

APR. 17 1968

Committee Organized For 'Operation Call-up'

An "Operation Call-up" Committee has been appointed by County Chairman Elmer F. Cravalho, who said Monday that 25 or more County employees are being called up to active duty with the Hawaii Army National Guard.

Purpose of the committee, which was appointed Monday, is to assist all Maui County residents affected by the Department of Defense's activation of the 29th Infantry Brigade (selected Reserve Force). The infantry arm of the Hawaii Army National Guard, the brigade has been ordered to active duty, effective May 13.

"This committee," Mr. Cravalho said, "is concerned with problems many families are going to be experiencing

due to the call-up. It is up to this committee to make a study and determine their needs and to help in any way possible to render a helping hand."

"The County is going all out to assist these families," he added. "They are free to call on us."

Mr. Cravalho will be chairman of the committee. His phone numbers are 335-615 and 335-735.

Other members, with their phone numbers in parenthesis:

Ricki Yasui, County economic development coordinator (335-255).

Captain Francis Abreu, battalion adjutant, 299th Infantry HARNG (35-808).

County Treasurer Shigeto Murayama (33-159). Mr. Murayama, a Guard officer, has been called up himself.

Manuel Oishi, County civil defense coordinator (324-675).

James M. Izumi, County personnel director (33-909).

Some of the problems expected to be presented to the committee are: 1—Status and rights of employees being called; 2—Financial status of employees, and what can be done to assist them; 3—Commissary facilities; 4—Legal; and 5—Impact on the community (what skills are being lost and what the County can do to alleviate).

The public affairs office of the State's Department of Defense issued, on April 11, a news release, which said:

Defense Department officials have stated that the mobilization period will be for not more than 24 months.

The mobilization station for reporting is Schofield Barracks, Oahu.

With an authorized strength of nearly 3,300 men, the 29th Infantry Brigade is commanded by Brigadier General Francis S. Takemoto, principal of Manoa elementary school in civilian life. Units of the Brigade are located throughout the state of Hawaii.

The list of major commanders includes Lieutenant Colonel John R. D'Araujo, commander, 1st Battalion, Maui.

The 29th Infantry Brigade is part of the Army's Selected Reserve Force. The SRF was formed in November, 1965, of certain selected units in the National Guard and Army Reserve to be brought to peak strength and readiness. These units received additional training and equipment to make them combat ready.

Early Relicensing For Guard, Reserve

Maui County residents called to active duty with the National Guard or the Army Reserve may "come in any time for relicensing as vehicle operators," County Treasurer Shigeto Murayama announced Monday.

Early relicensing of drivers in the called-up category will be permitted "before they go away," the announcement said.

The County's relicensing program began April 1 and will continue through March, 1969.

Exceptions

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or enlistment."

Post housing and movement of household goods for dependents of Guardsmen called to active duty are not immediately authorized, according to information released Monday morning.

Pending a determination of the unit's ultimate assignment and availability of family housing in the vicinity of the duty station. Guardsmen will not be able to move their families onto military housing, officials explained.

The assignment of the 29th Brigade and other units called to active duty is not expected to be released until some time after their reporting date of May 13.

Exceptions To Callup Announced

College students and instructors who are members of the 29th Infantry Brigade, Hawaii Army National Guard, and are slated to be called up May 13, may apply for delay in reporting, according to information received yesterday (Tuesday) from the National Guard Bureau.

The authorization to grant delay in reporting covers college, vocational and trade school students, as well as instructors and teachers.

Seniors may have until the day after graduation to report to their units.

All others will report the day following the end of the current school semester.

National Guard officials noted that requests for delay in reporting must be made by the individuals concerned through their assigned units. Requests must be accompanied by a document or statement from the school regarding the individual's status.

It was previously announced that high school students subject to the call up may—upon their request—be granted a delay in reporting, until after graduation.

Two other announcements of importance to men called to active duty were made Monday by Major General Benjamin Webster, the State's adjutant general, and by the public affairs office.

"Enlisted men whose enlistments or reserve obligations expire by December 12, 1968, are exempt from the current callup of the Hawaii Army National Guard," General Webster said.

In clarifying the exemption status, a spokesman for the public affairs office said: "Enlisted personnel whose statutory reserve obligation or enlistment will expire on or before December 12 are exempt. "Such personnel will be given an opportunity to voluntarily expand or re-enlist, for at least 12 months from the completion of the statutory reserve obligation