August 8, 2013

Barry Soetoro's Birth Secret

By Nick Chase

This is a very, very, very long article -- so for the time-challenged, let me briefly give you my conclusions up front, and hope that this inspires you enough to read the entire story to see if it withstands scrutiny.

- 1. Barack Obama was legally adopted by his (step)father, Lolo Soetoro, in Hawaii, sometime between March 24, 1965 and August 3, 1966.
- 2. Obama's hospital-generated birth certificate was sealed by the court, and a new one was issued showing Lolo Soetoro as his father.
- 3. Barry was given the family surname Soetoro, as mandated by Hawaii state law.
- 4. Eventually, the adoption records were unsealed, allowing the hospital-generated birth information to be re-entered into the state's vital statistics.
- 5. Whether or not Obama ever took the legal steps necessary to have the Soetoro surname dropped from his legal name is unknown.
- 6. None of this is new information, though the adoption could only be guessed at. But the fact that Obama has been unable to release a genuine image of his hospital-generated birth certificate, and instead tried to pass off a forgery as the real thing, makes it a virtual certainty that he was indeed legally adopted.

Now, let me explain at length.

Although I long ago had satisfied myself that Obama's long-form "birth certificate" PDF released by the White House on April 27, 2011 was a forgery, and that the White House had engineered a "bait-and-switch", substituting a forgery for the real birth certificates it had received from Hawaii, I still kept looking for clues in the digital documents that would lead me to Obama's motive for releasing a forgery, which I had not yet figured out.

To broaden my search I decided to compare the two versions of the "birth certificate" which were released to the public -- the black-and-white paper copy passed out to the press on the morning of April 27, almost immediately photographed (and thus digitized) by press photographers and released over the wires, and the color PDF which was released later that day. I wondered why it would take so long to put out the PDF version when the press had its copy in the morning. Maybe I could spot some differences between the two.

My first step was to check when the PDF was created. The Mac computer's OS X doesn't give you this information directly (as does right-clicking the file on a PC), so I opened the PDF with Adobe Reader, as shown in Figure DP, and I could see that the file was created on April 27, 2011 at 8:09 AM (EDT), which was just before the morning meeting of administration spokespeople with the press. Adobe Reader also told me that the PDF was created with Preview. (I would surmise, by using the "Save as PDF" function from the "Print" window of whatever application was viewing the source file for the forgery; I use this "Save as PDF" feature all the time and I am very dependent on it.) "PDF

Producer" specified the software within Preview that produced the PDF, which is compatible with Acrobat version 4 and newer. Adobe Reader also nicely told me that the document is 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches tall, including the white border.

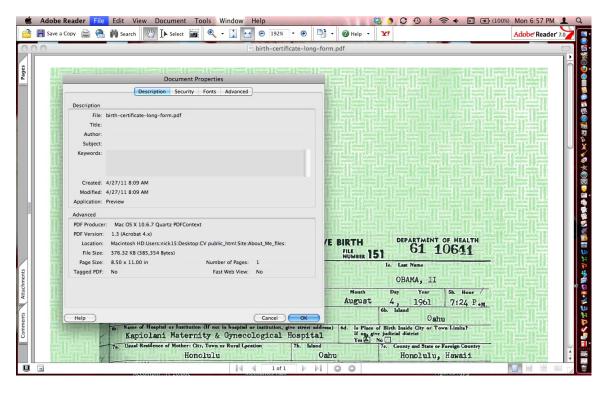


Figure DP. Adobe Reader displaying the Document Properties of the Obama PDF-image "birth certificate" on a Mac.

Wait a minute -- white border?

I seemed to remember that Hawaii birth certificates were borderless, with the security pattern extending to the very edges of the paper. I hunted up several genuine short-form and long-form Hawaiian birth certificates on the Internet; sure enough, they were all borderless. I remembered that FactCheck.org, in 2008, had shown pictures demonstrating beyond all reasonable doubt that Obama's short-form birth certificate (Certification of Live Birth) was indeed genuine. One of these photos is Figure BSP, and it clearly shows that real Hawaiian security paper is borderless.

