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29th Brigade due from Hilo Feb. 12

The large C-124 Globemasters of the 61st Military Airlift Wing will start returning 29th Infantry Brigade troops and equipment from Hilo on Feb. 12.

The wing airlifted the Army men from Hickam Jan. 8-11 for training exercises on the Big Island.

During the deployment phase of this airlift -- named Leprechaun Laughter IX -- the wing's 50th Military Airlift Squadron transported 809 troops and 795.7 tons of cargo to the island of Hawaii. Aircrews flew 66 missions into General

Lyman Field, near Hilo.

The 61st Wing will combine the return airlift of the men and cargo -- Feb. 12-15 -- with the deployment phase of another exercise, called Leprechaun Laughter X.

The 50th Squadron will airlift different 29th Brigade elements to Hilo for exercises. About 56 flights will be required some 940 troops and 600 tons of equipment to the Big Island. The return flights will bring the men and equipment presently on Hawaii back to Oahu.

An on-site airlift control team will direct the flights at General Lyman Field.