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23 March 1983

Dear Veterans of Operation Ranch Hand:

For many Dedicated and Daring Dispensers of Dandy Defoliants, 1982 began with a TDY to the Kelsey-Seybold Clinic in Houston, TX to take part in the first phase of the Ranch Hand II Epidemiology Study investigating any possible health problems resulting from contact with the herbicide 24D/245T.

The physical examination conducted by Kelsey-Seybold was the most complete and thorough physical ever received by this writer, including pre-aviation and annual flight physicals. Never before have I been prodded and probed by such professional and competent medical personnel. All of the professionals at Kelsey-Seybold saw to it that the four-day "visit" was "painless", enlightening and a totally positive experience in every respect.

A WELL DONE is awarded to Dr. Marvis P. Kelsey and his entire staff. They are certainly Honorary Rancheros!

To recognize a few by name in no way omits the many professionals involved in this program and the outstanding contribution to science they are all making. Special mention is deserving to Dr. George ("Dioxin Doc") Lathrop, Chief Epidemiology, School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks AFB, TX. He's top drawer!; and Jean Perkins ("Super Nurse"), Kelsey-Seybold Clinic, Houston. Those unnamed know who you are. We thank all of you.

#### Ranch Hand II Study:

In September of 1982, the first definitive data available from the Ranch Hand II Study was presented to the Veterans Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives by General Chesney, Assistant Surgeon General, USAF.

Data shows that the mortality rate of Ranch Hand personnel is identical to our comparison group, and the Ranch Hand mortality rate is 58% that of the U.S. male white population!

In other words, we are pretty damn healthy when compared to the majority. The Ranch Hand Veteran can take pride in the knowledge that 97% of us participated in the medical questionnaire and 89% took part in the physical examination in Houston. Our response far exceeded the expectations of the Air Force and scientists managing the study and necessitated the extention of both contracts to accommodate our participation. WELL DONE COWBOYS!

As one retired veteran of "The Ranch" expressed it: "This was simply an extension of my military service." Nicely stated, I'd say. Good work guys!

Note: Additional scientific data from the Ranch Hand II Study will be provided as it becomes available.

### The 1982 Reunion:

The October bash by all accounts was a great affair. Those in attendance were as follows:

Ralph & Dolly Dresser	John Hamilton
Mike Shupert	Marv Zepf
Mr. & Mrs. George Ketzel	Hank McMahon
John & Lois Richmond	Cal Bass
Lee & Bobbie Harrison	Bill & Sue Lindsey
Howard & Ellen Yates	Gary Lahmon
George Adams	Pete & Kathy Spivey
Charlie & Beth Hubbs	Art McConnell
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Evans	Bill Aldrich
Mike Topolosky	Carl & Sandy Marshall
Pappy & Moe Rothermal	Ben & Margaret King
Jim Lumley	Don Ayers
Wally Knight	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Piche
Ed & Jeanne Dabbert	Len Bochicchio
George Bye	Keith Yale
Millard & Carmen Gorman	John Mitchell
Paul & Anna Lacey	Keith Ennis
Gary & Joan White	Al & Emily Nicolas
Dave & Mary Newberry	Elwood & Mary Smith
Hal Luke	Bill Thomas
Elmer Robinson	Bud & Doris Day
Steve Lowe	Jack & Marilyn Spey
Jean Perkins (Super Nurse)	
Col. George & Ernie Lathrop	
Lt. Col. Pat Moyahan	

(If I missed anyone, its due to my poor record keeping.)

Kathy Spivey receives the Good Sport Award. She tore a ligament while in a sober state, getting off the boat Friday night. She hung in there for the rest of the weekend in spite of cast and crutches.

The banquet at the Holiday Inn was superb and "guest speaker" Wally Knight was only outdone by the roar of the rest of us. If you have planned to attend a "Gathering of Eagles" some day, don't procrastinate.

