

About Those Birth Announcements ...

The Advertiser Images

In July of 2008 some online images surfaced claiming to be birth announcements for Barack Obama, from the Aug 13, 1961 Honolulu Advertiser. Lori Starfelt at Texas Darlin' Blog and Whatreallyhappened.com both published images that they claim were acquired independently from different locations. However, the following comparison of those images shows that is highly unlikely, if not impossible (you be the judge).

Lori Starfelt's image

Whatreallyhappened.com

THE SUNDAY ADVERTISER
B-6 August 13, 1961

Health Bureau Statistics

Births, Marriages, Deaths

BIRTHS
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel K. Hase Sr., 404-A 11th Ave., son, Aug. 4.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Staley, 1319 Anapa St., daughter, Aug. 4.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Kilson, Apt. 11, 123 Clark St., son, Aug. 4.
Mr. and Mrs. George P. Avau Sr., 8142 Lillana St., Mall, son, July 31.
Mr. and Mrs. Theodous J. Raymond, 1211 Mahua Drive, son, July 30.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Arakawa, 935B Houston St., son, Aug. 1.
Mr. and Mrs. Heaton Y. Takaha, 471, 54 Hanalei Ave., Waialua, daughter, Aug. 7.

LUAU SUPPLY Tents 10 to 100, tables, chairs, pots, pans, Japanese equipment & dishes.
58281 - KANEDA'S
Mr. and Mrs. Allington K. Brown, Maunaloa Road, Kailua, son, Aug. 2.
Mr. and Mrs. Cirilo V. Caberto, 918 Puuhale Road, son, Aug. 1.
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. M. Mo'uaui Sr., 722 Laukae St., son, Aug. 2.
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Clifford Sr., 2624 Maunaloa Place, son, Aug. 4.

LUAU
58281 - KANEDA'S
\$2.50 per person, all you can eat.
Mr. and Mrs. Peter C. Kamehaha Jr., 441 McNeil St., son, Aug. 3.
Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Walker, 1860 S. King St., daughter, Aug. 7.
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace M. Durkin, 3812 Roadway Drive, son, Aug. 7.
Mr. and Mrs. Mike M. Hapahai, 2487 Gardenia St., son, Aug. 6.

BABIES THRIVE ON
CARNATION LABORATED MILK
The Milk Every Doctor Knows
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Barnett, 1218 Wilemahina Blvd., son, Aug. 6.
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Mr. and Mrs. John R. Waldrich, 937 18th Ave., son, Aug. 5.
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LISTED HERE IN EASY-TO-FIND ALPHABETICAL ORDER ARE FREQUENTLY NEEDED BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. YOU CAN USE THIS HANDY DIRECTORY EVERYDAY

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CARPENTRY
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114 Wahi, Ph. 72-002.

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GRASS
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LANDSCAPING
Not leaving grassy planting, tree trimming, general yard cleaning 951-600.

MOSS ROCK
STONE WALLS, LOT CLEARING, Excavating, Ph. 421-641.

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ACME TERMITE SERVICE Very reasonable, Ph. 46-753

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HAIRY TREE TRIMMING, CUTTING & PRUNING 729-812, 758-50

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Compare

1. The right and bottom borders
2. The dotted line directly above Obama's announcement.
3. The "scratch" directly below the Asing announcement.
4. The "scratch" in the left margin extending into the lower "Luau" ad.
5. The blurring of lowest line of print in second-left column.

The left side has been slightly cropped from Starfelt's image, as can be seen by the "scratches" in the left margin that are cut off (under "THE SUNDAY ADVERTISER" and beside the Luau ad). Aside from that, the only difference in these copies is that the "scratch" under the Asing announcement has been erased from the left margin of the WRH image.

These appear to be the same image, even though one was claimed to be from the Advertiser office and the other claimed to be from the microfilm of the Hawaii State Library.

The Star-Bulletin Images

Sometime after the Advertiser images appeared, two anonymous posters each claimed they had gone into the Hawaii State Library and made copies from the microfilm of the Aug 14, 1961 Star-Bulletin - "Koa" at Texas

Darlin' Blog, and a poster at Prius Chat Forum. In addition, Whatreallyhappened.com posted an image received from somebody at the Advertiser office.

Koa's image, from Texas Darlin' Blog:

Prius Chat poster's image:

Marriage Applications Births--Deaths

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel K. Hase Sr., 460-A 11th Avenue, son, August 4.

