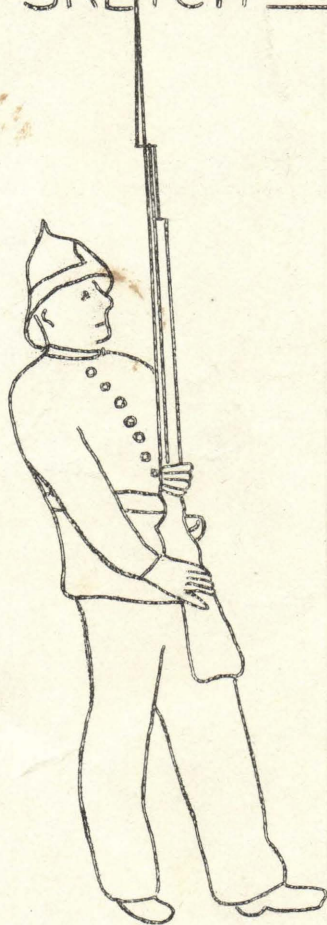




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HAWAII AIR NATIONAL GUARD SPONSORED  
ROYAL GUARD OF HAWAII

## ROYAL GUARD OF HAWAII

In the olden days:

In olden Hawaiian days (pre-Kamehameha I) the whole adult male population was a militia who in times of peace kept their weapons in readiness at their homes, and trained periodically similar to the Hawaii National Guard today. There were no regular soldiers, or Koa, except for those who were the bodyguards of the High Chiefs and Mois. Those selected for bodyguards made fighting their profession, and were the champions on the field of battle. They must have been superb athletes.

As may be expected, the training of these selected warriors was constant and exacting. There was much practice in Kaka laau (single stick), Kaala (wrestling) and Kui alua (boxing). Fighting in these days was mostly hand-to-hand, and the javelin and slingstone were only extensions of a man's arms. Weapons included: the pololu (long spear 12-20'), used for thrusting and tripping, in giving chase, and even for pole vaulting; the ihe (javelin 5-6'), used for hurling or thrusting; the pahoa (dagger 2-4') used for hand-to-hand fighting; various clubs; and the slingstones (skilled slingers could hit a small stick at fifty yards distance four times out of five). There were many other small weapons such as sharks teeth "brass knuckles" etc. No shield or armor were used and the fighting men preferred to go into battle wearing only a malo. The Mois and Chiefs wore their feather cloaks, capes, and helmets not for protection but to make themselves conspicuous.

Catching or warding off thrown spears was an outstanding achievement. Captain Nathaniel Portlock's 1787 description is often cited:

"This day, at my request, two chiefs that were on board from Wymoa (Waimea, Kauai) exercised with their spears; the dexterity and astonishing expertness shown by them wonderfully surprised every one on board; one of them, whose name was Na-maa-te-e-rae, that is blind of one eye, is a well-made man of about five feet six inches high, his skin much affected by his immoderate drinking of yava (awa); and though he appears to be a person of very little property, is yet much respected, and his company courted by all the principal men of the island. I suppose the attention paid him proceeds from his having been, and still remaining, a great warrior; the loss of his eye, one informed me, he met with in battle by a stone flung from a sling; but this accident does not prevent him from being a most expert warrior; his manner of exercising give us sufficient proofs to the contrary. He took his stand about three or four yards from the cabin-door, unarmed; the other person stood at about eight or ten yards distance from him, provided with five spears; upon the signal being given for commencing action, a spear was thrown with the utmost force at Na-maa-te-e-rae, which he avoided by a motion of the body, and caught it as it passed him by the middle: with this

appear he parried the rest without the least apparent concern; he then returned the spears to his adversary, and armed himself with a Pa-ho-a (dagger): they were again thrown at him, and again parried with the same ease. One of the spears struck a considerable way into the bulk-head of the cabin, and the barbed part was broken off in endeavoring to get it out. The remarkable coolness he showed at the time the spears were cast at him, proved at once his courage and expertness. All who were spectators of the fight shuddered at the danger he seemed exposed to, and were astonished to see with what ease he parried every thing that was cast at him."

Warfare was constant in these early days, and ranged from small raiding parties to inter-district and inter-island conflict. Enjoyment of warfare was such that the time and place of battle, even method of battle, were often agreed upon in advance by the adversaries. Nearly all of the fighting was done in daylight, in open country, and in a straight-forward manner. There were many methods of attack and defense, depending mainly upon the strength of the enemy, the character of the battlefield, and the plan of campaign. Battles were generally a succession of skirmishes lasting sometimes for days. They do not seem to have been very fatal, unless one side was routed -- then they were pursued and cut down without mercy.

The attack in battles would often begin with an individual champion advancing from the ranks armed only with a fan and when within hailing distance would proceed to blackguard the enemy, daring them to attack him single-handed. This exasperating challenge would be answered by a number of spears and slingstones being hurled at the taunting warrior, who would nimbly avoid them or seize them in his hands and hurl them back at the enemy. Such incendiary maneuvers were well calculated to precipitate rage and not infrequently they resulted in the death of the intrepid warrior. At other times the challenge would be accepted by a single champion of the opposing side. A fierce struggle would then follow to gain possession of the loser's body.

Inter-island warfare and attempts to rule more than one island, or all the islands, has always been a great challenge to ambitious Mois. Many tried, for example: Kalaunuiouhua in the Thirteenth Century, Umi in the Sixteenth Century, Alapainui and Kahelili in the Eighteenth Century. All had varying degrees of success. Kahekili was successful in his conquering efforts of island other than Hawaii, yet could not consolidate them under his rule. When Kahekili died, Kamehameha completed the conquest of all the islands except Kauai, and was able to consolidate their rule, including Kauai.

