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**Description Notes** Listing of aircrew units involved in Ranch Hand operations. Includes attached note to Maj. Al Young from Cpt. Sherry Stetson-Mannix saying Young might want the listing for his herbicide orange files.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

Maj Al Young  
Office of Environmental Medicine (102)  
Veterans Administration  
810 Vermont Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20420

Al-

Thought you might like this  
for your Herb Orange Files.

Sherry

Capt Sherry Stetson-Mannix  
SAP/PAMS  
Pentagon, Wash., D.C. 20330

Q. What aircrew units were involved in the Ranch Hand operations?

A. November 1961 - it was the 4500th Operations Squadron TDY from Langley AFB (crews rotated in and out, and consisted of crewmembers, maintenance personnel and aerial spray specialists)

June 1964 - the 4500 Operations Squadron was replaced by the 309th Troop Carrier Squadron TDY from Clark AB, Philippines (crews rotated in and out and consisted of crewmembers, maintenance personnel and aerial spray specialists)

July 1964 - the 309th Troop Carrier Squadron was replaced by a permanent unit created at Tan Son Nhut named Detachment 1, 315th Troop Carrier Group

March 1965 - the name of Detachment 1, 315th Troop Carrier Group changed to Special Aerial Spray Flight

October 1966 - the name of Special Aerial Spray Flight changed to the 309th Air Carrier Squadron, attached to the 315th Troop Carrier Group

October 1966 - the name of the 309th Air Carrier Squadron changed to the 12th Air Commando Squadron

December 1966 - the 12th Air Commando Squadron moved to Bien Hoa

April 1967 - the name of the 12th Air Commando Squadron changed to the 12th Special Operations Squadron. it continued operating at Bien Hoa, with operating locations at Phu Cat and Da Nang. (although the squadron remained there until July 1970, in April 1970, they stopped spraying Herbicide Orange)

July 1970 - the name of the 12th Special Operations Squadron changed to A Flight, 310th Tactical Airlift Squadron and moved to Phan Rang

January 1971 - the unit was disbanded

Answer provided by AMD/PA, Brooks AFB  
Maj Giammo

For response to AP, Mike Feinsilber, Oct 14, 1981