Special thanks must be given to Clay Ridgeway, owner of the Beachmark Inn. He and his staff helped to make the 1982 gathering a memorable event indeed.

### Reunion '83

The 1983 Ranch Hand Reunion will be held in Ft. Walton Beach, FL on October 14, 15 & 16. Make plans now. Details will be provided in the mid-summer newsletter.

Association Memorial Fund and send memorial contributions to:

Valparaiso Bank and Trust Co.  
P. O. Box 3203  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549  
Attn: Trust Department

This monument is an appropriate and fitting memorial to those in the Ranch who made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation in Southeast Asia.

Contributions to the memorial fund and the general fund are tax deductible.

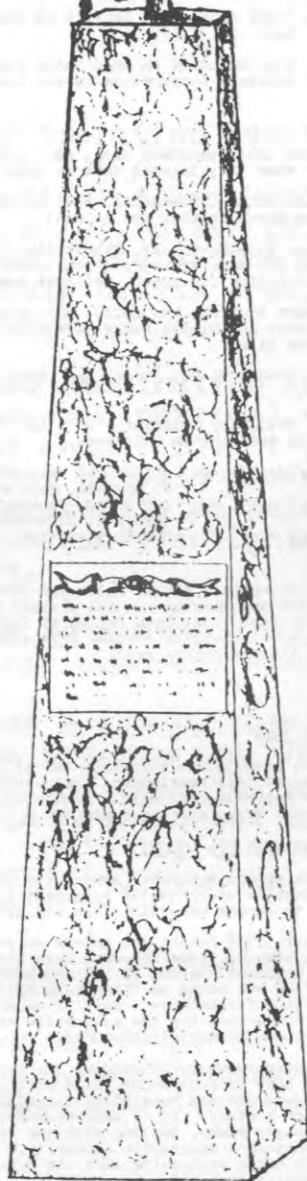
## Ranch Hand Memorial



### PROPOSAL 4

#### Granite Column, Eagle and Plaque

Grey granite column with chiselled surfaces. 2 ft sq at its base narrowing to 1 ft sq at the top and 8 ft in height. The eagle mounted on top is highly detailed measuring 3 ft wing span. The eagle's talons are clutching the bronze shapes of Vietnam and the Chinese symbol for purple. The plaque contains the story in brief of the C-123's operations in Vietnam.



Design and  
Sketch by Leon Furr



Our thanks to Fairchild Industries and its president E. G. Uhl for a \$500.00 donation toward the memorial.

To date we have \$1,800 in the memorial fund, with \$10,000 guaranteed by a major U. S. corporation, to be repaid by future contributions. Fairchild Industries, builder of the C123 Provider, donated \$500 toward construction. Our thanks go to Fairchild and President E. G. Uhl. The go-ahead for construction has been delayed until it is clear that we can cover the total obligation. Please make out checks to Ranch Hand Vietnam

News from Cowboys Around the World

VERN UHLER, Knob Noster, MO. Vern writes from his 120 acre estate in MO that all is well and he hopes to see the whole "tribe" again in '83.

JAMES ROSE, VN 67-68, Seaboard, NC. James is busy in NC and looking forward to participating in the "Study" in any way he can. He was glad to hear about the activities of our group.

TOM THEM, Mansfield, OH. Tom couldn't believe our organization existed and was happy to finally be on the list. Tom has a screen printing business in Shelby, OH, printing tee-shirts, ball caps, jackets, etc. Anyone needing the like, write Tom at 1015 Grimes Rd., Mansfield, OH 44903.

GERALD MARTIN, Fresno, OH. Thanks for the donation Gerald.

JAMES SLAY, Camp Springs, MD. Dick is busy as a broker and promises to make a reunion "one of these days". Thanks for the \$25 Dick.

