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HAWAII TIMES

APR. 11 1968

24,500 Reservists Called

The Department of Defense has called to active duty the Infantry arm of the Hawaii National Guard.

The 29th Brigade was ordered to report for duty at Schofield Barracks on May 13th.

The State Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Benjamin Webster, said he has not received any word on where the guard might go but many observers feel they will stay in Hawaii.

Also called up by the Defense Department was the 100th Battalion of the 442nd Infantry, an army reserve outfit that trains at Ft. DeRussy.

The Hawaii National Guard numbers more than 3,000 men while the reservists total 841. The call-up is for two years.

The 29th is commanded by Brig. Gen. Francis Takemoto, the principal of Manea School. Last month, Gen. Webster said he doubted that the 29th would go to Vietnam.

Rather, he felt it would be a backup strategic force that would remain at Schofield Barracks.

The 29th has been anticipating a callup for several weeks. It has been on select force category for more than two years and would have gone off that status the first of May.

Gov. John A. Burns said he does not anticipate that the Hawaii troops will be sent to the Mainland for duty.

Burns said he believes the Hawaii National Guard units will either remain in Hawaii,

or be sent to Vietnam. But, he said, it will be a long time before the Hawaii National Guard goes anywhere.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford announced today 24,500 Army, Navy and Air Force reservists are going to be recalled to active duty.

The new Pentagon chief said 10,000 of them will be sent to Vietnam.

Clifford made his announcement at his first full-dress news conference since taking over as defense secretary.

He told newsmen no decision has been made on whether to call up any additional reserves.

Clifford also disclosed that President Johnson intends — at

this time — to limit the number of U.S. forces in Vietnam to 549,500 men.

The figure represents an increase of 24,500 over the present ceiling — The exact number of reservists being called up today.

Clifford linked the presidential decision to limit further U.S. deployment in Vietnam to another major decision.

That is to turn over to the South Vietnamese — gradually — the major effort of fighting the war.

Clifford — in office only six weeks — said that decision was reached after months of consultations with the South Vietnamese government.

It takes into account Saigon's decision to increase its armed

forces by 135,000 more men. The decision to call up the reserves was foreshadowed in President Johnson's March 31st speech.

He announced — in a nationwide broadcast — that he was calling a partial halt in U.S. bombing of North Vietnam in a move to try to get peace talks started.

Defense Secretary Clifford has played a major role in the Washington efforts to get those talks started.

And he said today that after what he called "a halting start," messages now are going back and forth between the United States and North Vietnam.

The defense secretary describes the messages as formal in tone.