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Little hope seen for 29th deactivation

Sp. 4 David Schutter, who spent the last two weeks in Washington campaigning for deactivation of the 29th Brigade, sees no hope for an early release.

"In light of the total military paralysis exercised over the supposed civilian control of the military, the 29th Brigade will receive no help from Washington," Schutter feels.

"As matters stand at present, we will be lucky — extremely lucky — if the Army keeps its promise of releasing us Dec. 15."

Schutter described his meetings with senators and congressmen from Hawaii, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kansas and Arizona as a "terribly disillusioning experience," because the answer was usually: "I can't do anything. The Army refuses."

Schutter believes that the Army has treated Hawaii National Guardsmen and Reservists unfairly, both in the call-up to active duty last May 12 and in their handling of the men since that time.

Some 1,500 men in the brigade signed a petition last fall demanding their "immediate" deactivation. A group called Citizens for the Deactivation of the 29th have carried on the efforts since then.

SCHUTTER SAID he has received assurances from Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona, Sen. Stephen Young of Ohio and Sen. Richard Schweiker of Pennsylvania that they would support a Senate effort to deactivate the 29th if Sen. Hiram Fong would introduce it.

Schutter is under orders to leave for Vietnam Wednesday.