#### During the time of Kamehameha:

Kamehameha was a fearless war leader and was always in the thick of fighting, surrounded as was customary with his bodyguard of noted warriors. About this time visitors from the Western World had a profound impact on Hawaiian warfare. Firearms and ammunition were sought and it became fashionable for Mois and high chiefs to have one or more white men in their retinue to be armorers, etc.

To illustrate, Kamehameha invaded the island of Maui in 1790 and tradition relates that the Hawaii and Maui forces were almost evenly matched. Skirmishing in the traditional manner for several days brought no results. But then Kamehameha brought up his newly acquired weapon -- the cannon Lopaka was dragged up on rude wheels and served by John Young and Isaac Davis. Kalanikupule (defending Maui ruler) had concentrated his forces across the narrow Iao Valley -- ideal for hand-to-hand tactics, but also an ideal target for the cannon. The steady Boom, Boom, Boom of the cannonading caused consternation in the ranks of the Maui warriors, a number of whom well remembered the Olowalu Massacre earlier that year. The solid shot plowed furrows in the massed ranks of the Maui warriors. As the greatly encouraged Hawaii warriors triumphantly surged forward, panic ensued among the Maui defenders and there was a disorganized flight up the narrow sheer cliff-bound valley.

To emphasize the violence of Hawaiian warfare, Judge Fornander recorded from people who were present at the battle and escaped with their lives:

"They all tell that before the battle commenced the women and children, and the aged who could move, were sent up on the mountain-sides of the valley, where they could look down upon the combatants below. They speak of the carnage as frightful, the din and uproar, the shouts of defiance among the fighters, the wailing of the women on the crests of the valley, as something to curdle the blood or madden the brain of the beholder. The Maui troops were completely annihilated, and it is said that the corpses of the slain were so many as to choke up the waters of the stream of Iao, and hence one of the names of this battle was 'Kapaniwai'-- the damming of the waters."

The battle was also called "Kauwaupali" -- clawed off the cliff.

Verily these people and warriors had great courage. Massed hand-to-hand fighting is difficult for us to visualize, and it must have been frightful. In the van of the fighting were selected warriors -- the forebears of the ROYAL GUARD OF HAWAII.

#### During the Kamehameha Dynasty:

Following the subjection of all the islands to Kamehameha's rule, the fighting forces were disbanded and demobilized, except for the selected band of warriors who surrounded the Ka Moi as a bodyguard and security force. Turnbull records in 1802 that the "ROYAL GUARD" was about 200 strong and their uniform was simply "a great blew coat with yellow facings". Only one partial mobilization occurred in 1820, which suppressed the insurrection on Kawaii which opposed the breaking of the Kapus.

For all intents and purposes the period of Hawaiian Warfare had

ended. Resistance to western armed force, such as Lord Paulet's short takeover of the Hawaiian government, was passive. Diplomacy became the order of the day when dealing with external forces.

Ka Moi's bodyguard gradually became standardized with western uniforms and muskets. The old fighting skills, which were no longer required, gradually became forgotten. Duties became guarding the sovereign and his residence.

During the reign of Liholiho (Kamehameha II) the ROYAL GUARD was stationed at Honolulu Fort. This fort was built by Kalaimoku at the foot of Fort Street (just makai of Queen Street) in 1816 following an abortive attempt by the Russians to build a block house in Honolulu. It was made of adobe faced without and within with thick walls of coral -- 300 x 340' in size with walls 12' high and 20' thick at the base. The armament consisted of 40-50 muzzle loading cannons of different calibers - six, eight, twelve, and probably a few thirty-two pounders.

For many years the guns formed the saluting battery for Honolulu and were fired for this purpose by the ROYAL GUARD. Honolulu Fort was taken possession of and damaged by the French in 1849, and was eventually dismantled in 1857.

When Liholiho was not traveling around the islands, his "official" residence was Halekauwila, located just makai of the Honolulu Fort. Halekauwila received its name because its timbers were of Kauwila wood over 200 years old which had been obtained from the Hale o Keawe on the island of Hawaii. It was 30' x 50' in size, eight feet high at the sides and 30' at the peak of the roof. (In 1822 Honolulu had about 500-600 thatched houses and three western style buildings.)

When Lord Byron returned the bodies of Liholiho and Kamamalu to Hawaii in May of 1825 the ROYAL GUARD apparently was in a period of evolution and under diffident leadership. Macrae describes the mounting of the guard in front of the King's residence as:

"They do this in the following manner. Six or eight of these turn out together and form a line (not a straight one), and keep walking backwards and forwards, one after another, till they are dismissed. While they are in this way on duty, he that is last or foremost rings a small bell which is carried in the hand by way of signal for the others to turn either backwards or forwards. Their accoutrements are not all alike. Some have only a bayonet in their hand, held upright or reversed, just as suits their convenience, while another has an old rusty long barreled musket of American make, without a flint and sometimes a lock. Some have a cartouche box tied on behind with a piece of untanned goat skin, others have it in front and some have none at all."

Lord Byron's personal description is more kindly:

"The appearance of the Royal Guard is singular enough, their whole dress consisting of the native maro, and a dark European frock-coat, without shirt, waistcoat, or trousers: They are armed with muskets."

In describing the funeral of the King and Queen he states:

"Thus we advanced between a line of native soldiers with rusty arms reversed, naked except for the malo, save for a few that had on Russian military jackets and six on each side wore handsome coloured feather tippetts. These twelve we concluded must be of higher rank. The five large feather plumes . . . were carried before the band in a leaning position, as they do when going into battle."

