



Frederick A. Schaefer III

## Schaefer: Honored to lead brigade

By Gregg Kakesako  
*Star-Bulletin Writer*

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III, 47, new commander of the Hawaii National Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade, said yesterday he was prepared to make a "personal sacrifice when he volunteered" to head the brigade on active duty.

At a 30-minute press conference held in his office at Ft. Ruger, Schaefer said he did not consider transferring from command of all Army Guard units in Hawaii to head of a brigade of the Hawaii Guard a demotion.

"This is not a step down since it calls for the same grade, and I am honored to go with the 29th Brigade on active duty," he said.

Col. Edward M. Yoshimasu, chief of staff, will replace Schaefer as acting commander of the Hawaii Army National Guard.

Schaefer emphasized that his choice to take command was voluntary, and he could have refused it.

He replaces Brig. Gen. Francis Takemoto, who will retire May 4.

Takemoto was forced to pass up active duty because of certain regulations under the Reserve Officers Personnel Act.

Under Army regulations, Takemoto, 55, must retire this year since he has 30 years service including five years in grade.

In reply to a question on Sen. Hiram Fong's persistent protests over the Army's heavy call-up of Island National Guardsmen and reservists, Schaefer said the Hawaii unit was especially picked two years ago for specialized training.

"You can't expect the Army to break up a unit and just send a part of it," he said.

He expects that the brigade will stay together wherever it goes.

Schaefer added that he does not know if the brigade will stay here as Sen. Daniel K. Inouye has implied.

He leaves the position of vice president and director of Ainamalu Corp. to go on active duty May 13.

Schaefer is vice president of the Downtown Improvement Association and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

This is the second time Schaefer will command the 29th Brigade. He commanded it in 1959, before assuming command of all the

Army Island guard units in February, 1960.

During World War II he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Bronze Star, Commendation Medal, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman's Badge.

He was wounded during an assault on Guadalcanal with the 25th Infantry Division.

Schaefer noted that the brigade is in "good-shape" except for a part of the 487th Field Artillery which is scheduled to undergo field training in June.

Schaefer and his family live at 44-381 Kaneohe Bay Drive.