



Keeping Up With Mal



In 1963, a very young married couple was assigned to their first duty station in the U.S. Army with the 24th Division in Munich, Germany. After about two and one half years, in 1966, they left Germany and returned to Hawaii. That couple was Carol and Mal Koga and that is the topic of this Quarterly Newsletter Article. It was a dream come true, for after almost 35 years, we had the opportunity to return to our first home and to revisit Munich and other parts of Europe and it was *wunderbar* (wonderful)!

We joined a tour group for the first part of our trip and visited Germany, Switzerland and France (Paris). At the completion of the tour, our group left Paris and returned to the USA while we got on a train and headed back to Germany. In Stuttgart we met some friends from Detroit, Michigan, who were also in Germany at the same time and drove down to good old *Munchen* (Munich). Driving on the Autobahn brought back old memories and going at speeds of 80 to 100 miles per hour is not uncommon. Of course there are no speed limits on some sections of the Autobahn, so we really weren't breaking any laws!

In Munich we met up with another couple from Boston, Mass. (also friends from the military) and had a grand old time visiting old haunts and telling old "war stories". The Hofbrau Haus on the inside hadn't changed much but boutiques and American Fast Food establishments now surround it on the outside. One thing that hasn't changed is the *Bier* (beer). It is still *sehr gut* (very good)! We chowed down on such things as *Wurst* (German sausage), more bier, *Wiener Schnitzel* (Veal Cutlet), more bier, *kartoffelsalat* (German Potato Salad), more bier, *leiberknoodle suppe* (liver dumpling soup), more bier, *Goulash suppe* (Goulash soup), more bier, and on and on and on. We virtually ate our way through Munich again, and it was good. I think I came home about ten pounds heavier than when we left and I had a hard time getting used to drinking my Miller Lite beer again.

But all good things must end and we sadly left Germany for a long 12-hour flight back to good old SFO and then another 5 hours to Hawaii. The trip was enjoyable, but it was good to be back home again. I don't know if we'll ever go back again, but I can now cross off this item on my "List of Things To Do In Life" and go on to the next item(s)!

So until the next issue, *Auf Wiedersehen* (Aloha) and that's "Keeping up With Mal."



From "Da Boss"

By Glenn Nohara

For the past two quarters, our emphasis has been to build up our backlog with profitable work. We are happy to report that we are well on our way to achieving this target. Our estimating team consisting of Gregg Ichimura, Steve Yoshikawa and led by Chief Jits Kunioka came through during this past quarter. The specifics are in the "Crunching out the Numbers" section of this Report. We would also like to thank our project managers, island managers and, of course, Mr. "O" (Dennis Okazaki) for their help in the estimating department during the past few months.

Of course getting the work is only half the task. Bringing in the jobs under budget and exceeding our customers' expectations is the second half. Using Plan-Act-Study and continuous improvement every time and all the time will ensure success. This we have seen with our crews time and again. Know the right thing to do and do it!

On June 15, 2001, Koga Engineering lost one of its most beloved employees to a sudden illness. Francisco Saoit started work at Koga Engineering on February 29, 1984. He was a member of the

Operating Engineers Local 3 and held positions of grade setter and foreman with our company. During the past 17 years, Francisco worked for us on Oahu, Kauai, Lanai and the Big Island. He lived by the Golden Rule: Do unto others, as you want them to do unto you. Francisco, you were a wonderful, caring, compassionate man and a friend to us all. We will miss you.



Francisco Saoit
Dec. 20, 1949 – June 15, 2001

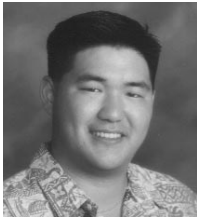
KOGA REPORT

GLENN NOHARA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mal	1
"Da Boss"	1
Kaua'i	2
Big Island	2
Oahu	3
Numbers	3
Bits	4
Marketing	4

News From Kaua'i

by: **Garett Ichimura**



It must be De Ja Vu. I swear I was just here working the other day and I am back again. I guess the boys on Kauai couldn't get by without Bob and I so we are back for our second tour of duty on the Garden Isle. This time Russell and Billy have joined us. Everyone is welcome to work here and enjoy "Thirsty Thursdays".

If you are wondering why Andy is not writing this article, he is nursing his booboo he suffered while "playing" softball at the annual A&E Softball Tournament.

