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Crack Brigade's Boss Regrets He Can't Go Along

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Advertiser Military Writer

ig. Gen. Francis S. Takemoto said yesterday he

was disappointed not to be able to go active duty May 13 with the 29th Infantry Brigade that he led to elite National Guard status.

"I'm disappointed, but this is the way it has to be," said Takemoto, the first Nisei to earn a brigadier general's star.

"But of course, come November and I'd have had to retire anyway."

By Army regulations, Takemoto, who is 55, must retire this year after 30 years of service and five years in his current rank. He was promoted to brigadier general and command of the 29th in November, 1963.

Under his direction, the Brigade was honed to battlefield readiness as one of the Army's Selected Reserve Forces within the National Guard. As such, it was given full manpower and equip-



TAKEMOTO

has soldiered with Takemoto since both were in Co. D, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, in World War II.

"His experience as a school principal, his background in World War II, his military education in the Commanding General's Staff College, gave him the necessary experience to do an outstanding job," Yoshimasu said.

"I'm sorry it won't be possible for him to take the Brigade into active duty," Yoshimasu is one of four full colonels in the Guard who are possible successors to Takemoto.

Col. Edward Yoshimasu, Army Guard chief of staff,

The others are Col. Clyde W. Woods, Takemoto's deputy commander; Col. John Becker, commanding officer of the Nike-Hercules 298th Artillery Group, and Col. William C. Meyer, deputy Adjutant General.

Another possibility is Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III, commanding general of the Hawaii Army National Guard.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin J. Webster, State Adjutant General, is expected to name Takemoto's replacement soon, to be in command when the Brigade reports at Schofield Barracks.