In the early part of the reign of Kamehameha III the new official residence was "on the outskirts of the town towards Punchbowl" (vicinity of Saint Andrews Cathedral). This house was entitled Haleuluke, at Pelekane. The term Palace is first used in describing the residence of the King (then age 16). The Rev. C. S. Stewart (who was a good reporter) describes it in 1829 as:

"A fine lofty building of thatch, some hundred or more feet in length, fifty or sixty broad, and forty or more high -- beautifully finished and ornamented at the corners, from the ground to the peak, and along the ridge of the roof, with a rich edging of fern leaves (uluhe), the dark brown of which, in their dried state, contrasts prettily with the lighter color, and smoothness of the general covering. It is enclosed by a handsome and substantial palisade fence, with two gates -- one large, in front, and a smaller at the side -- and a pebbled area within.

"The whole is one apartment -- spacious, light, lofty, and truly elegant. All the timbers in sight, the numerous posts, rafters, and centre pillars, are of a fine substantial size, and of a dark hard wood, hewn with the nicest regularity. The lashing of sinnet, made of the fibres of the cocoanut bleached white, are put on with such neatness, and wrought into so beautiful a pattern, at close and regular intervals, as to give to the posts and rafters the appearance of being divided into natural sections by them; and to produce, by the whiteness and nice workmanship of the braid, in contrast with the colors of the wood, an effect striking and highly ornamental.

"But that, which most attracted my admiration in the building, is an improvement -- a device of native ingenuity - of which I was told, we then saw the first specimen, and which gives to the interior a finish, as beautiful as appropriate, to

such an edifice. It is a lining between the timbers and the tatch, screening entirely from sight, the grass of which the external covering is composed; and, which always gave an air of rudeness, and a barnyard look, even to the handsomest and best finished of their former establishments.

"The floor also is a novelty, and an experiment here: consisting in place of the ground strewn with rushes or grass, as a foundation for the mats, as was formerly the case - of a pavement of stone and mortar, spread with a cement of lime, having all the smoothness and hardness of marble. Upon this, beautifully variegated mats of Tauai were spread - forming a carpet as delightful, and appropriate to the climate, as could have been selected."

Rev. Stewart goes on to describe the ROYAL GUARD which greeted the arrival of Captain W. B. Finch, of the U.S. Ship of War 'Vincennes' October 15, 1829.

"As we entered the square, the royal guard were seen under arms, beside the palace, at the gate we were to pass, in double file of a hundred men each - the whole being in a complete uniform of white, with cuffs and collars of scarlet, and black caps. The captain, our old friend Kahuhu, was at their head, in a handsome dress of scarlet, with gold lacings, and expensive sword. As Captain Finch passed, they presented arms in a style perfectly en militaire."

Wilkes describes the ROYAL GUARD uniform September 30, 1840 at the Palace as:

"A soldier dressed in a scarlet uniform stood on guard at the door."

Research is as yet incomplete, but during the 1830-1840 period the ROYAL GUARD of several hundred men became somewhat specialized. The men who attended the guns in the Fort became known as "Artillery Men" and the others who stood guard and drilled were referred to as the "Native Infantry". Apparently after a period of service in the ROYAL GUARD there was a continuing period of "reserve duty" -- militiamen upon call. Lord Paulet, the British Commander who seized the islands for a short period of time, furthered a more formal organization of the Hawaii military.

Governor Mattaio Kekuanaoa erected a residence in 1844-1845 for his daughter Princess Victoria Kamamalu on the site of the present Iolani Palace. As the seat of Hawaiian government moved from Lahaina to Honolulu in 1843, and this was the finest building available, Kamehameha III adopted it for his official Palace. This house was originally entitled Hanailoia, became known as Hale Alii, and later formally known as Iolani Palace (The bird of heaven). (It is interesting to note that Kamehameha V in December 1863 wanted

to rename it St. Alexander Palace, but was dissuaded by the Privy Council.) John M. Kapena has said that in olden times a large heiau existed on this spot, the name of which was Kaahaimauli. At the time Governor Kekuanaoa erected the old Palace, the Iolani Palace grounds were not as spacious as they are at present.

Wise describes his visit to the Palace in 1846 as:

"It is a large square-built villa, spaciouly piazzaed and windowed, surrounded by pretty plantations of shrubbery and fruit trees. At the gateway a guard of Kanaka infantry presented arms, the royal standard was unfurled from the flagstaff and floated to the breeze. Passing up a broad, gravelled alley, we ascended a flight of steps to the piazza, and were again saluted by a double line of officers."

Later in the same year Walpole reports that:

"A guard of three men and two officers, of different corps probably, as they all wore different uniforms, presented arms at the gate: several others did ditto around the Hawaiian royal standard."

At this time a ROYAL GUARD stood at the gate (King Street) and people were required to send in their names before admittance.

Following the French seizing the Fort and spiking the guns in 1849, more interest was taken in a strong militia to backup the small active military force. Dutton reports that the soldiers were called to duty by the beating of drums in October 1851 to suppress a revolt among the prisoners in the Fort: "about 60 of whom had been employed on the reef in cutting coral blocks for the new court house". In 1852 the militia was called out when several hundred sailors rioted in Honolulu to protest to a sailor prisoner having been accidentally killed by his jailer.

The 1st Hawaiian Guard was organized November 13, 1852 which was a militia infantry company of about fifty members all of whom were haole business men or civic leaders. A few months later a volunteer company of cavalry was formed - the 1st Hawaiian Cavalry. This latter unit was composed of Hawaiian residents of Honolulu who were dressed in enormous helmets with horsehair plumes, blue coats, and red trousers. Its last public appearance was on the occasion of the marriage of King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma on June 19, 1856.

