

# Church offers 12/9 GIs sanctuary

By Judy Chase  
Star-Bulletin Writer

The Church of the Crossroads will provide sanctuary this week to members of the 29th Brigade who hold orders to Vietnam and wish to protest by going AWOL.

The Rev. Delwyn Rayson, pastor of the church, said today that his congregation voted "virtually unanimously" yesterday to make the church a "symbolic sanctuary" for protesting members of the 29th.

He said that men who may decide to go AWOL in protest this week will be housed in the church "I guess as long as seems necessary."

Mr. Rayson said no time limit was put on the resolution by the congregation.

The church's action came following a call by The Resistance, a local antiwar group. The Resistance invited protesting members of the 29th and their supporters to meet at the church at 7 p.m. today.

James Douglas, University of Hawaii religion professor and a member of The Resistance steering committee, said that tonight's meeting was scheduled in response to

a request for assistance "by several members of the 29th who said they spoke for others."

DOUGLAS served 15 days in Halawa Jail last July following his conviction on charges of loitering. The charges stemmed from a sit-in demonstration at the time the 29th was called up.

Mr. Rayson said today that any sanctuary offered by his church will be physical. That is, the church will open its doors to the protesters.

But he said it must be considered symbolic because "the church has no way of preventing the men from being taken away by the military."

He said that his congregation's resolution set no time limit on the sanctuary offer but agreed to reconsider the entire question at a later meeting if necessary.

DOUGLAS said that The Resistance group will make no effort to tell the protesting members of the 29th what they should do. But he said whatever means of protest they decide to take will be supported "to the fullest."

## Vietnam assignment for 29th's general

Brig. Gen. Frederick A. Schaefer III, commander of the 29th Infantry Brigade, has been ordered to Vietnam the first week in January.

Schaefer has not revealed what his assignment will be.

To date only about 200 men in the brigade have received orders to Vietnam.

Col. Clyde W. Woods Jr., is

Schaefer's deputy but it is uncertain if he will be promoted to the top job before Schaefer leaves.

A 29th spokesman said the Army is supplying replacements for men assigned to Vietnam on a man-for-man basis.

In other words, as a man leaves, his replacement will move into the ranks.

## Group still to petition for release of 29th

The citizens committee for the deactivation of the 29th Brigade probably will continue to circulate its petition despite the Army's decision to release guardsmen and reservists early.

The Rev. Earl Johnson, minister of the Lutheran Church of Honolulu and a member of the committee, declined to comment on the new turn of events.

But he assumes the petition — calling for total deactivation of Hawaii's 29th Brigade which was mobilized in May — will continue to be circulated.

ON FRIDAY the Army announced that 20,000 guardsmen and reservists will return to civilian life five months early and that draft calls will be increased to replace them.

This will not prevent Hawaii's soldiers from going to Vietnam, but most of them will serve less than the normal one-year tour of duty

and return to the Islands.

Several brigade members contacted by the Star-Bulletin agreed that the "sooner they returned to civilian life, the sooner they will be happy."

Spec. 4 Lawrence Dorothy said, "If you have to go, you have to go, but it's good that we will be getting out earlier than expected."

ANOTHER BRIGADE member, Lance Tokushima, hopes his stay in Vietnam will be as short as possible so that he can resume his interrupted studies at Chamade College.

Tokushima was a freshman at the Waialae campus when the guard unit was activated.