## Key Findings

A composite military graduation or training flight photograph. The top half features a large group portrait of approximately 50-60 airmen in fatigue uniforms arranged in three rows outdoors. The bottom half is a montage containing six individual portraits of commanding officers and training staff in the center, flanked by twelve smaller candid photographs depicting various aspects of basic military training (classroom instruction, physical training, marching, field exercises, barracks life, and base landmarks like a chapel and a static aircraft display). The mood is formal and documentary, typical of mid-20th-century military commemorative photography.

## Historical Background

This is a standard graduation or flight photograph for US Air Force Basic Military Training (BMT) at Lackland AFB, known as the "Gateway to the Air Force." In January 1966, the United States was rapidly escalating its involvement in the Vietnam War, leading to a surge in enlistments and draft inductions. These young men in Flight 2094, Squadron 3704, were undergoing standard basic training before being sent to technical schools and subsequently deployed to bases worldwide, including Southeast Asia. Genealogists can use the printed names and the specific flight/squadron numbers to request Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF) from the National Archives in St. Louis.

## Estimated Date

January 1966. Confidence: High. The text explicitly states "JANUARY, 1966". The uniforms (OG-107s), the style of the RH&T building (built in the late 1950s/early 1960s), and the photographic style perfectly corroborate this exact date.

## Estimated Location

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, USA. Confidence: High. The text explicitly states "LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS". Visual clues like the large RH&T (Recruit Housing and Training) barracks building and the static aircraft display are iconic features of Lackland AFB, which is the primary location for USAF Basic Military Training (BMT).

## Visual Clues

**Text:** "SQDN. 3704 LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS JANUARY, 1966 FLIGHT 2094". Names of trainees are listed on the left and right margins. Officer names include "LT.

ANDERSON", "MAJOR HUGHES", "C.M.S. JARRELL", "M. SGT. WILLIS", "T/SGT. LAMBERT", "S/SGT. SELLMAN". A sign in an inset reads "WELCOME to the U. S. AIR FORCE". **People:** Trainees wear standard US Air Force OG-107 utility uniforms with flight caps. Officers in the portraits wear Class A service dress uniforms with service caps. **Environment/Architecture:** Inset photos show a large multi-story Recruit Housing and Training (RH&T) building, a base chapel with a distinct steeple, a static swept-wing jet aircraft mounted on a pylon, and typical mid-60s military classroom and barracks interiors. **Objects:** Rifles visible in the inspection inset. Bunk beds and footlockers in the barracks inset.

**Technical Details**

Black-and-white silver gelatin composite print, likely mass-produced for the members of the flight. The image shows some signs of aging, including minor surface wear, slight fading, and vertical staining or emulsion damage on the right side of the main group photo. The format—a panoramic group shot combined with inset training scenes and printed text—is highly characteristic of mid-century US military basic training graduation photos. The date is hard-printed on the image as January 1966.