ORLANDO F. "DITO" SMITH, Charleston, WV. Dito retired and is presently VP and General Manager for VTN in Charleston. VTN is an engineering/architectural firm ranked 43rd in the nation with world-wide commitments. If you need big projects built, he can do it. Mary & Dito have two in college. "Dito Jr." is an All-American football player.

WALLY KNIGHT, Green Bay, WI. Wally ("Bad Knight"), VN 68-69, became a grandfather the last day of 1981 - a boy! Congrats Wally!

ANDY KIBODEAUX, New Iberia, LA. Andy retired as a Major and is an active commercial pilot for Pelican Aviation Corp. in the oil country of LA on both land and sea.

Richmond, VA.

CLAIBORNE (BUTCH) COBB, VN 67-69. Butch was happy to learn about the Association of old Rancheros. A group of, in his words, "the best Squadron, men and duty of my short Air Force career". Butch helped to keep the tanks full while at Bien Hoa.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, Maple Grove, MN. Bill served as Crew Chief on "Patches" during his tour in Vietnam in 1969. Bill may or may not know that Patches is retired and is in the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. A well deserved place of honor for a former punctured Provider.

CHARLES W. PRICE, Pleasantville, NJ. Chuck and Louise planned to make the '81 reunion but due to a medical problem were forced to abort. Chuck is assistant director of Financial Aid at Pleasantville State College. Thanks Chuck!

BOB TURK, Travis AFB. Bob is currently Assistant Chief of the Command Post after an illustrious tour in the C5 Galaxy. He hopes to make L/C soon. Our wishes go to Bob.

JAMES TAYLOR, Eden, UT. Jim is still working as an annalist at the Hercules Plant in Magna, UT, the Bee Hive State. Jim gets a blast out of his work!

ED BURY, North Miami, FL. Ed sent his best last Christmas.

BURT KELLOGG, Charleston, SC. Burt is retired (Sept '79) and is with Merrill Lynch in Charleston and doing well. Ft. Walton is only 9 hrs away Burt!

MARV ZEPH, Johnsonville, NY. Marvelous Marv sent along \$50 for the memorial fund and stamps, and promised to join us for the next reunion. Look out FWB! Thanks Marv.

HERB WOODCOCK, Greenland, NH. Herb retired in '81 after 30 years and is in the process of starting a photography business. While recuperating from a hernia operation in Oct 81, he went through his Ranch diary for Paul Cecil's history project and sent along some valuable information he had not looked at in thirteen years.

JOHN RICHMOND. John and Lois sold their house in rural north FL and spent some time nomadizing, with sights on the Patrick AFB area.

GEORGE ADAMS, Satellite Beach, FL. George is up to his "\_\_\_" in alligators and work. Work consists of honchoing the completion of the Eastern Test Range O & M contract for F4 83-88. That's enough to drive anyone up the wall, and out of the reach of the gators!

JIM BASSETT, Houston, TX. Jim missed the '81 bash due to his company's annual meeting in Tampa the same time. Jim is Assistant Regional Manager for Jim Walter Homes. Jim sends his best to all: "the best bunch of pilots and GI's I've had the pleasure of serving with in all my 22 years in the AF and in all my civilian years combined". Thanks Jim.

JOHN HOCH, Brookley, GA. Johnny ran into Charles King (Bedford, TX) while in Houston undergoing their physicals. Thanks for Charlie's address John.

JOE MCCUSKER, Atco, NJ ('66-'67). Joe learned of our Association while being punctured in Houston last Feb. Thanks for the stamp money Joe.

A \$20 bill from JIM GRIFFEN, Bowie, MD. Thanks Jim.

BILL ALDRICH, Alameda, CA ('68-'69). Bill is in the SF Bay area with CAL/OSHA keeping them safe.

RONALD PETERS, Glenwood Springs, CO. No words, just \$25. Thanks Pete.

COL. CAL BASS, Tulsa, OK. Thanks Cal.