Current ongoing projects are the Kauai County Bus Maintenance Facility, Kauai Main Police Station and the Villas on the Prince with Shioi Construction. There is also the Consolidated Pacific Missile Range Project with Primatech. We are starting up two new projects this quarter, Marriott's Waiohai Beach Club with Unlimited/Maryl Joint Venture and Lawai Road



Villas on the Prince with Shioi Construction – Jordan Kahananui Sr., E. Hirata and Jordan Jr.

Kauai Police Station with Shioi Construction – Kip Furugen and Byron Ariola Kauai



Pipeline Replacement for the DOW. Jobs that are waiting to begin are Kapaa Homesteads Well

No 2 (DOW), Kaumualii Highway Resurfacing (Glover) and Waapa Road / Rice St Resurfacing (Niu Construction). We wrapped up Koloa Water Storage Tank (Shioi) and hope to complete Hanamaulu Water Development (COK) shortly.

Since leaving this island about two years ago, things haven't changed. My desk is still here with the same papers stacked up, the Rolodex with phone numbers, stereo and plans on the table. I guess it was in the plan for me to come back to work on Kauai and clean it all up. After this next project is completed, I now know that I better clean up everything BEFORE leaving. Don't worry, I really enjoy working here and will work here anytime, just don't leave me with the crew overnight.



Until next time, **'a hui hou mala-ma pono...** (Just for Andy)

Marriott Waiohai with Unlimited Construction / Maryl – Keoki Furtado and Terence Wakuta

News from the Big Island

By **Kyle Sakaitani**



Rockin in Kona or Slushing in Hilo...We'll go anywhere.

Big Island Crew: William Azevedo, Tommy Young, David Ige, Irving "Swervin" Figueroa, Guy Loa, Doug Phillips, Henry "Hanalei" Kanahale, Afi Asotasi, Johnny Sanchez, Rico Mosqueda (the "ugliest secretary") & not forgotten, Efen the Surveyor.



Big Mahalo to Russell Inouye & crew for slushing in Hilo: Billy Acosta, Rudy Espejo, Rudy Inong & Maxi (all the mamma-sans miss you).

Ongoing projects: Hualalai Townhomes- Phase II (Kajima/ Nordic Joint

Hualalai Reverse Osmosis with Kajima – David Ige rockin

Venture), Hualalai Reverse Osmosis Membrane Filter System (Kajima Construction), U.H.H. Classroom/Office Building (Dick Pacific), Kona Baseyard (Stan's Contracting)

Completed Projects this past quarter: Country Club Road Waterline (DWS) and Konawaena M.S. Waterline (Stan's Contracting).

Upcoming Projects: Kamehameha Schools at Keaau, U.H.H. Infrastructure Channel Repairs, Waikoloa Village Drains and Kealakehe H.S. 4th Increment.

There's always a better way...

The Kona Crew: Back row (l to r) – Doug, Hanalei, Afi, Tommy, Willie
Front row (l to r) – Johnny, Guy, Swervin (missing Ige and Rico)



News from Oahu

By Clay Asato



Greetings

This past quarter we completed two projects. They were Base Civil Engineering Maintenance Building and Building 250. Both of these projects were with Ocean House Builders. Congratulations Alvin, Bryant, Jonathan, John and the rest of the crews who worked on these

projects.

The workload here on Oahu has slowed down a bit and presently there are workers commuting to Kauai & the Big Island. Thanks to all of you who are volunteering to work on the neighbor islands. At the present time we project that the jobs on Oahu will pick up again after a few months and most of you will be coming back.

In my humble opinion...Have you ever heard of the saying "You get what you pay for"? I think we all had experiences where we think we are getting a good



Kealahala Road Extension (back row l to r) – Max Manipon, Guillermo Galera, Kavin Denning, Alvin Fujioka. (front row l-r) - Rolando Mateo, Marciano Corpuz, Bryant Akiona, Rudy Espejo, Robert Aczon, Keith Kubo.



Marriott Ko Olina
Mass Grading with
Dick Pacific

deal only to find out we bought an inferior product. In the past the construction industry has been based on the "low number" or "cheap price" method of award. Sometimes things go smoothly. Other times the owner may not get what they expected. Recently though, things have been changing. Of course price will always be an issue but more and more we are seeing owners and government agencies move toward "best value" method of award. It could be a Design Build Project, a PIPS project, a Short List of bidders or a Request For Proposal. In these situations, past performance, "Quality" of workmanship, reputation and willingness to work as a team are major factors of award.

