

COL. LINCOLN'S RESIGNATION IS CAUSE OF RUMOR

July 20
Friction With Gen. Johnson is
Denied Absolutely By Na-
tional Guard Heads

SOON TO BE PROMOTED TO MAJOR, REGULAR ARMY

After serving efficiently since January 1 of this year, Col. Charles S. Lincoln, U. S. A., inspector-instructor of the National Guard of Hawaii, tendered his resignation yesterday as colonel of the 1st Infantry, N. G. H., and has requested the Hawaiian department that he be relieved as inspector-instructor.

Both Col. Lincoln and Brig.-Gen. Samuel I. Johnson, commanding the National Guard of Hawaii, declare that the only reason for the former's resignation is that he is soon to be promoted from captain to major of the regular army, under the new National Defense Act, but reports from outside sources are persistent that the colonel's action is the result of disagreement with General Johnson's alleged political activities.

"I resigned because I am about to be promoted, and under the new conditions prefer to be with the regular troops," said Col. Lincoln this morning when asked for a statement. "There is nothing to rumors of any friction with Gen. Johnson." The colonel added that he has been in regular army service on Oahu for the last three and a half years, having come to the islands in January, 1913, as captain with the 2nd Infantry at Fort Shafter. He was appointed January 1, 1916, as inspector-instructor of the National Guard of Hawaii and is conceded to have filled the position very satisfactorily. It is reported that he will be assigned to command a battalion of regulars soon as major in the regular army, probably on Oahu.

"Col. Lincoln is an excellent man and I am sorry to see him go," said Brig.-Gen. Johnson, commanding the National Guard. He expressed great surprise at being told of rumors that the resignation is due to his political affairs here and denied that he is active in politics.

"There is no politics of any kind in the National Guard of Hawaii," Gen. Johnson declared emphatically. "I am accused of political activity. I have never allowed the use of the armory for political rallies or conventions. The only kind of politics that could be practised here would be Democratic, and we are not doing that. Officers of the guard who have been dismissed have been put out for inefficiency, not for political reasons. I would very much like to know where these falsehoods started. Col. Lincoln and I are on the most friendly terms."

Gen. Johnson says he does not know who can be secured to fill the place of Col. Lincoln as ably as he has done. "He is an able man and it will be hard to find an officer to take his place," he remarked.

Governor Pinkham says he has no comment to make on the resignation, which is to take effect right away, although Col. Lincoln will continue to act as inspector-instructor until his successor can be appointed. The governor says that the letter of resignation which was given to him contains no reasons.

"It will be at least a month, and perhaps longer, before we can appoint a successor to Col. Lincoln as inspector-instructor of the National Guard," said Brig.-Gen. R. K. Evans, commanding the Hawaiian department. "He will be promoted soon. Who his successor will be I cannot say, as I don't want to discount the future, but it will have to be some one on Oahu, in my own bailiwick."

The general plans to confer with Governor Pinkham soon relative to recommending Col. Lincoln's successor to the war department for approval.

Much regret is expressed by National Guard officers generally at the resignation of the inspector-instructor.

"He worked early and late with the guard," "He was a splendid man," "It is unfortunate he cannot remain," said several.