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# 29th Brigade's officers will go to Vietnam early next year

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Officers in Hawaii's 29th Infantry Brigade will be sent to Vietnam.

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III, brigade commander, said today most of them will go in small groups during the first six months of next year.

The only enlisted men in the 4,000-man force involved in the move are a handful with critically needed work skills.

THERE ARE SEVERAL hundred officers in the 29th, most of them Island men.

Schaefer said the 29th's officers are expected to be replaced, by men fresh from combat experience in Vietnam.

The Pentagon dip into the officer corps of the 29th reveals the critical need the Army has for officer replacements in Vietnam.

The officers are now receiving individual assignments to fill needed spots in Vietnam.

Many will be sent to specialty schools on the Mainland before going to Vietnam.

There was no word today as to the future of the enlisted men in the ranks of the former Hawaii National Guard and Army Reserve unit but it appears that the brigade will remain at Schofield Barracks.

INDIVIDUAL TROOP levies of enlisted men for Vietnam assignments have been very small.

Only one man went this month and several are due to go there next month.

Schaefer himself will go to Washington soon to find out more about future personnel changes in the brigade, including his own status.

Last June Secretary of the Army Stanley Resor assured Sen. Daniel K. Inouye that the unit integrity of the 29th would be maintained.

This assurance is being upheld, it would appear.

There is strong sentiment in the brigade that if it must be sent to Vietnam it should go as a unit.

This feeling grows out of the teamwork developed through six months of concentrated training in the Koolau Mountains and Po-

hakuloa training site on the Big Island.

Depletion of Island officers from the 29th will bring about a strange transformation in the appearance of the brigade.

ABOUT ONE-FOURTH of the enlisted men in the ranks today are soldiers from the Mainland.

Most of them filled out the under-strength ranks of the reserve force involved in the May 13 call up.

In addition nearly 1,000 men of the 4th Infantry Brigade were transferred over to the 29th when that unit was deactivated.

Mainland replacements have been arriving at Schofield in a slow, steady flow.

Rotation of the officer corps to Vietnam will fur-

ther increase the transformation of the Island force, making it quite different in appearance from the Guard unit that mustered at Ft. Ruger last May.

THE MISSION of the 29th remains what it has been—a strategic reserve force for the Pacific.

Recently Schaefer warned the troops to discount the flood of rumors that swept Schofield for several days.

Tales being told in the ranks, he said, took two turns — either that the 29th was going to war or that it was being deactivated and that the troops would be back home and civilians before Christmas.

While neither course is likely, the rotation of officers there.

to Vietnam shows that the Army can use the 29th any way it wants, depending upon need.

MEANWHILE the brigade is now entering a jungle warfare phase in its training cycle.

From May through September the brigade worked at basic infantry tactics, starting with small units and working upward to larger tactical problems.

Now the 29th is testing itself in tough survival and escape tactics at mountain training sites around Schofield.

This field work will prepare it for Vietnam if it develops later that the 29th's enlisted men are needed there.