There is an interesting oil painting in the Hawaiian Historical Society library which was painted by Paul Emmert about 1853. It shows the interior of Honolulu Fort (Ke-Kua-Nohu) and a group of soldiers drilling. They are dressed in scarlet tunics with bright buttons, white trousers, black belt with cartridge box behind, black caps, and they carry muskets with short bayonets. The officers are dressed in blue frock coats with epaulettes, blue trousers with a

silver stripe, and naval fore-and-aft hats. Two musicians are uniformed somewhat similar to the officers but have red trimmings, caps, and slung red music pouchs.

A few months before his death in 1854 Kamehameha III formalized the military system of Hawaii with the Law "An Act to Establish a Militia for the Hawaii Islands". The Militia was divided into three groups. From the first group were enlisted the regular troops -- the King's Guard and the Artillery Detachment. When this Act went into effect, the two volunteer companies which had been formed in 1852, the 1st Hawaiian Guard and the 1st Hawaiian Cavalry - became inactive. Unfortunately Kamehameha III died several months after the passage of this Act and Kamehameha IV never actively put it into effect. The Artillery Detachment was inactivated, and the King's Guard reduced to about fifty men. The Fort was torn down in 1857 and no immediate steps were taken to secure new and permanent quarters for the King's Guard. The Punchbowl battery of 10 guns, and later a battery at Kakaako were used for firing salutes.

"Organization and Establishment of Duties Pertaining to Military Sentries (The King's Guard) of Hale Alii (The Palace)" was published in Hawaiian in 1855 and authenticated by J. E. E. Maikai, Adjutant General. (This was translated into English by Jack K. Mathews in 1963). The 1854 manual of arms has been located but has yet to be translated (57 pp).

The citizenry however felt there was a great need for an active militia, and in 1857 former members of the 1st Hawaiian Guard and other prominent members of the community took up a popular subscription and, with the King's concurrence, formed a militia unit entitled "The Honolulu Rifles". The initial compliment was a Company not to exceed seventy-five members and under the elected captaincy of Richard Coady. The uniform selected was grey, with black trimmings for the enlisted personnel and gilt trimmings for the officers. The hat was of black felt, with a plume similar to those worn by the Russian Rifles, and the arms were the most modern available. The Honolulu Rifles drilled twice a week, and a fife and drum corps was started.

When the Japanese embassy visited Hawaii March 9, 1860 enroute to Washington they were received at the Palace grounds by the "King's household troops" at the lower gate and by the Honolulu Rifles at the Palace stairs.

In 1860 the 1st Hawaiian Cavalry was revived and became known as the Leleiohoku Guard. There were about a hundred members, well mounted and equipped, dressed in "Garibaldi" type uniforms consisting of blue trousers, red shirts, black neckties, and "Kossuth" hats. Charles Vincent was elected Captain in Command.

Curtis Piehu Iaukea, in his reminiscences of the Court of Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma, describes his memories of the ROYAL GUARD about 1860:

"Between Palace Walk (Hotel Street) and the premises (present

site of Iolani Barracks) was the drilling ground, where the men of the guards assembled of early mornings to go through their usual drill and evolutions. It was music to my ears to hear the steady tramp of feet; the tap of the drum; the rattle of bayonets and side arms; the commands in particular, being easily understood because it was in Hawaiian, the only language we knew.

"I might repeat a few, in the manual of arms say;

HAPAI-PU (Carry arms)  
ILALO-PU (Order Arms)  
ILUNA-PU (Shoulder Arms)  
IKE ALO-PU (Present Arms)-----

as we gazed intently on, and thrilled with the clock-like precision with which the movements were executed by the men under orders and instructions."

There were four gates to Iolani Palace. Kauikeaouli Puka (King Street) was named after Kamehameha III and was used as the gate of state through which only royalty, diplomats, and the privileged could pass. Kinau Puka (Richards Street) was a private gate for Chiefs and named after Chiefess Kinau whose house used to be at the corner of Richards Street and Palace Walk (Hotel Street). It was later used by the general public calling on the royal family or on business. Hakaleleponi Puka (Hotel Street) was named after the sobriquet of Queen Kalama who lived mauka of Palace Walk. It was used by lesser lights, the ROYAL GUARD and the ohuas (retainers). Likelike Puka (Likelike Street) was named for Princess Likelike and used as a private gate for members of the royal family (name and use of this gate during the Kamehameha Dynasty unknown). In the 1850's the ROYAL GUARD normally posted three guards at the Kauikeaouli Puka and three guards at the Hakaleleponi Puka. These guard posts were changed in later years.

Staley records that the "household troops" and the Honolulu Rifles lined the entrance avenue to the Palace during the lying in state of Kamehameha IV on November 30, 1863. In 1865 Lt. Kahoohuli and 20 ROYAL GUARDS with four guns hurriedly became marines on the "Nellie Merrill" for a short sea chase. Mark Twain (April 1866) describes the Palace sentry's uniform as being "out of repair", but kindly adds that he was an exception. In October 1868 there was a disturbance in Kona instigated by a religious fanatic named Kaona. The ROYAL GUARD of 50 men under the command of Captain Kahoohuli and Lt Kahananiu, 65 actived men of the Light Artillery with one gun under the command of Captain Hassinger and Lt Allen Judd were dispatched to control the rioters. When they arrived, it appears that the residents had the situation well under control, and they were relieved of prisoners by the soldiers. Vincent (May 1870) describes the Palace as being inclosed by a high wall of rough hewn coral and being admitted through a wicket by a "sleepy barefooted sentinel".