STAN SWANSON, Lebanon, IL. Since retirement in 1976, Stan and Bev are self-employed in the antique business and very active in showing throughout the midwest. Stan finished the best physical of his lifetime in late February where he ran into Gene Stammer, Joe Welyoson, Mike Parr, Bill Cooley and Ralph Dresser. Good to hear from Stan.

RICHARD GAGE, N. Muskegon, MI. Dick retired in May of '70 and got into the trucking business. He was in the first group to go through the physical in Houston. Dick's son and daughter both joined the AF after school. His wife Pat is an RN. They hope to build a retirement home here in NW FL close to Gulf Breeze.

GERALD WHEELER, Fair Oaks, CA. Gerald is a "struggling" owner/operator, pulling boats from coast to coast on an 18 wheeler. Good to hear from you Gerald.

JOE POTTER, N. Easton, MA ('66). Joe is with the Polaroid Corp. in the R & D Tech Section. Thanks Joe. Sorry we don't have any patches. Will work on it.

GEORGE BYE, Pittsburgh, PA ('67-'68). Will keep you on the list George.

DICK PESKIN, Redlands, CA.

BILL SOUTHERLAND, Los Ojos, CA (near Morro Bay). Bill works for the state at the Hearst Castle and he and Jane just finished building their own "castle". Thanks folks!

ED ANDERSON, Arlington, VA. Ed's daughter Allison presented a research paper and speech on the Ranch to her class and received a "212 out of 200 for the report". She used a film we provided to help in her presentation. Better watch out Ed, she may get your job!

ART ERICSON. Art's been transferred to (DPXX) at Scott AFB, IL.

ED KRAFT, Lancaster, PA. Ed was grounded about a year ago and has been transferred to Def. Personnel Support Center in Philly as a procurement manager.

ED BLAUFUSS, Boston, MA. Ed is still flying with American out of Logan and, like others in the airlines, voiced concern about the physical and the possible effects on their future careers. An "undetected medical problem" could seriously effect one's future - not just the current job! Thanks Ed.

MAJ. LARRY HANFLAND. Larry's on the road again. This time to SAC HQS. Ugh!

COL. T.O. WILLIAMS is on a dusty road - this time as Chief of the Office of Military Cooperation in the Sudan.

HAROLD LUKE, Mountain Home, AR. Luke astounded the American Medical community when they learned that he didn't have a kidney!

ROLAND MILES, Friendship, NY. I lost Roland's letter - sorry about that! How about another one Roland?

SFC A. W. MIKE MICHEL, Gatesville, TX ('66-'67). After VN and getting out of the AF, Mike traveled a lot before settling in TX. He is now working full time for the TX National Guard.

STANLEY VECHIEL, Mt. Holly, NJ. Stan is an aircraft mechanic at the local airport and Kimiko works part time. They both enjoy fishing in their spare time.

DAVE STOCKTON, San Diego, CA. Dave is running a delivery business in San Diego.

JOHN MILLINAX, Goldsboro, NC ('69-'70). John and Verna both work in the textile industry in Goldsboro.

Other donations: ROBERT LEE HARRISON, Wagner, SC  
F. HEPFNER, Smyrna, GA  
JOE BOYER, Pineville, LA  
THOMAS A. STEVENSON, Reston, VA  
HOWARD F. BOWLES, Camp Springs, MD

This is where I should apologize first for the delay in getting out a newsletter and keeping you all advised of news from cowboys, and the probability that I may have failed to mention someone's letter and/or contribution. Hopefully I'll be more consistent in the future. Keep the cards and letters coming guys!

General Fund

The Association currently has \$1,178.76 in the general fund, before the cost of this newsletter. This newsletter will cost approximately \$450 to reproduce and mail. Contributions keep it happening. We need everyone's help, however small.

Closing

The controversy over the safety of the herbicide 24D/245T continues today inspite of virtually no scientific evidence to suggest a health hazard to Humans resulting from its use.

