

# Gen. Schaefer Named 29th Infantry Brigade Commander

By WALLACE MITCHELL  
Advertiser Military Writer

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III yesterday was named to lead the National



SCHAEFER

Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade into active duty. The move was made apparently to keep the command in the Guard.

The command calls for a



YOSHIMASU

brigadier general. Schaefer is the only such one-star general in the Hawaii Army National Guard available to replace the retiring commander, Brig. Gen. Francis S. Takemoto.

Although there are four senior colonels available for the command, the one chosen would have to depend on the Army for the necessary promotion to brigadier general.

It was felt that the Army might prefer to assign one of its current brigadier generals to the post.

Schaefer volunteered for the command, stepping out as commanding general of the Hawaii Army National Guard of which the Brigade is but a part, although a major one.

"I don't consider it a step down," Schaefer said in a press conference at his Ft. Ruger office. "The post calls

for the same grade and commitments.

"I did volunteer. It was my choice and I am very happy to be accepted. I'm extremely pleased to be given the opportunity to take command and go on active duty with the Brigade. It has trained for a long time and you can be sure it will be doing a good job and setting an example for other units."

Schaefer commanded the Brigade before taking command of all Army Guard units in February, 1960. He has followed it closely in its training, particularly in its accelerated training program the past two years as one of the Army's elite Selected Reserve Forces.

"I'm as close to it as I could possibly be—I know its men and its problems," Schaefer said.

"Training-wise, it's in

good shape. All units have passed their Army Training Tests except the 1st Battalion of the 487th Artillery Group and they'll do that in June."

Schaefer will take command of the Brigade May 4, when Takemoto's retirement is effective. Takemoto, 55, was forced by Army regulations to retire because of time in service and grade.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin J. Webster, State Adjutant General who appointed Schaefer, was unable to be at the press conference. He was at Tripler Hospital undergoing his annual physical examination.

He issued the following statement, however:

"I am extremely pleased that General Schaefer has volunteered to take command of the 29th Infantry Brigade.

"General Schaefer is a

highly qualified officer who should bring credit to the Brigade in leading them during their period of active duty.

Schaefer, 47, is a fourth generation kamaaina, a graduate of Punahou School and Cornell University.

Commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduation from Cornell in 1942, he saw action at Guadalcanal with the 25th Infantry Division.

After two months in action

he was wounded in January, 1943, while leading his platoon in an assault on an enemy position. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and Bronze Star for gallantry.

He is vice president and a

director of Ainamalu Corporation and active in numerous civic organizations. Col. Edward M. Yoshimasu, Schaefer's chief of staff, has been named acting commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard.

## Appointment Surprises Many Guardsmen

By DENBY FAWCETT  
Advertiser Staff Writer

The selection of Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer, III, yesterday as commander of the Hawaii National Guard's 29th Brigade surprised many Guardsmen, who expected a full colonel to be promoted to the position.

"It's kind of an unexpected thing. We were expecting a promotion instead of a later-

al movement," said Albert R. Ayers, 31, an investigator for the City and County Public Works Department.

Ayers is a second lieutenant in the Guard's 227th Engineer Company of the 29th Infantry.

"I'm glad for Schaefer, though," Ayers said. "I think he's capable."

Col. Edward M. Yoshimasu, Army Guard chief of staff, who was considered a

possible successor to Brig. Gen. Francis S. Takemoto as head of the 29th Infantry, said he was delighted about Schaefer's selection.

"Schaefer's selection was the best that could have been made," Yoshimasu said. "I've worked with him for 21 years off and on. He's outstanding in every respect."

Another officer who was rooting for one of the Guard colonels to fill the slot, said he was terribly disappointed in Schaefer's selection.

"Schaefer did not want to go with the unit in the first place," he said. "The whole thing is very political."

Col. Clyde Woods, deputy

commander to the former head of the 29th Infantry, who was considered by many to be the logical person to fill the job, said he was happy about Schaefer's selection. "It's probably the best thing that could happen," Woods said. "Schaefer is almost as familiar with the men that make up the Brigade as Takemoto was."

Col. John Becker, commander of Nike-Hercules 298th Artillery Group, was also considered to fill the slot of commander of the 29th Infantry, said of Schaefer "They could n't have picked a better man. He's brought this brigade along for years."

Many enlisted Guardsmen didn't want to comment on Schaefer's selection. They said they didn't know anything about him.

Sp 4 Bryan Anzal, with Delta Company of the 29th Support Battalion, said, "Takemoto was a good brigade commander. I'm sure Gen. Schaefer will do just as well if not better."

PFC. Robert Phillips of 1065 Keolu Drive, said "Let's hope Schaefer is as good as Takemoto. We're being activated and we will need the best leadership possible." Phillips is a scout observer with the 29th Brigade's Support Battalion.