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Hawaii's Troops To Be Honored At Ceremonies

Top military and civilian leaders will salute Hawaii's National Guard 29th Infantry Brigade and Army Reserve 100th Battalion tomorrow when they muster for two years of active duty.

Farewell ceremonies start at 8:30 a.m. on Ft. DeRussy's Kuroda Field. Several thousand relatives and friends are expected to be on hand for farewells similar to those that marked the departure of the 25th Division in late 1965.

Kalia Road through Ft. DeRussy will be used only for traffic moving waikiki from 6 to 11 a.m., and limited parking will be available to the public.

Only 1,800 of the troops will take part in the ceremony, all from Oahu-based units. Neighbor Island troops will be air-lifted to Oahu throughout the day and bussed directly to Schofield Barracks.

The Oahu troops will be taken to Schofield in a truck convoy immediately after the ceremony.

Reviewing the troops will be Gov. John A. Burns, Mayor Neal S. Blaisdell, Lt. Gen. Edgar C. Doleman, U.S. Army Pacific deputy commander in chief, and Maj. Gen. Roy Lassetter Jr., U.S. Army Hawaii commander.

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III will command the combined Guard-Reserve troops. He took command of the 29th on May 4.

The 111th Army Band will play, helicopters will make an aloha flower drop, and a flight of Air National Guard Delta Dagger jets will fly over the ceremony.

Members of Hawaii's congressional delegation and State legislative leaders; Maj. Gen. Benjamin J. Webster, State Adjutant General; his predecessors, retired Maj. Gens. Robert L. Stevenson and Fred W. Makinney, will be on the reviewing stand.

Also there will be retired Brig. Gen. Francis S. Takemoto, who turned command of the 29th over to Schaefer; Brig. Gen. Valentine A. Sierfermann, Air National Guard commander, and Col. Edward M. Yoshimasu, Hawaii Army National Guard acting commander.

The Guard and Reserve units were called up by President Johnson April 11. The Brigade for two years has trained as one of the few Special Reserve Forces designated by the Army, trained and equipped for swift mobilization.

The 100th Battalion will become a part of the Brigade during its two-year active duty status. The battalion has a high training achievement record during annual field maneuvers with regular Army troops.

Although no official announcement has been made, it is expected that the troops will be at Schofield a minimum of 13 weeks. All 4,000 men have to qualify with M-14 rifles and the artillery units probably will have some work at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island.

Coincidentally, Armed Forces Week opens tomorrow, with each service conducting special observances and finishing Saturday with open houses at the military installations.