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Maui planning a GI welcome

WAILUKU—Maui members of the Hawaii Army National Guard serving in Vietnam will be returned home Dec. 9, Col. Edward Yoshimatsu, HANG chief of staff, told Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho yesterday.

He said plans are for the Hawaii brigade to arrive at Schofield Barracks Nov. 28, and all Neighbor Island men will be flown home Dec. 9.

MAUI COUNTY is planning a welcome home party for its 125 Guardsmen on Saturday, Dec. 13, Cravalho said. The Mayor has appointed Abel Kahoonohano to organize the celebration, including the welcome to the men on their arrival at the airport Dec. 9.

Cravalho told Yoshimatsu he hoped the Maui men could be flown home in the afternoon and those returning to Molokai on the morning of Dec. 9, so County officials could take part in both welcomes. He said an afternoon arrival on Maui also would be good so that government and industry could let employees leave their jobs early that day to meet the men at the airport.

AMONG THE soldiers returning to Maui from 19 months' active service in Vietnam is Capt. Mustard Murayama, former Maui County Treasurer and now its finance director. Cravalho said Murayama is expected to be back at work Dec. 16.