Gov. Lehman Announces Appointment Of Ranking Negro Officer

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The new commanding officer of the famous 369th Infantry of the New York National Guard will be Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, ranking Negro officer in the regular Army. His appointment will make the regiment completely Negro from top to bottom. The announcement was made by Governor Herbert Lehman, Tuesday.

Colonel Davis, now instructor in Military Science at Wilberforce University, will nominally be appointed as regular army instructor to the regiment. However on his taking on his new duties July 1, he will be commissioned in the New York National Guard and take over duties as commanding officer.

The new colonel will serve until 1941 when he will be retired from active duty. He succeeds a white officer who has acted as temporary commanding officer of the regiment since the removal of Col. Grimbles who gained a reputation for unfairness and inefficiency in his service with the organization.

Col. Davis is the father of and Lieut. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who graduated from West Point two years ago. Lieut. Davis is now stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.

Col. Ben Davis
Will Command
369th Infantry

Eustace Gay
MANAGING EDITOR