

9 APR-72

HOWDY COWBOYS,

THIS IS IT! OUR FINAL FIRST EDITION OF THE RANCH HAND PERSONNEL ROSTER IS ENCLOSED. THE NEXT WILL BE "ADD-ONS" AND WON'T BE OUT UNTIL JUNE OR JULY. KEEP THIS AS THE BASIC.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL REUNION IS FINALIZED. APRIL 29TH IS THE DATE HERE IN FT. WALTON AT THE ELKS. THEY'VE PROMISED TO MAKE IT MEMORABLE. BOOZE, STEAK, BOOZE IN THAT ORDER WITH ENTERTAINMENT OF SORTS. WE'VE GOT A COUPLE OF SMALL SURPRISES IN STORE WHICH I THINK WILL PLEASE YOU. INFORMAL GATHERING AT THE HURLBURT CLUB FRI. NITE, MEET/GREAT SAT. TIL SIX. OPEN BAR AT THE ELKS FROM SIX TIL -.TRTRANSPORT FURNISHED TO/FROM HURLBURT. GET WELL BREAKFAST AT THE CLUB SUN MORN. LET'S MAKE THIS THE BIGGEST AND BEST.

CHECK WITH YOUR AREA COORDINATOR ASAP FOR AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY AND LET US KNOW IF YOU'RE COMING DOWN. PARKING WILL BE LIMITED AT HRT SO EGLIN WILL ALSO HAVE A MEET/GREET GROUP.

TO THE RANCH!!!

RETURN SLIP

NAME

ADDRESS

WILL ATTEND SIXTH ANNUAL RANCHHAND REUNION (YES) _____ (NO) _____

IF YES, (WILL HAVE AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE) _____
(WILL NEED AIRCRAFT TRANSPORT) _____
(DRIVE) _____

13 March 1973

COWBOYS,

Jon "Dude" Dudenhoeffer will be running the reunion this year, but before he gets to tell you the particulars, I'd like to pass on the following:

Many thanks to those wives who took the time to answer for their TDY husbands. When you reply this year, please send us a permanent address so we can find you in years to come.

Some statistics for you:

We have 350 good addresses and 204 cowboys without addresses. Should we pay dues? Your replies, 81% yes and 19% no.

New location for the reunion? Your replies, 96% no and 4% yes.

Join the Air Commando Association as a unit? Your replies, 84% no and 16% yes. For those of you who would like to join the Air Commando Association on an individual basis, the address is as follows: AIR COMMANDO ASSOC., Box 7, Mary Esther, Fla. 32549. I'm sure Colonel Aderholt will be happy with each application he receives.

Pete Spivey has plenty of Ranch Hand Mugs on hand. If you desire any, contact him directly. Also, some outstanding Ranch Hand Lapel Pins can be obtained through Mike Topolowsky.

This year we will award nine more Ranchero awards to the following individuals you have voted for: B/Gen Phil Larsen, L/C John Shipe, L/C Rex Stoner, L/C Mike Topolowski, L/C Pete Spivey, Maj Snuffy Smith, Tsgt Paul Badgers and Tsgt Vern Uhler. In all, we received 18 nominations for this award, keep them coming. However, please do not nominate deceased individuals as we remember them each year at the reunion.

We want to thank the following donors for keeping the kitty up (our only source of income): Dallas, Spivey, White, Borkowski, Colvin, Holaday, Maxwell, Chevalier, Griffin and Windfield. If each cowboy would donate one dollar per year, we can keep our heads above water.

Congratulations are in order for B/Gen Phil Larsen, Commander RADC, Rome, NY who has become the first Ranch Hand General Officer.

Charlie Hubbs

This year the reunion will again be held in Fort Walton Beach. The date is 19 May and our main get together will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall beginning at 1800 hours. The catered menu will feature a 16oz T-Bone Steak with all the trimmings and there will be all the booze you can drink. For those of you who would like to get together for Sunday breakfast before you depart the area, that can also be arranged at the Hurlburt Officers Club (Dutch).

The last page of this package contains all the information we are seeking from each cowboy. Please detach it, fill it in, restaple it, scratch out your name and drop it in the mail box. Return postage is guaranteed and will be paid at this end. Don't forget, if you want to donate a buck, staple all four sides so it doesn't fall out.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the reunion this year. Moreso, we would like all of you to send us address information on as many out-of-date listing as you can. Charlie likes to keep the roster up to speed as much as possible, but we can't do a very good job without your cooperation.

The most important information I need if you plan to attend the reunion is how your coming, when you will arrive and if you need a room on base. Those desiring to stay downtown will make their own reservations. Your area coordinator will help you with your transportation problems. For you area coordinators, we need your autovon numbers for this purpose. Please send them.

See you at the reunion.

Dude

DETACH

FILL IN

RESTAPLE

SCRATCH OUT NAME

MAIL