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# Guard Processing Will Begin Soon

By EUGENE TAO

Lt. Col. Fred Koehnen, commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry of the National Guard on the Big Island, announced Thursday afternoon he and his staff are working on "pre-mobilization processing."

The processing, which will have to be completed by May 13 (the mobilization date), will include "attention to the personal affairs of each guardsman in relation to family and employment," Koehnen said.

A revised schedule of drill assemblies prior to May 13 will be made known through news media and personal contact, Koehnen said.

Confirming that the 800 guardsmen under his command will be called up by the Defense Department order, Koehnen called for the

"support and encouragement of the community."

"Our citizen soldiers deserve the full encouragement and support of our community as they answer this call for service," he said.

"I am sure that the people of the Big Island will respond in the same positive fashion that has been our tradition in the past."

He said the order of mobilization may have caused a considerable anxiety among guardsmen's families, friends and employers. But he said he will try everything possible to give complete information to all concerned.

In the meantime, Koehnen pointed out that his battalion is not filled up to its maximum quota. Any Big Island resident with previous military experience still may join the Guard, he said.

## Call-Up Impact Concerns Kimura

County Chairman Shunichi Kimura said today he is very much concerned with the immediate impact on the families of the Big Island National Guardsmen to be called up under a Defense Department mobilization order announced Thursday.

"The immediate impact will be on the guardsmen's family income structure," Kimura said.

Kimura said he hopes the community will do whatever possible to alleviate the financial hardships of the affected families.

He said the County Government may lose some 40 employees. But the shortage of employees will not greatly affect the operation of the County, he added.

"Maybe, the police Department, Fire Department and the Planning Department will need replacements to fill vacancies," Kimura continued.

The rest of the departments may be able to operate with the balance of personnel, he said.

The call-up also will affect the University of Hawaii Hilo Campus.

Dr. Kaoru Noda, provost of the UHHC, said today so far he knew at least three students are in the National Guard.

Noda said he will not be able to make a complete count of the students who are in the Guard until after Easter vacation.

"The timing is very bad for students," Noda said. "I hope they can get deferments so they can finish this semester."

Edwin Lui, personnel specialist for the Hawaii School District, said today he has not yet taken a count as to the number of Big Island teachers who will be affected by the call-up.

Liu was not able to check Thursday and today is a State holiday. The first opportunity to determine a number will be Monday when schools can be contacted by phone, he said.

## 16 Isle Men Inducted In Big Call Up

State Selective Service inducted 16 Big Islanders in a 159-man state-wide call-up for the U. S. Army in March.

The 162-man quota for this month ranks as the highest Island draft boards have had to meet since May 1953.

The following men are now at Ft. Ord, Calif. for basic training:

Randall Tripp, Maximo A. Braceros, Cary B. Barcus, Richard S. Nakahara, Gaylor F. Y. Wong, Engracio Bohol, Ralph M. Sato, Isaiah K. Kaihue Jr., Lobe Gall, Patrick L. Paiva, Joel L. Borges, Pedro C. Fernandez, Rank R. Figueroa, Juan G. Valera, Ronald R. Branco and Sanford G. Sasaki.