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Vice President Art McConnell  
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~~Treasurer Gen. Russ Mohney~~  
Treasurer ~~Pete Spivey~~

*EARL BRIGGS*

16 September 1985

"FINAL NOTICE"

#### DIRECTORS

*Chm* Gen. Russ Mohney  
Col. Ralph Dresser  
Lt. Col. (Ret) Charlie Hubbs  
Lt. Col. (Ret) Art McConnell  
Lt. Col. (Ret) Rex Stoner  
~~Lt. Col. (Ret) Bud Fisher~~

*Pete Spivey*

Dear Cowboys:

The 20th Annual Reunion will be held in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida on 11, 12 and 13 October 1985. All hands will be staying at Leaside Inn, a new motel on the island with a nice restaurant, bar and pool. Call Jack or Marilyn Spey (904)243-5696 for motel reservations - not the motel. This will allow us to coordinate room and meal requirements.

Friday night, 11 Oct:  
Open bar and hors d'oeuvres

Saturday night, 12 Oct:  
Cocktails and dinner  
Mariner Room, Regency Beach Resort

Sunday, 13 Oct:

Get-well Breakfast  
Leaside Inn

On Saturday morning, 12 October, the memorial to those members of our organization who lost their lives in Southeast Asia will be dedicated at the Hurlburt Field Air Park, Hurlburt Field, Florida. The memorial was designed and sculpted by Leon Furr, South Natick, MA.

Make plans now to be here!

#### NOTES FROM THE HISTORIAN:

"RANCH HAND existed from October 1960, when President Kennedy approved deployment of six spray planes to SEA, until February 1972 when the last insecticide aircraft departed Vietnam for the United States. During this time, RANCH HAND units earned three Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, with V Device for Valor; four Presidential Unit Citations; and three awards of the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, with Palm (including the first ever awarded to an entire squadron).

"More recent news...Praeger Publishing of New York will publish the RANCH HAND history, with an approximate release date of 15 October 1985.



We hope to have it off the press for the reunion. Better yet, they have agreed to give all RANCHERS a special price discount and to kick in a contribution to the memorial fund for each copy bought by a RANCHER. You should get a letter from Praeger on this offer, but you can be sure by writing them for an advance notice to: Praeger, ATTN: RANCH HAND Book, 521 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10175. See you at the reunion." Signed: Paul Cecil.

(Editor's note: This book is Paul's doctoral thesis in book format and it's great!)

Letter from the Air Force Museum Foundation:

"The Air Force Museum Foundation gratefully acknowledges the Ranch Hand Vietnam Associations' gift of \$200 to the Matching Fund Campaign for a major expansion of the United States Air Force Museum.

"The Ranch Hand Vietnam Associations' generosity will help provide for the display of countless, priceless artifacts and the safeguarding of many rare aircraft now suffering sometimes irreparable damage while on outside display.

"So that future visitors to the Museum can appreciate who made the addition possible, the Ranch Hands' name will be entered in the journals on public display."...

"Sincerely

James T. Stewart  
Lt. General, USAF (Ret)"

The Association would like to make additional contributions from the general fund as a result of your donations to that fund. Or donations can be made directly to: The Air Force Museum Foundation, P. O. Box 33624, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433.

Video Film:

Bob Cruts, a fellow Ranch Hand, has put together on video tape a 20 minute color film of C-123 training at Hurlburt Field, FL and actual combat spray missions in Vietnam.

You will see the easy missions (where no one shot at you) and of course those heavy suppression missions, with fighter support, that no one will ever forget.

This is a video tape the entire family can enjoy. You can proudly talk about and show them what you did in Vietnam.

This tape can be yours for \$39.95. You can then watch and show everyone the combat missions you actually flew on.

If you wish to order, please send check or money order to Bob Cruts, P. O. Box 954, Shalimar, FL 32579. Specify VHS or Beta format. Florida residents add 5% sales tax.

Five dollars will be donated to the Ranch Hand Memorial Fund from the sale of each video tape.



Air Force Health Study, La Jolla, California:

Physical #2 at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla, CA was "top drawer". The facility and personnel were first rate and it was "painless". So far our participation rate has been outstanding (naturally)! We are all reminded of the advantages to ourselves personally, as well to science, by our continued participation. See you in La Jolla!

General Fund:

The Association currently has \$612 in the general fund. Contributions are still needed.

Memorial Fund:

In order to retire the debt for the Ranch Hand memorial, we still need to raise \$5,832. Contributions can be sent to the Association or directly to:

Vanguard Bank & Trust Co.  
P. O. Box 1717  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549

Attn: Ranch Hand Memorial Fund  
#42-900290-0



Let's make the 20th Annual Reunion and dedication ceremony the best Round Up ever!

To the Ranch,

*Back*

Jack Spey

Ranch Hand Vietnam Association  
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