Over 3,000 scientific papers on phenoxy herbicides support their safety, however, some veterans have been led to believe that their current health problems are due to SEA and herbicides. Because of their doubts, each of us was asked to "Saddle Up Again" and volunteer a small amount of our time for science. Each of us has gained in the knowledge that our unique background and the scientific examination of the same is aiding our nation's scientific community.

The controversy concerning the herbicide 24D/245T can be finally settled only by continuing valid scientific research. The Ranch Hand II Study, designed and managed by the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, is just such a study. It is unprecedented in scope. It is the boldest epidemiology study, dealing with the Vietnam experience, ever undertaken by our nation's scientific community. Each member of Operation Ranch Hand can take pride in knowing that his participation and personal involvement will benefit each and every American.

I sincerely believe that our response to the Ranch Hand II Study clearly shows that the vast majority of America's Veterans of all wars still believe in the fundamental ideals enkindled by the phrase: "Duty, Honor, Country".

That's it for now. Keep the news coming in. Plan for October '83!

To the Ranch,

See you at the Ranch

Jack Spey

Ranch Hand Vietnam Association

650 Tarpon Dr., Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548

(800) 243-5696

PS. In trying to update our reunion photo album, we find we have no pictures of the 1978 and 1981 reunions. If any of you have negatives you would be willing to donate, we would really appreciate them. We all thank Mike Topolsky for his photo expertise and the pictures he has kindly given us for the album, as well as John Brady and all of you who have contributed photos. Thanks folks!



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Lt. Col. (Ret) Art McConnell  
Lt. Col. (Ret) Rex Stoner  
Lt. Col. (Ret) Bud Fisher

1 September 1983

Dear Veterans and Friends of Operation Ranch Hand:

When 97% of an elite group of American veterans (1266 in all) volunteer their time to aid our nation's scientific community, that's news! While not noted by the mass media, our efforts have been noted and are greatly appreciated by our country's scientific community and by our government.

### DEMOCRATS

G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, MISS.  
DON EDWARDS, CALIF.  
JACK BRINLEY, GA.  
RONALD M. MOTTI, OHIO  
BOB EDGAR, PA.  
SAM B. HALL, JR., TEX.  
DOUGLAS APPLEGATE, OHIO  
MARVIN LEATH, TEX.  
WILLIAM HILL BONER, TENN.  
RICHARD C. SHELBY, ALA.  
DAN MICA, FLA.  
THOMAS A. DASCHLE, S. DAK.  
BOB STUMP, ARIZ.  
WAYNE DOWDY, MISS.  
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AUSTIN J. MURPHY, PA.  
BYRON L. DORGAN, N. DAK.  
ANTONIO WOH FAT, GUAM

### NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY  
CHAIRMAN

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
335 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
Washington, D.C. 20515

### REPUBLICANS

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, ARK.  
MARGARET M. HECKLER, MASS.  
CHALMERS P. WYLIE, OHIO  
ELWOOD HILLIS, IND.  
HAROLD S. BAWYER, MICH.  
GERALD B. H. SOLOMON, N.Y.  
JIM JEFFRIES, KANS.  
BOB MC EWEN, OHIO  
JIM DUNN, MICH.  
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, N.J.  
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DENNY SMITH, OREG.  
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JAMES L. NELLIGAN, PA.

December 17, 1982

MACK FLEMING  
CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

I believe that all of the veterans of Operation Ranch Hand are to be congratulated for their wholehearted cooperation with the Department of Defense in their efforts to arrive at the conclusions of the first phase of the Ranch Hand II study.

Sincerely,

*G. V. Montgomery*  
G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY  
Chairman

I applaud your unit's camaraderie  
and willingness to cooperate  
with scientific authorities conducting the Ranch Hand epidemiology  
study.

The Ranch Hands do this nation a great continuing service by their participation in the Air Force epidemiological study.