During the reigns of Kamehameha IV and V diplomacy secured the status quo among the world powers for the independence of Hawaii. It is apparent that the Kings and government provided sensibly for military troops to honor and guard the sovereign and appear in ceremonies. A small active force was in being (the ROYAL GUARD), and small active militia units (the Honolulu Rifles and the Leleiohoku Guard) were available to augment normal police security for internal disturbances.

Kamehameha V undertook an ambitious public building program in the 1860s. The Royal Mausoleum in Nuuanu Valley was constructed in 1865, and the old post office at the corner of Merchant and Bethel Streets was constructed in 1870, concurrently with Iolani Barracks.

Since the demolition of Honolulu Fort in 1857, the ROYAL GUARD had no permanent "home". They were probably quartered in the basement of the old Iolani Palace, or in the vicinity.

The original plans for Iolani Barracks (Halekoa) by Theodore Heuck called for:

"...a square block of frontage of 70 feet by a depth of 80 feet, with an inner court of 30 x 40 feet.

"A gate of 8 feet wide leads into the interior of the building; this gate is in the centre of front; to the left of this entry is the guard room, to the right the Court Martial room in connection of which are two cells for lockups (underneath). The right wing and section in the rear contain the Berthrooms, accommodating 70 berths if in 2 tiers, or 117 if in three tiers. Adjoining the latter in the left wing are the Messroom of 20 by 45 feet, also containing in stand for arms and the Hospital wherein 8 beds can be comfortably placed. Connecting with the latter apartment is the Doctor's room or a place for small stores and medicines."

Accommodations for Officers were in the middle Tower. These plans were later modified larger and the front entrance was duplicated in the rear.

Iolani Barracks has battlemented square towers and embrasured parapets typical of the castles of the Middle Ages, and has very thick walls of solid coral (hewn from Honolulu reef) harking back to the days when cannon were not so effective as today, and built in a style prevalent in all countries at that time for the housing of soldiers. (Taylor) On this site was originally the home of Queen Kalama, widow of Kamehameha III, which was later used for a while as the Chiefs' Children's School. The ROYAL GUARD moved into their new quarters in February 1871.

There is a tunnel which connects the present Iolani Palace with Iolani Barracks (entrances blocked, and the tunnel partially caved in). The Iolani Barracks entrance is by the dungeons underneath the

sally port and the Iolani Palace entrance is in the basement. This tunnel was undoubtedly secretly constructed, and it is unknown whether it was done at the time of the old Palace or during the construction of the new Palace 1879-1882. It was more probably the latter. NOTE: Source subject to verification.

Aliiolani Hale (1872-1874) was first designed for a new Palace, but was erected in its present location for use as a government building and meeting chambers for the legislature. Behind this building was constructed Kapuaiwa, so named in honor of Kamehameha V.

#### During the reign of Lunalilo.

Hawaii, 1872 -- due primarily to intruded diseases, the Hawaiian population of some 300,000 at the time of Captain Cook's arrival in 1778 had been decimated to slightly over 51,000. The population of Hawaii (census December 1872) was 56,897, of which "foreigners" were 5,366. Honolulu had 14,852 inhabitants, of which 12,223 were Hawaiians or part Hawaiians. By virtue of the Hawaiian social disorganization and the changing economy, some of the "foreigners" had infinitely more influence than their numbers would indicate. Whaling, as a main stay of the economy had begun to wane; sugar had begun to be a hoped-for successful substitute.

Kamehameha V died without specifying a successor to the throne. Prince William Liholiho was elected King in 1873 by the legislature, with Chief David Kalakaua as the only other active contender.

The lowest ebb of Hawaiian military occurred during Lunalilo's short reign -- it was abolished completely! In September 1873 the "Household Troops" rioted and mutinied. When this was quelled, they were disbanded, and a few days later the militia Honolulu Rifles and Leleiohoku Guard were also disbanded.

To understand these actions one must appreciate the times -- they were tumultuous and emotional. The law for the seclusion of lepers was enforced, and during 1873 over 500 confirmed cases were sent to Kalaupapa -- there was bitter opposition among families and relatives. Negotiations were underway to engage in a treaty with the United States for commercial reciprocity, and it was proposed to offer the exclusive use of the harbor of Pearl River as a coaling and repair station for USN warships. Many were against this cession of land and relinquishment of sovereignty. There was a growing hatred and jealousy among the Hawaiians of "foreigners" residing in Hawaii.

The origin of the revolt has been stated to be the bitter dislike of the ROYAL GUARD for their new martinet drillmaster, Captain Joseph Jajczay, a Hungarian soldier-of-fortune, and resentment over some acts of the adjutant general, Colonel Charles Judd. The authorized strength of the ROYAL GUARD was being cut from sixty men to thirty men. When the revolt occurred, the ROYAL GUARD was commanded by Major Moehonua, who had been suspended from duty at the time. It was accepted by many (i.e., Queen Emma, Pierce, Heuck) that Kalakaua had a large hand in instigating and supporting the revolt

(aided by Gibson, Rhodes, and J.O. Carter). One can dimly see that there were many intrigues operating behind the scenes.

Sunday, September 7, 1873 discipline broke down, triggered by eight prisoners let loose, and officers and members of the King's military staff were forceably ejected. The ring-leader was a Guardsman named Keoni. The orders of the Governor of Oahu, a message from the King, and a warrant for their arrest read by the Marshal of the Kingdom were ignored. Crowds, sympathetic to the ROYAL GUARD, gathered near Iolani Barracks and were harranged by the revolt leaders.

