



BRAVELY TRYING to hold back the tears, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Rapozo of Lihue say their good-byes. As the troops headed for the plane (above) families ran for a last embrace, a last fragrant lei to express their love.

## A Sad Aloha To Company B

by Val Gamage

.... "May God look kindly on our soldiers and their families," prayed Rev. Fa- line English tied a maille and mokehana lei to the Guidon of Company B from the 150th ACW Squadron at Kokee...  
Rev. William Kaina prayed in English, then closed with a prayer in Hawaiian...and as he said "Amen," the Waimea High School Band played Aloha Oe... the crowd was quiet.. Bud Carter asked every- one to join in and sing Aloha Oe... but no one could... as the song ended Mr. Carter said, "All yours, Captain" ...

A final kiss, a final look ... with determined effort the Guardsmen picked up their duffle bags and walked through the silent crowd and entered the plane's loading bombay. Up the ramp and out of sight marched the men of Kauai...not one broke

1200 leis made by the school children of Kauai were presented the men in green as they stood a few yards from the big plane sent from Honolulu to take them away. As the leis were placed on their shoulders and a kiss of fond Aloha given each one, Glen Auna and his trio played softly. Two jets from the Air National Guard flew overhead in tribute to the Guard...Ken- ny Brown, special assis- tant to Governor John

to express their love.

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by Val Gamage

.... "May God look kindly on our soldiers and their families" prayed Rev. Father Clemens beginning the Aloha ceremony Monday afternoon at Pacific Missile Range Airfield when 134 National Guardsmen prepared to leave Kauai for duty. "By your action you present to the Country a proud image of Hawaii..."

1200 leis made by the school children of Kauai were presented the men in green as they stood a few yards from the big plane sent from Honolulu to take them away. As the leis were placed on their shoulders and a kiss of fond Aloha given each one, Glen Auna and his trio played softly. Two jets from the Air National Guard flew overhead in tribute to the Guard... Kenny Brown, special assistant to Governor John Burns, spoke of "...that certain quality Hawaiians have, the quality of Aloha" ... he prayed the Guard would return home safe and with God speed...

Miss Kauai, Lorna Medeiros, danced a beautiful hula to "My Kauai" and when Glen Auna sang "home, home, there's no place like home, from this Kauai never to roam, Kauai, my Garden Isle" there wasn't a dry eye in the huge crowd.

.... "I know your feeling, I know its a tough deal... I remember in 1941 and 1943 when we had to leave and tell our wives and children we would return from places like Guadacanal... I know your feeling", said Senator Billy Fernandes with deep emotion and he ended his talk, .... "You are all top notch".

Capt. Fred DeBusca stepped to the speakers platform and accepted a huge trophy presented to him and his men, by the senator on behalf of the people of Kauai. At his place ahead of his company once again, Col. De Witt Bye of the Hawaiian Air National Guard addressed the captain and B Company saying, "I am proud of the association we have shared and I will try my best to keep the

tradition you have maintained." ...Mrs. Emmaline English tied a maile and mokehana lei to the Guidon of Company B from the 150th ACW Squadron at Kokee...

Rev. William Kaina prayed in English, then closed with a prayer in Hawaiian...and as he said "Amen," the Waimea High School Band played Aloha Oe... the crowd was quiet.. Bud Carter asked everyone to join in and sing Aloha Oe... but no one could... as the song ended Mr. Carter said, "All yours, Captain" ...

A final kiss, a final look ... with determined effort the Guardsmen picked up their duffle bags and walked through the silent crowd and entered the plane's loading bombay. Up the ramp and out of sight marched the men of Kauai...not one broke down...not one faltered... it was an awful moment.

The crowd moved slowly away from the plane as the last man disappeared into its dark belly. Tears flowed heavily as the big motors on the enormous three deck C 124 started. Three fire trucks moved into position... through the plane's windows you could see the uniformed men getting their places. As the propellers turned, slowly at first, and exhaust spewed outward... the uneasy crowd watched and waited...the sky was a picture of soft clouds on blue...no one appeared to mind the heat...the main doors closed tight and the ground vibrated as the plane's engines accelerated.

Through the crowd, Senator Fernandes came carrying a young girl who had fainted and Emmaline English rushed to aid him. Moments later the big ship moved forward...you could see hands and leis waving blindly through the portholes...up, up and up the huge Military Airlift Command plane went with every eye peeled on its broad wings. It turned slowly and passed over head, tipping its giant arms in an Aloha salute .... "All yours, Captain".

(More Co. B pictures on page 8, section B)



"BE A GOOD BOY" - and Victor Heresa of Kapaa pauses for just one more hug and kiss to his two year old son, Victor, Jr.