You and your associates have every reason to be proud of your service to this nation in war and in peace. I congratulate you for what you have accomplished in the past and for what you are now doing.

Sincerely,

*John Paul Hammerschmidt*  
JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,

*Tom Daschle*  
Tom Daschle  
Member of Congress



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
BOLLING AFB, DC 20332

25 MAR 1983

Mr. Jack Spey  
Ranch Hand Vietnam Association  
850 Tarpon Drive  
Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32548

Dear Mr. Spey

Preliminary reports on the Ranch Hand epidemiological study will be released in the next few months. The participation of the Ranch Hand members in this study has been very gratifying. Of the 1,198 eligible Ranch Hand members, 1,173 participated in the questionnaire phase of the study and 1,045 participated in the physical examination phase. This outstanding response exceeded even our optimistic expectations. Much of the success for the enthusiastic cooperation is due to you and your organization. I am very appreciative of the support you and the other Ranch Hand members have given this very important project.

I thank you all for another "mission" well done!

Sincerely

MAX B. BRALLIAR  
Lieutenant General, USAF, MC  
The Surgeon General

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

4 February 1983

I share your assessment of the professional accomplishments of our service personnel who so effectively executed Operation Ranch Hand.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Denton  
United States Senator

The men serving in operation Ranch Hand were indeed unique and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

You have all been of great assistance to this country in your contributions while on duty in Vietnam.

Sincerely,

Alan K. Simpson

The above are partial excerpts.

ALAN K. SIMPSON, WYO., CHAIRMAN  
STROM THIRGOOD, S.C.  
ROBERT T. STAFFORD, VT.  
BOB KASTEN, WIS.  
JEREMIAH DENTON, ALA.  
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, ALASKA  
ARLEN SPECTER, PA.

ALAN CRANSTON, CALIF.  
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SPARK M. MATSUMAGA, HAWAII  
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GEORGE J. MITCHELL, MAINE

THOMAS E. MARSH  
CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

News from Cowboys Around the World

DAVE NEWBERRY. No words, but \$50. Thanks much Dave!

WILLIE CLARK, Lilburn, GA. No words, but stamp money. Thanks Willie!

JACK BAILEY, Gentry AR. Jack is still on the run from bank to bank across the southeastern U.S. No... he's a bank officer. Our own Bert Lance is offering IRA's at 21%. Call (501)736-2686.

HAROLD (KEN) BRAMBLE, Sr., COL, USAF. Ken's got so many irons in the fire I can't figure it out. But if you're close to San Antonio, call 925-2048 (HQESC/DOS).

BILL KNOTHE, Universal City, TX. Bill met Chuck Ernce at the Kelsey-Seybold "Round Up" in Houston in 1982. Bill is still battling Parkinson Disease, and Shirley battles teenagers in physics and calculus. All in all, I think they'll both win!

JIM O'KELLY (RH '62), Sacramento, CA. Jim has been transferred back to SAC and intends to be here in FWB for Round Up '83. Good to hear from an early bird!

(When I opened this letter I had to sit down!) LARRY YOUNGREN (RH '64), Winston-Salem, NC. Larry surfaced as Chief FAA, Air Carrier Ops, Winston-Salem, NC. He moved to NC from Maine and loves it there.

CHUCK AVERY, Salem, IL. Col. Avery was at the Houston "Round Up" last year at reunion time but promises to join "the troops" in '83. Thanks Chuck!

KEN WYLES (Senior Master Sgt./Ret), Saxton, PA. Ken is entering the Ministry and will be going to Africa as a missionary. ...Mild shock Cowboys! Our appreciation and respect... Ken, General Mohney says Hello also!

RALPH WALKER, Slater, MO. \$15 makes up for lack of words. Thanks Ralph!

