

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.

Hanson Paul Richard Paul R. Hanson 10/20/81
Name (last first middle signature date)

Specific Information

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

1. Ranch Hand service: From July 68 to July 68. Where? Da Nang RVN
2. RH/C-123 training: Where/when? On the job Da Nang
3. Rank while in RH? 1st Col Present/retired rank? Col
4. Duty(s) while in Ranch? Medical Officer dates? July 68 July 69
5. Other Vietnam service? Where/when? So on
6. If aircrew member:
 - a. Number of missions: RH 150+ Other (specify) _____
 - b. Combat flying hours: RH unlc. Other (specify) _____

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. Flew weekly with Ranch Hands. All types of missions.
8. Air Medal
9. Rocket attacks on base an average of every 3 - 4 days.
10. No
11. Minor injuries due to flying glass.
12. No
13. Assisted in identifying medical emergency locations.
14. Assigned to Ranch for flying - Flight Surgeon. Briefed by Commander.
15. Yes. Yes. No.
16. A high morale happy outfit of mostly older than average personnel doing a necessary job. A joy to fly and party with. Saddest was seeing a Navy pilot die of drowning in 6" of water after surviving a bad mission and a crash landing, coming to rest in a ditch upside down.
17. I remember my cherry party (first hit on my aircraft- it took 10 months, I was super cherry) While in the club we had a rocket alert - party continued under two pool tables.
18. The steel helmet made for and worn by the protestant chaplain. It had a Star of David, Catholic Saints, and other religious symbols, plus two handles so he could pull it down over his ass during rocket attacks.
19. Well equipped single trailer. Meet returning Ranch mission, hospital duties, party. Parties great!
20. See #16.

Have 16mm film of ranch mission and 8mm strips. Also 35mm slides.