight

12. —

13. no

14. I was drafted. I knew very little until I went to Hurlbuttfield

15. That white was defolage water base, Orange was oil base. Killed
trees premant. + Blue was for rice crops + was instant damage,
nothing about being toxic

16. Beach Party at Danang + several parties at Bien Hoa especially New
years eve.

unhappiest was when the crew crashed in the delta while taking
ground fire. the plane went into a power on stall + crashed in
the ocean. very nice crew even tho I can't think of their
names

(17) During a mission in the delta spraying banana trees
along a river with a flight of A-37s + a flight of F4s
blasting away + dropping napalm was fascinating to look
out the rear door at a unfriendly shooting at use with
a rifle, which looked like suicide to me,

18. when the flight line supervisor ran the fork lift into
the wing of one of the birds + almost tore the wing off
outboard of the eng. even tho we needed the plane badly

19. quarters were basic (but had to ice boxes for beer)

Routine day was getting up early, spraying while the
temperature was cool + have the day complete before noon
Have a few beers + loafing the rest of the day - longer flights
or 2 missions varied the day a little

20. It was a memorable year. I saw South Vietnam
from the DMZ to the tip of the delta. Still think it was
a beautiful country. Hate to think it fell to the
Enemy.

Good Luck