



Sgt. Steve Smolak



Sgt. Wayne Cleveland



Spec. 4 Lawrence Luke



Pfc Kenneth Jenkins



Pvt. Robert Skibniewski



Pvt. Mervin Matsumoto

29th's 'we want out' petition argued

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have the right to petition for grievances.

The sergeant came to Hawaii to take a job, then was transferred into the 29th which created a hardship, he said, for his family and his new employer.

"I don't believe the reasons given for the call up were properly stated. We are strictly a support group," he said.

Pvt. Mervin Matsumoto of Honolulu favors the petition because he feels the call up was "a political movement thought up by the politicians

in Washington."

Matsumoto expressed the hope that, "Since Nixon is in, something will change."

Pfc Kenneth Jenkins of Cleveland, Ohio, said, "The petition states the feelings of most of the men. The general was misinformed when he said it did not represent the opinion of most troops."

"I didn't sign it until after I read the general's com-

mand letter. That influenced me to sign it," he said.

JENKINS HASN'T yet received orders to go to Vietnam and he complained—as soldiers have for generations—"I don't like this sitting around, waiting."

One man who did not agree with those supporting the petition was Sgt. Wayne Cleveland of Kensington, Md.

He was wearing the combat infantryman's badge, a sign that he has fought in Vietnam, and admitted he was regular Army and not caught in the call-up.

The circulation of the petition, he said, "makes me sick."

Cleveland said he felt the men have every right to complain but he implied that the men are not concerned

enough about their own necks.

"They are in training now and they should take it seriously," he said.

As a combat veteran, Cleveland suggested brigade troops are only hurting themselves by not applying themselves to learning all they can about how to take care of themselves once they arrive in Vietnam.

Spec. 4 Lorrin Ching of Honolulu said, "I'm all for the petition. The Pueblo crisis is over now. This thing is dealing with lives."

Pfc. Wayne Maeda of Kailua also criticized the Pueblo incident as a reason for activating the 29th.

"I THINK the people should know how we feel," he said.

Both Spec. 4 Lawrence Luke of Honolulu and Spec. 4 Paul Occhiuzzi of Newkirk, Ohio, said the petition expresses the feelings of the majority of the troops in the 29th.

"The petition is a good thing," Luke said, "as long as a paper which went by police in the state in Hill-Brownsville school."

Negro leaders

NEW YORK — Two Hill-Brownsville school

crippling nationwide strike

The Rumor government

end of World War II

'Citizen Gls' back 'we want out' appeal

By Lyle Nelson
Star-Bulletin Writer

It took this reporter only a few minutes yesterday at Schofield Barracks to locate 29th Brigade soldiers willing to publicly support the protest petition being circulated among the infantry outfit.

The petition asks that the troops be deactivated so they can return to their civilian jobs.

It is the hottest topic of conversation in the ranks at Schofield today.

I walked up to a group of men who were outside their quadrangle waiting to begin afternoon work details after lunch.

I wanted to know how they felt about the petition that has stirred up the soldiers, the community as a whole and Hawaii's political leaders.

Most of the troops I approached held back and did not want to take sides on the petition issue or were unwilling.

But 10 men did talk and eight favored the petition. Here is the way they put it:

ing to discuss the matter publicly.

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III, commander of his troops are against the sentiments expressed in the petition.

SCHAEFER SAYS that while one outfit in the brigade

Petition's claims 'dismay' Inouye. B-8

gade has had about 50 per cent who signed the petition, others reported the number of signers as low as 5 per cent.

When I approached troops for a statement, dozens moved away, mumbled or flatly refused to be drawn into the controversy. Particularly unwilling to talk were high-ranking noncommissioned officers, the top sergeants, many of whom are combat veterans.

But 10 men did talk and eight favored the petition. Here is the way they put it:

Sgt. Steve Smolak of Honolulu said everyone should

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