A Bugler "blasted naughty tunes at the horrified churchgoers". To force a surrender, the water supply to the barracks was cut off. Mutineers with weapons manned the towers and battlement, and cannon were dragged over from Iolani Palace, loaded, and set up in the barracks sally ports. The Honolulu Rifles (under command of Charles Gulick) were called out and less than 20 complied; the Hawaiian Cavalry (Leleiohoku Guard) (under command of Allen Judd) were also called out with similar meagre response. These few militia troops who responded were given little to do. A wagon load of food and liquor was delivered to the mutineers in the night by "friends".

Tense days followed and after personal negotiation by the King, the remaining hard core of 24 mutineers finally acquiesced on Friday and were disbanded.

One may well ask why firmer actions weren't taken. With the uneasiness of the times, one firing incident or casualty could well have enflamed the smoldering race prejudice of the community and led to a bloody race war. Fear of taking a wrong course of action resulted in government vacillation and gave an appearance of weakness on the side of the law. "Humiliating" was the word used by nearly all commentators.

#### GENERAL MILITARY ORDERS

By authority in me vested by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces of my Kingdom, I do hereby declare the organization known as the Household Troops to be, and the same hereby is, with the exception of the band, disbanded -- the officers and men entitled thereto to receive an honorable discharge.

Given under my hand and seal at Waikiki this 12th day of September, A.D. 1873.

LUNALILO

### During the reign of Kalakaua

Kalakaua was elected King February 12, 1874, versus Queen Emma. Election Riot, order restored by American and British Marines. 1876 Reciprocity Treaty. 1887 renewal granted Pearl Harbor use. Claus Spreckels. Celso Moreno. 1881 trip around the world. 1883 Coronation. Walter M. Gibson. 1887 opium bribery scandal, and Bayonet Constitution. 1889 Wilcox revolt. Died January 20, 1891.

Kalakaua, the Merry Monarch...the uniforms again returned. Officers of the ROYAL GUARD at various times included: John T. Baker, R. Hoapili Baker, Frank Waiiau Feary, J. Hamauku, A. B. Hayley, T. Jerome, Hiram Kaaha, John Paulo Kahalewai, Kalolii, David L. Kinimaka, Sam I. Maikai, Thos K. Nakanaela, Samuel Nowlein, Robert Waipa Parker, J. K. Solomona, Hoa C. Ulukou, and Frank Jerome Waiiau, J. Wawa.

The Pacific Commercial Advertiser reported humorously 21 March 1874:

"On Thursday night the guard at the Palace saw "sumthin" and fired at it. We are not informed whether it was a horse or a goat this time. Keep up the scare gentlemen, it will help to while away the monotony of our summer months."

One of the first actions Kalakaua took was to resurrect the ROYAL GUARD, newly entitled the King's Guard and composed of 50 men. The following militia units were also organized:

- : The Prince's Own -- a volunteer company of artillery.
- : The Mamalahoas -- an infantry company of Hawaiian volunteers
- : The Leleiohoku Guard -- the former cavalry unit was called back into existence, but was never completely organized due to the lack of uniforms and equipment.
- : The Hawaiian Guard -- two companies of infantry that also were never completely organized.

The 1874 Articles of War (in English and Hawaiian) provided the following interesting items:

"3. Any soldier who shall injure any arms, equipments or other government property, shall be punished by confinement at hard labor, with or without ball and chain, not more than twenty-four hours, or by such sentences as a Court Martial may direct."

"11. The Articles of War shall be read to the Royal Guard every Sunday morning."

Captain Nicholson, a former British army officer who lived in Hawaii 1874-1880, describes the Hawaiian military forces as:

"The present army, or more properly speaking, the Palace Guard, is more numerous in the commissioned ranks than that forming the file, which latter consists of some fifty men and as they cannot for an instance be relied upon, except to flaunt their bravery in support of the enormous National emblem that is trotted out at the opening and prorogation of Parliament, volunteer military companies have been formed to keep them in check in case of inadvertence with their rusty rifles. The volunteer companies are five in number, whose clothing evinces fertility in imaginative tailoring. They are the Prince's Own -- artillery without guns! The Leleiohoku Guard -- cavalry without horses!, two companies of Hawaiian Guard, and the Mamalahoas."

• One must consider the source.....

Nicholson goes on further to say:

"The commemoration of His Majesty's birthday affords occasion for a general 'turn out' of the military and civic forces, usually taking the form of a torchlight procession. They assemble at the Fire Bell-tower, which for the nonce had decorated with Chinese and other lanterns.

"Half-past seven P.M. being the hour appointed for assembly, and all reported 'present and correct', the line of march was formed, and on the occasion in witness, the torchs, lanterns, and other illuminations produced a gay and picturesque parade.

"The procession, headed by the Royal Hawaiian Band, and escorted by the military companies, the red and blue shirted firemen, with their engines (also illuminated), bringing up the rear, passed through the principal streets of the city, to the entrance of the Palace Yard. Arriving there, the military companies formed three sides of a hollow square, which centre was occupied by representatives of the departments interested. They, with the spectators, awaited the appearance of the King, who, in response to the wish of his assembled subjects, in due course presented himself, amid loud and prolonged cheering."

The Honolulu Rifles were revived in 1883 and was composed of some 50 white residents of Honolulu under the captaincy of William Aldrich.

At the time the present Iolani Palace was first occupied (December 1882) the King's Guard was composed of: one Major commanding, two Lieutenants, nine non-commissioned officers, and 46 privates. The

Report of the Military Committee to the Legislative Assembly of 1882 included:

"The enlargement of the service about the Palace, calls for an increase of the King's Guards. This force being in regular service, ought to be kept in a state of efficiency, and strict discipline, as an adjunct to the civil power, as well as for Palace service."

