



Advertiser Photo by Leland Cheong

Takemoto touches patch on Schaefer's arm, a symbol of brigade mission.

Schaefer Takes Over 29th Brigade

Brig. Gen. Francis S. Takemoto yesterday turned over command of the 29th Infantry Brigade to Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III.

"I'd like to have taken them into active duty," Takemoto said of his National Guard troops following a change of command ceremony on the lawn of the Brigade's armory at Ft. Ruger.

Takemoto, 55, was forced to retire under Army regulations because of his time in service and grade. The 29th, augmented by the 100th Battalion, Army Reserve, will muster a week from tomorrow at Schofield Barracks for active duty.

Schaefer volunteered to give up his command of the Hawaii Army National Guard to take over the 29th from Takemoto.

"This is an occasion of mixed feelings and reactions

to us," said Maj. Gen. Benjamin J. Webster, State Adjutant General, after Brigade colors had been passed to Schaefer by Takemoto.

"We dislike to see him leave the active service of the National Guard.

"But we know he can be proud of his outstanding and loyal service to the Guard.

"I extend to him on behalf of the Guard my deep official and personal thanks for duty well performed."

Webster called Schaefer

"exceptionally well qualified to lead the Brigade" and thanked him for volunteering to take the command.

To the platoons from three Brigade units that formed the honor guard, Webster acknowledged that they would have some difficult days ahead but they also would "be rewarding days of service to our country."

Takemoto spoke briefly, expressing his thanks to his troops and his fellow officers.

"My compliments to you

all as one of the best National Guard units in the country," Takemoto said.

Webster presented Takemoto with the Hawaii National Guard Medal of Merit Army.

for "exceptional leadership" in bringing the Brigade to combat readiness as one of the elite Special Reserve Forces designated by the