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Mr. and Mrs. Peter C. Kamehaha, Jr., 441 McNeill Street, son, August 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Walker, 1660 South King Street, daughter, August 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace M. Dirkin, 3885 Radiator Drive, son, August 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike A. Nagahishi, 2687 Gardena Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Earnest, 1258 Wilhelmina Rise, son, August 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. H. Chun, 45-48 Akimaka Street, Kaneohe, son, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Waldreich, 827 18th Avenue, son, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett P. Simpson, 3752 Kalili Street, daughter, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Atsuo K. F. Lio, 45-48 Keanaala Road, Kaneohe, son, August 5.

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Mr. and Mrs. Barack H. Obama, 685 Kalaianole Highway, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Asing, 2135 Ani Aniko Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrea A. M. Hatcher, 240 Kaulafuu Street, daughter, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Wong, 463 Lawelaw Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest...

Marriage Applications

John A. Gonsalves Jr., 87-338 Hakimo Road, Nanakuli, and Leslie M. Lanning, 87-338 Hakimo Road, Nanakuli.

Aaron Waiwale, 1633 Ahini Street, and Gwendolyn K. Gerontita, 1633 Ahini Street.

Young, 1146-D Elm Street, and Anita S. F. Lam, 820 Hild Iuka Drive.

James K. Pickard, 938-C Aleua Drive, and Irma L. A. L. Kalabiki, 1922 Ala Mahame Street, 1513 Sorekaka Street.

Samuel J. Linn, 4125 Black Point Road, and Barbara Harpign, 1513 Sorekaka Street.

Melvin J. N. Hee, 42 Kaula Street, and Nellie L. J. Ho, 2550 Waiompa Road.

Richard T. Arita, 1271-R North King Street, and Elaine M. Mala, 2871-G Kalili Street.

FOR SUMMER WEDDINGS

Riches \$7.50

Donat Eugene West, A.P.O. 35, and Lorelei Ann Rawlins, 742-A Palani Boulevard.

Rev. J. J. Vail, B.O. 741, Pearl Harbor, and Esther Ada Hadfield, B.O. 11, Pearl Harbor.

David C. Anting, 3014 Ford Road, Garden City, Michigan, and Jeanne C. Cassell, 3250 St. Louis Dr. Patrick J. Hironaka, 1279 South King Street, and Betty E. Naito, 2007-A Dole Street.

Benjamin Vasquez, 1748-C Palolo Avenue, and Diana Domen, 1439 Katoanai Way.

Robert Austin Pettit, Pearl Harbor, and Deborah Ann Williams, 721 Murray Drive.

SUITS RENTALS

\$450 Wedding or Funeral

HASEYAMA TAILOR

223 N. KING ST. PH. 584-414

Funeral Announcement

HOAPILI, JULIA C. (also known as Julia Naito), age 89 years, of 44-45 Kaneohe Bay Drive, died August 19, 1991, at St. Francis Hospital at 6:30 p.m. Born August 9, 1902, in Honolulu. FRIENDS MAY CALL AT WILLIAMS MORTUARY CHAPEL OF THE GIMES FROM 8 TO 9 P.M. TUESDAY AND AFTER THERE WILL BE A ROSARY RECITED IN THE CHAPEL AT 8 P.M. TUESDAY. REQUEST LOW MASS.

GALE CAREER TRAINING

C/O Box 501 Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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Mr. and Mrs. Mike A. Nagahishi, 2687 Gardena Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Earnest, 1258 Wilhelmina Rise, son, August 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. H. Chun, 45-48 Akimaka Street, Kaneohe, son, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Waldreich, 827 18th Avenue, son, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett P. Simpson, 3752 Kalili Street, daughter, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Atsuo K. F. Lio, 45-48 Keanaala Road, Kaneohe, son, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Wright, 9159 Kalulu Street, Ewa Beach, Ewa, daughter, August 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Barack H. Obama, 685 Kalaianole Highway, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Asing, 2135 Ani Aniko Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrea A. M. Hatcher, 240 Kaulafuu Street, daughter, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Wong, 463 Lawelaw Street, son, August 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest...

Marriage Applications

John A. Gonsalves Jr., 87-338 Hakimo Road, Nanakuli, and Leslie M. Lanning, 87-338 Hakimo Road, Nanakuli.

Aaron Waiwale, 1633 Ahini Street, and Gwendolyn K. Gerontita, 1633 Ahini Street.

Young, 1146-D Elm Street, and Anita S. F. Lam, 820 Hild Iuka Drive.

James K. Pickard, 938-C Aleua Drive, and Irma L. A. L. Kalabiki, 1922 Ala Mahame Street, 1513 Sorekaka Street.

Samuel J. Linn, 4125 Black Point Road, and Barbara Harpign, 1513 Sorekaka Street.

Melvin J. N. Hee, 42 Kaula Street, and Nellie L. J. Ho, 2550 Waiompa Road.

Richard T. Arita, 1271-R North King Street, and Elaine M. Mala, 2871-G Kalili Street.