Major Robert Hoapili Baker became commander of the King's Guard and Volunteer Forces upon the decrease of Brevet Lt. Col. David L. Kinimaka. Excerpts from Major Baker's 1884 report follows:

"The enlisted men of the King's Guard on the roll number in all, rank and file, 63. This number has since been reduced to 58 actually doing duty, from the following causes: death 1, desertion 1, imprisonment in the Oahu Prison for criminal offenses 3; total effective strength, 58. The health of the men has been in general, good.

"The expenditures of the Company have been within the amount of the appropriation made by the last Legislative Assembly. The estimated expenditure of the next two years is very large, which sum exceeds that of the last two years estimated by \$39,406.88, caused by the increase of the Guard rank and file to 78 men, and the appointment of two additional officers, that of an Adjutant and a Third Lieutenant, which is deemed necessary to facilitate the maneuvering of the troops; one of these appointments I was commissioned to hold, that of Adjutant, before the death of the late commanding officer.

"Your Excellency will perceive that an advance has been made upon the payroll of the men for \$10. per month of the last two years to \$15. per month for the next two years. The extreme high price of labor and inducement in other more lucrative occupations makes it advisable to advance their pay to 50¢ per day or \$15. a month and found, which must be considered as fair an average compensation for men as could be obtained to serve in the capacity of soldiers.

"The item of poi and meat has been advanced from two and a half cents a pound, as contracted for the last two years, to that of five cents a pound for the next two years. During the commencement of the year, this article of food has been scarce and prices have naturally advanced. . . . .The price of meat has also been raised from seven cents a pound, to ten cents for the next two years . . . . . The beef served out to the men at seven cents a pound is of a very inferior quality, but by procuring beef at ten cents a pound, and of better quality, with a change of diet in salmon and vegetables, will enable them to be supplied with good rations of nutritious and wholesome food.

"There have been purchased the following arms: two small

five barrel gattling guns (old pattern), besides Winchester repeating rifles and Austrian Uchateus mountain and field batteries, which armament arrived here in February last in good order. ....

"Aside from this, the soldier of the day has passed from the old, obsolete mechanical being into that of a scientific, intelligent and educated individual. It is therefore necessary ..... that he should receive as complete instruction in the knowledge and science of his profession as the service can offer.

"Besides the ceremonial occasions of the coronation, the unveiling of two statues of Kamehameha, in Honolulu and Kohala, on only one occasion have the troops been called into active service to put down a disturbance, viz, at the immigration depot; their prompt arrival on the spot had the moral effect of quelling a riot that might have been followed by serious consequences. Such service ought to have been done by the police force, or by the local Government troops, rather than by the King's Guard, as it was intended that they should only guard the King's Palace and his person. The practice in this respect has never been carried out, and they are not only made to fire the national salutes of this Government, but salutes to other nations, and perform services which do not reflect honor and credit upon their appointment as a personal guard for His Majesty."

This report refers to an interesting soldier-of-fortune assigned to the King's Guard about whom little is known -- Captain A. B. Hayley, late of the 11th Hussars, English Army. He appears in the famous picture of Kalakaua and his military staff on the front steps of the Palace.

The budget request for the next biennium to support a 78 man King's Guard was \$78,307.88 and \$238,334.70 to support the total military forces. It was not adopted.

Strength of the militia units at this time was as follows:

Leleioloku Guard (Cavalry) 84  
Prince's Own (Artillery) 105  
Mamalahoas (Infantry) 75  
Honolulu Rifles (Infantry) 52

In 1886 a Drill Shed was constructed adjacent to Iolani Barracks to house the artillery and the pay of soldiers was increased.

The Honolulu Almanac and Directory of 1887 states:

"As a finish to the foregoing narrative of the Jubilee Birthday celebration (fiftieth birthday of King Kalakaua November 16, 1836) it is proper to add that Sunday, November 28th, being the 43rd anniversary of the recognition of

Hawaiian Independence by England and France, was observed in a way which made it part of this event. The King and Royal Family, escorted by the Royal Guards, attended Divine service in the forenoon at Kaumakapili Church."

A variance from normal duties was provided in 1887 when Lt. Frank Jerome Waiiau became a Lieutenant of Marines on the H.M.S. Kaimiloa, and commanded 12 Hawaiian Marines (Royal Guard detailed for this duty). The six months commissioning of the H.M.S. Kaimiloa, the voyage to Samoa, the reaction of the Germans who controlled Samoa, is a fascinating tale all by itself.

By 1887 the Honolulu Rifles composed of white residents had increased to four companies and were first commanded by Lt.Col. V. V. Ashford and later Major H. Hubbard. The strength of all forces on November 11, 1887 was:

King's Own 60  
Prince's Own 53  
Queen's Own 52  
Leleiohoku Guard 49  
Mamalahoas 62  
Honolulu Rifles 272.

The opium bribery scandal of 1887 and other substantiations of corrupt government and bribe-taking resulted in the influential white citizenry of Honolulu holding a protest mass meeting at the Honolulu Rifles' Armory. Following this meeting, strong resolutions were sent to Kalakaua for government reform. As the primary source of funds to operate the government came from these people, and the Honolulu Rifles were patrolling the streets during the ensuing unrest, Kalakaua acquiesced to their demands. Among other actions following, the Hawaiian militia units began to go out of existence. It has been said this was due to their not "backing up" Kalakaua during this time of need.