VERN UHLER, Knob Noster, MO. Vern is still plagued by the fact that no one can find Knob Noster, MO. In an effort to assist Vern, we asked the Russian Embassy in Washington for the coordinates of the Minute Man Silo located near Knob Roster, MO. They replied that while their First Secretary (KGB) had that information, "it was classified", and could only be released if "we filed suit under the Freedom of Info Act! Y.G.T.B.S.M.!"

VITO LONGO, Falls Church, VA. About every 5 years or so, Vito writes. For good reason, has been unable to attend a "gathering", but he sends his best and more! Thank you Vito!

MARKEN E. RICHLER (RICK), Biloxi, MS. Rick had triple by-pass in '78 and then started school in '77, receiving a BS in '81. He's near completion of his Masters in Business. Well done Rick!

COL. DON RAYMENT, ASST. DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL, TAC, HDQ, Langley AFB, VA. Don sent stamp money and his best to all. Thanks Don!

RAUL GAMBOA, Fresno, CA. Raul just bought a new house and loves it. He's still looking for a Ranch Hand patch. Raul, you may be in luck. We should be receiving some new ones from Korea shortly. Will advise.

MILES BURGENHEIM, Quartz Hill, CA. Keep um flying Burgie!

WILLIAM L. (BILL) JOHNSON, Maple Grove, MN. Bill served as Crew Chief on Patches in 1963.

JOE POTTER, N. Easton, MA. Joe, punctured at Houston in April 82, left the AF in 1966 and works for the Polaroid Corp. in R & D.

EUGENE ROBERTSON, Belleville, IL. Eugene is going to college while his wife still carries the flag as a "blue suiter" at Scott AFB.

JOE BOYER, Crossett, AR. Joe recently completed his "last house" in the wilderness near the Ouachita River. He's enjoying the wild and life in general.

FLOYD HEFFNER, Smyrna, GA. No words, just \$. Thanks Floyd!

ANDY KIBRODEAUX, Lafayette, LA. Andy is still flying in "Oil Patch", LA.

KEITH YALE, Homer, LA. Keith and Toni will join us again in October.

JOHN BRADY's still selling real estate in Palm Bay, FL.

R. E. DICK, Portland, OR. Dick was "on the street" due to the soft aviation industry so he moved to his native state to "catch a chinook or trout".

PHIL SALDIVAR (RH 68-69) Arletta, CA. Phil was Airman of the Month at Bien Hoa AB, Aug '68. Since leaving the USAF in '71, Phil has earned two degrees and is striving for the upper management level in the LA school district.

HENRY (HANK) GOOD, Kalispell, MT. Hank and Jeanie spent last fall in Russia, Mongolia and China; 45 days in all. Some trip in the wakes of Tom Selleck. Come down to the sand dune in October Hank and give us a first hand report.

ROBERT (GENE) MARSHALL, Dallas, TX. Thanks for the stamp money Gene, and we'll see ya in October!

LEE INMAN, Niceville, FL. Lee retired 1 June 83 and will remain in the Niceville area after spending time with his children. Thanks Lee!

JERRY MCDONALD's in Redlands, CA and I can't find his letter! Sorry Jerry!

ALTON R. (PETE) LEE, VAFB, TX. (RH '67). Pete's still carrying the flag as a proud member of the MX Test Team at Vandenberg. Keep up the good work Pete!

DAVID MOTOWIDLIK (RH '66-'67), Fremont, NH. Dave is still active in the ANG as a Crew Chief on KC 135 at Pease AFB, and has his own plumbing business, as well as being a service rep for Culligan. Dave says: "...Ranch Hand. It was the best outfit in the Air Force." Thanks Dave!

JAMES PEROT, Columbia, LA. James is retired and working for Columbia State School and sends his best to all.

JOHNNY HOCK, Brooklet, GA. While at the "Round Up" in Houston and carrying his "Gucci Bag", Johnny ran into Charles King (Bedford, TX), another old Ranchero.

MIKE SHUPPERT, Greenwood, IN. Mike liked last year's gathering so well that he and Jacque plan to be here this October, and we look forward to seeing them again.