We have been involved with the Demming philosophy and optimization for about seven years now. Everything we have learned will put us in a position of longevity. Do each project as if future work depends on it, because it does.

Aloha!

Crunching Out The Numbers

By Brian Kunioka



Now that the summer is in full swing and new movie releases are debuting every week, our estimating department has had a few box office hits of its own. Since Mr. O had us working like "The Fast and the Furious" this past quarter, the estimating department has resembled the opening scenes of "Pearl Harbor" with plans and specs flying in and out of our office for bids.

Although sometimes it seems that being the low bidder is harder than finding "Atlantis: The Lost Empire", we have been fortunate enough to pick up work for all of the Islands this past quarter. Kauai – Marriott's Waiohai Beach Club and the D.O.T. Baseyard Complex; Big Island – Hualalai Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant, Stream Channel Repairs at U.H.-Hilo, and Kamehameha Schools – Hilo Campus, Phase II; Oahu – Marriott Ko'Olina Foundation and New Driveway Access for Nauru Tower. Special thanks to Gregg "Pootie Tang" Ichimura for his hard work and successful bids this past quarter.

These projects have helped to increase our backlog for now and hopefully, our bid schedule won't have to look like it's raining "Cats & Dogs" (or will the day that our bid schedule slows remain our "Final

Fantasy"). Either way, I'm sure Mr. O will still be calling me "Crazy/Beautiful" when he sees our new bid schedule. Some of our upcoming bids include Royal Kunia – Site 4B, Kealahala High School – 4th Increment and Iolani School – Phase 1 projects.

On a separate note, the estimating department has unfortunately lost the services of our very own "Baby Boy" Steve Yoshikawa. Steve has met the "Kiss of the Dragon" from our operations manager and has been sent back to the field as the next "Tomb Raider" in search of hidden profits. It seems that with all of the new jobs starting up, Clay was about to have a "Shrek" (or is it lay a "Shrek"...) and needed help in the field. The estimating department is thankful for all of Steve's help and for impressing us with his "A.I." (Artificial Intelligence). We all know that he will be a main character in Clay's upcoming "Scary Movie 2".

Bits & Pieces

By Lori Isara and Vanessa Suganuma

Congratulations to Richard and Maelee Panui. Kaipō Lawrence was born on May 16, 2001 and he was 8-lbs.1 oz. Richard is an equipment operator currently working on the Kamehameha Schools Athletic Field project.

What a great looking building! Yep, talking about our new Koga office building. The last time we were here, we only had one side of our building up and were in the process of pouring our first floor. Now, we can see the building in its entirety. We'd like to say Mahalo to all the Koga personnel for your kokua in the pouring of our second floor and thank you Jonathan for putting up with all our "last minute", after the fact suggestions and changes. We hope that you'll be back for the second phase of our building.

As we all know, Koga personnel are always looking for a snack to eat. Well, at the main office, if you haven't already noticed we started our own vending machine. We only charge what we paid and we'd like to pass on the savings to you. So please check it out. If there is a particular snack that you would like sold, please leave a note in the cash collection tin.



New Koga Office Building

Marketing

By Dennis Okazaki

I would like to start by congratulating our estimating team, Brian "Jits" Kunioka (our Chief estimator), Gregg Ichimura and all the people in operations and in the main office who helped in having an excellent second quarter.

Congratulations to Clay Asato and his people in the field for "no lost time" accidents in the second quarter of this year. Good job!! Because of our efforts, at the last GCA Awards meeting, Koga Engineering was given an award for Safety. We were awarded "GCA Best In Group Category" and "AGC 25% Below Division Average" for Municipal-Utilities Group 1 (150,000 hours and up).

At Koga Engineering "Teamwork" is the name of the game. No one person is solely responsible for the success of this company; it's all of us as a group who contribute to its success. Promoting "Teamwork" includes being optimistic and encouraging, accepting without judging, expressing approval, giving appreciation, showing admiration, practicing agreeability, giving focused attention and last but not least "Not Laying Blame".

On the lighter side Koga Engineering will be having its quarterly golf outing on July 28, we look forward to publishing the results in the next newsletter.

Inspiring Quotes : "There is no future in any job. The future lies in the person who holds the job." George Crane.

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We dig...Hawaii!



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