FOR SUMMER WEDDINGS

Riches \$7.50

Donat Eugene West, A.P.O. 35, and Lorelei Ann Rawlins, 742-A Palani Boulevard.

Rev. J. J. Vail, B.O. 741, Pearl Harbor, and Esther Ada Hadfield, B.O. 11, Pearl Harbor.

David C. Anting, 3014 Ford Road, Garden City, Michigan, and Jeanne C. Cassell, 3250 St. Louis Dr. Patrick J. Hironaka, 1279 South King Street, and Betty E. Naito, 2007-A Dole Street.

Benjamin Vasquez, 1748-C Palolo Avenue, and Diana Domen, 1439 Katoanai Way.

Robert Austin Pettit, Pearl Harbor, and Deborah Ann Williams, 721 Murray Drive.

SUITS RENTALS

\$450 Wedding or Funeral

HASEYAMA TAILOR

223 N. KING ST. PH. 584-414

Funeral Announcement

HOAPILI, JULIA C. (also known as Julia Naito), age 89 years, of 44-45 Kaneohe Bay Drive, died August 19, 1991, at St. Francis Hospital at 6:30 p.m. Born August 9, 1902, in Honolulu. FRIENDS MAY CALL AT WILLIAMS MORTUARY CHAPEL OF THE GIMES FROM 8 TO 9 P.M. TUESDAY AND AFTER THERE WILL BE A ROSARY RECITED IN THE CHAPEL AT 8 P.M. TUESDAY. REQUEST LOW MASS.

GALE CAREER TRAINING

C/O Box 501 Honolulu Star-Bulletin

Name _____ Address _____ Telephone _____ Occupation _____

Compare:

1. The exact same hair in the viewer in dead center
2. The exact same edges on all sides, even though this is an enlargement and thus harder to make identical.
3. The exact same arrow drawn on the image.
4. The exact same scratches.
5. The exact same waviness of the scan edge on left and right edges (though WRH is slightly lighter)

Again, these appear to be the same image, even though the top 2 claimed to be 2 people making independent copies at the Hawaii State Library, and the bottom was from somebody at the Advertiser office.

"As for your request for the Aug. 13, 1961 Honolulu Advertiser birth announcement page, I looked it up, but unfortunately, the microfilm is so worn down on top of being poorly microfilmed, that it is hardly legible. You might be better off asking another library that has a better, less used copy than ours. Or does it have to be the Advertiser? I checked the Star-Bulletin and that date and that film is fine. Let me know."

If the Aug 13 page was old and poorly microfilmed in April of 2010 then it had been poorly microfilmed all along — if it was the same microfilm. But the online images show no signs of poor microfilming (streaks, blotches, blurriness, etc)

It seems impossible that the online Advertiser images came from the Hawaii State Library. Where, then, did Lori Starfelt get her pristine image from, and why was it claimed to be from the Hawaii State Library? That is an important question.

What about the Star-Bulletin image? Here is the online image, followed by the genuine copy made 20 months later:

Online image (Koa, Priors Chat poster, WRH):

Full-page copy from the Hawaii State Library

Marriage Applications
Births--Deaths

Riches \$7.50

SUITS RENTALS

Funeral Announcement

TEMPERATURES

Shipping Calendar

Visitor's Guide

Funeral Directors

NUUANU MEMORIAL

PARK MEMORIAL

HONOLULU MEMORIAL

Funeral Directors

Riches \$7.50

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HONOLULU MEMORIAL

Funeral Directors

24 Honolulu Star-Bulletin Monday, August 14, 1961

Pulse of the City

Divorces Granted

Traffic Accidents

Marriage Applications

Births--Deaths

Riches \$7.50

SUITS RENTALS

Funeral Announcement

TEMPERATURES

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NUUANU MEMORIAL

PARK MEMORIAL

HONOLULU MEMORIAL

Funeral Directors

Notice that this copy also "lost" its prominent scratches over 20 months' time, if the 2 anonymous posters actually made their copies from the Hawaii State Library's microfilm as they claimed.

(As an aside you might also want to enlarge the full-page copy and see the length of the birth announcement list there (even though there are more announcements that didn't fit on this copy). The online lists looked like

they were identical in both newspapers; that was cited as proof that the announcements had to have come from the Vital Records Office. In reality the Star-Bulletin had a total of 26 more announcements that were not included in the Advertiser's list. If the identical lists were proof that the announcements had to come from the Vital Records Office, then does the actual fact that the lists were NOT identical prove that they DIDN'T come from the Vital Records Office?)

So then, it also seems impossible that the online Star-Bulletin image came from the Hawaii State Library microfilm.

This brings up a multitude of questions – the most important of which are these: Where DID those images come from, and why were we told false stories about who found them, where, and how?