HAL UNDERHILL, Seattle, WA. Hal wrote to say that he will be here for the '83 reunion in October and will bring his outstanding RH film to be shown at the dinner on Saturday night. Those who have seen it, love it. Everyone will! Thanks Hal! We all look forward to seeing you again.

WILLIAM (DOUG) CLAUD, Richmond, VA (RH 68-69). Nice note from Doug. He also mentioned a book available on the Ranch entitled: *OPERATION RANCH HAND*

"OPERATION RANCH HAND"  
"THE AIR FORCE AND HERBICIDES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA 1961-1971"  
by William A. Buckingham, Jr. and published by the Office  
of Air Force History, United States Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Purchase can be made through:

Superintendent of Documents  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington, D.C. 20402

ED BURY. Change in address from N. Miami to Inglis, FL.

LEE HARRISON, Wagener, SC. Lee has Ranch Hand patches and hopes to have them here at the 18th Round Up October 14--16 '83.



## C-123 DESK MODEL

- HANDCRAFTED FINE PEWTER
- WING SPAN - 8<sup>5/16</sup>"
- EACH NUMBERED MODEL IS SIGNED AND DATED
- HAND RUBBED WALNUT BASE
- NAMEPLATE - 1" x 3"

NAMEPLATE INSCRIPTION  
TWO LINES, 20 LETTERS PER LINE MAX.

0 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PRICE: \$150.00 PER MODEL  
\$30.00 PER MONTH LAY-AWAY  
SHIPPING \$5.00  
MASS. RESIDENTS ONLY, 5% SALES TAX

Send your order to:  
LEON FURR, SCULPTOR  
45 INDIAN RIDGE ROAD  
SOUTH NATICK, MA 01760  
(617) 655-0675

(allow 8 weeks for delivery)

### Change in Address

Thousands of manhours were expended finding you and I. Because of our importance to the Ranch Hand II Study today and in the future, if you PCS or move, please advise:

USAF SAM/EKS  
Brooks AFB, TX 78235  
Attn: Ranch Hand II Study

It's important! If you advise the Association, we'll advise Brooks AFB.

Reunion 1983:

The 1983 gathering of the "World's Greatest Aerial Denuders" will be held:

PLACE: Ft. Walton Beach, Florida  
DATE: October 14, 15 and 16  
MOTEL: Beachmark Inn (on the Island)  
(904)244-8696

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT: Jack or Marilyn Spey  
(904)243-5696

I do ask that you contact me or my wife Marilyn to arrange motel reservations, meal requirements, etc.

PREFLIGHT: Friday, 1800 hr, cocktails, etc.  
THE MISSION: Saturday, 1900 hrs, dinner  
POSTFLIGHT: Sunday "Get Well Breakfast"

It's important to let us know soonest so that all coordination is affected for you and to ensure a good time with minimum glitches! (Single point of contact concept.)

Make plans now to be here. Let's make the '83 Gathering of the Daring Dispensers of Dandy Defoliants the best yet!

Money for General Fund and Memorial Fund

To date: 1) General Fund \$ 991.47  
2) Memorial Fund \$2,365.91

For the past seventeen years, the veterans of the Ranch have gathered annually and stayed in touch because of the Association, but the Association spends money to achieve these goals. That money comes from each of us through tax exempt contributions. Each newsletter costs approximately \$450 to print and mail. The March newsletter lost money so we are reluctant but compelled to ask for additional donations, regardless of size, to ensure that the work started long ago continues. Please make your check payable to: Ranch Hand Vietnam Association  
850 Tarpon Dr.  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548

I continue to believe that our efforts in the past and more recently reflect the feelings and beliefs of the majority.

Thats it for now. Keep the news coming in, plan for 14 October.

To the Ranch,

  
Jack Spey

Ranch Hand Vietnam Association  
850 Tarpon Drive  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548  
(904)243-5696