Vietnam duty for some 29th Gls

By Lyle Nelson Star-Bulletin Writer

A small contingent of men from Hawaii's 29th Infantry Brigade have received orders which will send them to Vietnam in October.

An Army spokesman at Schofield Barracks would not give the number involved but it is believed to be less than 50.

Such a drop in the ranks of the 4,000-man 29th had been anticipated for several months and confirmed here only recently by Army officials.

More and larger assignments of Brigade personnel to Vietnam could follow in the near future but the Army will not say when or if.

The men tapped Monday for an "overseas" assignment will come from all five units of the 29th — the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the tary requirements through-299th Infantry, the 100th Battalion of the 442nd Infantry, the 1st Battalion of the 487th Artillery and the 29th Support Battalion.

The men selected have skills the Army needs in Vietnam.

They will not go until they finish training about the end of September.

The Army has never said if the 29th, as a fighting unit, will see service in Vietnam.

Most speculation has been that most of the Island soldiers will remain at Schofield.

The first tip that individual soldiers of the 29th would be shipped to the combat zone came when Hawaii's senators complained about proposed individual levies.

But the Army quickly reassured Hawaii's top politicians that the 29th would not be broken into pieces and shipped to the war.

Military observers point out, however, that U.S. miliout the world are subject to unforeseeable change and that the men of the 29th are subject to service wherever the Army needs them.