Schaeffer appointed assistant adjutant general

Native leader John W. Schaeffer has been appointed assistant adjutant general for the Alaska Army National Guard by Maj. Gen. Edward G. Pagano, Alaska adjutant general and commissioner of the state's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Schaeffer, 47, is a colonel in the 2,800-member organization and has been serving as chief of staff for the Alaska Army Guard's State Area Command.

Previous assignments since his enlistment in 1957 have included command of the Guard's 1st Scout Battalion in Nome and 3rd Scout Battalion in Kotzebue, in addition to several key staff positions at the Alaska Guard's headquarters in Anchorage.

The Kotzebue Native, recently elected the first mayor of the newly

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Schaeffer

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formed Northwest Arctic Borough, will perform his new military duties

in a part-time status.

"He's been an outstanding soldier since the beginning of his career, and he's a proven manager and widely respected leader in his civilian life as well."

That civilian career includes 14 years as president of the NANA Regional Corp., seven years as a full-time staff member of the Alaska Army Guard and four years as sales manager for a tug and barge company in Kotzebue.

Schaeffer also has been a University of Alaska regent, a member of the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission and has served on numerous other national and state advisory boards.

Schaeffer is a 1958 graduate of the Infantry Officer Candidate School at Ft. Benning, Ga., and is airborne and

Special Forces qualified.

He is a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College, and he holds numerous federal and state military awards including the Alaska Distinguished Service Medal and Army and Alaska commendation medals.

Schaeffer will continue to live in Kotzebue with his wife, Mary. They have nine children, including John Schaeffer III, a Specialist 4th Class with the 3rd Scout Battalion.