Another reaction set in -- the Hawaiian residents became bitter towards Kalakaua as they felt he had betrayed them to the white residents, when he approved a new Constitution commonly known as the "Bayonet Constitution". Actual military forces remaining were the King's Guard and the Honolulu Rifles.

The Wilcox Insurrection of 1889 was another of those mysterious episodes during Kalakaua's reign, which involved so much intrigue and double-dealing that it is hard to fathom the logic of it today. Robert Wilcox was a part-Hawaiian who had been sent to Italy by the Hawaiian government to receive a military education. When he returned to Hawaii he became a "stormy petrel" and for a while was exiled from the country. The Wilcox Insurrection apparently intended either to seat Kalakaua more firmly on the throne, or intended to replace him with his sister Liliuokalani. The actual result, it appears, was that Wilcox was abandoned to his fate.

Wilcox and 150-200 armed Hawaiians seized the Palace grounds early in the morning of July 30, 1889. Kalakaua, accompanied by Colonel Iaukea and several ROYAL GUARD had conveniently and secretly gone to his Boathouse at Honolulu Harbor just before they arrived. Captain Robert Waipa Parker, and sixteen of the ROYAL GUARD, was ordered to remain in the Palace and allow Wilcox entry into the Palace grounds but not the Palace. At that time the Palace grounds were surrounded by a 7-8 foot high coral masonry wall with four large timber gates in which were inserted small entrance doors of boiler iron.

Wilcox seized four artillery pieces and ammunition at Iolani Barracks and posted them inside the Palace grounds so they would each command an entrance gate. The Honolulu Rifles mobilized to uphold the law, assembled at their armory, and surrounded the Palace grounds. Colonel Ashford demanded that Wilcox surrender -- the answer was rifle fire, and the "battle" began.

Several members of Wilcox's gun crews on the King Street and Richards Street sides were soon killed by rifle fire, other Wilcox men took cover in the basement of the Palace or in the Bungalow, a wooden building in the Hotel Street-Richards Street corner of the Palace Grounds. Those who sought refuge in the basement were taken in charge by Captain Parker, who telephoned to a government official that the insurrectionists were his prisoners. He was instructed to send them to the King Street gate on the run; and several prisoners were hurried from the yard during the afternoon. By late afternoon there was almost continuous fire from several hundred rifles in buildings surrounding the Palace, and little response from the insurrectionists. Grenades were hurled at the Bungalow. By nightfall the insurrectionists surrendered. Seven of Wilcox's followers had been killed and a score injured.

Wilcox and the other leaders of the Insurrection were soon turned loose when it became apparent that they were popular heroes to the Hawaiian population. The Hawaiian militia companies King's Own, Queen's Own, Prince's Own and the Leleiohoku Guards; were disbanded August 12, 1889. The King's Guard was reduced to thirty-one men and placed under the control and orders of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The field pieces were unmounted, and together with the rifles and ammunition were removed from the Palace to the Police Station. The wall around the Palace grounds was removed. Perhaps Wilcox "got the last laugh", he used his popular influence with the next legislature to pass an act which disbanded the Honolulu Rifles (First Bn, Hawaiian Volunteers) August 23, 1890. The Honolulu Rifles, however, kept an informal organization which was later rapidly pulled together in the Revolution of 1893.

The Hawaiian military had again ebbed to the small force of ROYAL GUARD, whose mission was to guard their sovereign, the Palace, and firing salutes as required. Kalakaua's stormy reign came to an end January 20, 1891.

## During the Reign of Liliuokalani

Queen Liliuokalani was a strong willed and determined woman. She was respected by the Hawaiian population, and had dispelled doubts in the minds of the white population by agreeing to uphold the Constitution of 1887. Ambitions and power politics soon caused dissensions, and the crisis rapidly built up in 1892.

In early 1893 the Queen endeavored to establish a new (and reactionary) Constitution. This was considered the "final straw" and the white citizens objected, called a mass meeting January 16, 1893, and pulled together the framework of the disbanded Honolulu Rifles to provide a volunteer security force.

Thurston states that:

"...the Queen, in anticipation of resistance on the part of the whites, had sent for him (Wilcox) the night before to take command of four small pieces of cannon which she had caused to be placed in the upper halls of the palace, enfilading the approaches to that building from all sides, and that he had declined. These cannons were still there when the Provisional Government took possession of the palace. I also learned that the household guards to the number of eighty, who were at that time drawn up in line from the palace to the entrance gate, were armed with ball cartridges and under the command of a favorite who had received explicit instructions. The police station had been fortified with two Gatlings, and a force of police, under the Marshal, and were in readiness for immediate use."

The Monarchy was overthrown January 17, 1893, Queen Liliuokalani surrendered sovereignty under protest, and a Proclamation issued which established a Provisional Government. Only one shot was fired -- Captain Good shot a policeman in the shoulder who had tried to stop him from delivering a load of weapons to the volunteer security force. Dole states:

"Governor Cleghorn called, and we arranged to have the Household Guards evacuate the barracks early the next morning. Commander Soper, occupying the room that the councils had abandoned, was busy during the night in organizing our volunteer forces and arranging a patrol of the town.

"The next morning the barracks were given up to our forces and we installed a garrison therein under command of Captain Good. Early in the forenoon, the royal standard was seen floating from the Palace flagstaff, probably the routine work of the Palace janitor. A messenger boy was sent over to have it lowered."

Colonel Soper disbanded the ROYAL GUARD the evening of January 18, 1893.

Hawaiian Armies & Warriors

HAWAIIAN MILITARY UNITS

REIGNS

KAMEHAMEHA I, II

KAMEHAMEHA III, IV, V

LUNALILO

KALAKAUA

LIIUOKALANI