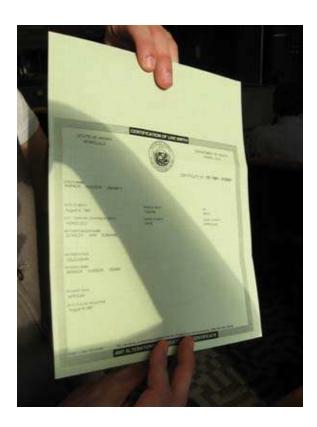


Figure BSP. Real Hawaiian security paper (pale green background) is borderless.

Some of the forgery-deniers have written that the "birth certificate" PDF is a simple scan, using a Mac, of a real piece of paper, with the Preview program then used to produce the PDF. Therefore, if there's a border, then either the paper was scanned beyond its edges (producing a border) or the Preview program must have added it.

At this point, I realized I wasn't going to get much further until I could calculate what the "sizes" of things were in real life. Without knowing what the size of the forgery was supposed to be when it was printed onto paper for NBC News reporter Savannah Guthrie to view, I couldn't tell you whether the PDF was "life-size" with a pretty border added by the forger, or whether it had been shrunk or truncated by the "printing" (PDF-making) process.

In all of the Hawaiian birth certificate images floating around on the Internet, nobody bothered to add a ruler to any of their images to tell you what the document sizes actually are. In this digital age, when documents are largely printed by computer or copier onto 8.5 by 11-inch copier paper, it would be reasonable to assume that these certificates (both short- and long-form) are also 8.5 by 11 inches. But I couldn't be sure, because I'd never seen one in real life; they could be an oddball size.

Fortunately for me, blogger "Danae" had posted images of her short- and long-form Hawaiian birth certificates to the Internet in May 2011. She also posted some snapshots, one of which is Figure DN1.



Figure DN1. Genuine Hawaiian birth documents for "Danae".

In this photo you will see several items: (a) a color copy of an antique long-form birth certificate for Danae, which her mother mailed to her in 2000; (b) Danae's short-form birth certificate; (c) an uncertified copy of Danae's long-form birth certificate (on white paper) sent to her by Hawaii in September 2010; (d) a standard #10 window envelope in which Hawaii mailed to Danae her uncertified information.

The #10 envelope is a known size, 4-1/8 inches high by 9.5 inches wide. The picture is not very high resolution, but by careful measurement (allowing for camera-lens distortion) I found that, indeed, Danae's short-form birth certificate is 8.5 inches wide, as expected.

The scans that Danae made of the front and back of her short-form birth certificate are shown in Figure DN2.

Knowing that the paper width is 8.5 inches, the scans tell us that the paper height measures 11 inches.

On the back of the certificate there is Alvin T. Onaka's rubber-stamp signature. Carefully measuring the width of the signature in relation to the document width reveals that the signature is 2.52 inches wide (with some allowance for error, as the picture is not very high resolution.) This signature dimension is a constant that can be carried from document to document for measuring purposes (assuming the same-size rubber stamp is used through the years).

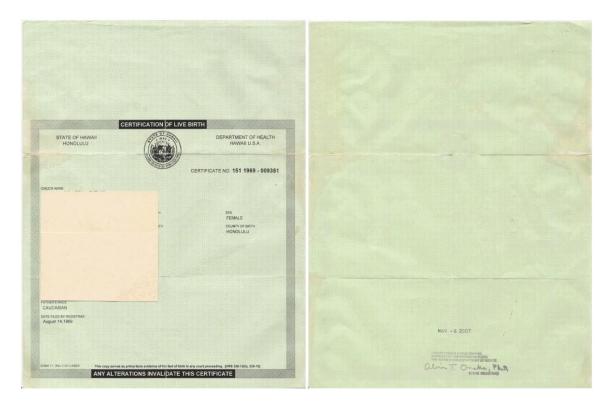


Figure DN2. "Danae" short-form Hawaiian birth certificate, front and back.

Also posted to the Internet, in 2011, was an anonymous genuine long-form birth certificate, issued on March 15, 2011, and shown in Figure BLF. This is the last-known long-form birth certificate to have been issued by the Hawaii Department of Health before the department stopped issuing them altogether, except for Obama's.

This also is a low-resolution picture, with measurement showing that the size of the rubber-stamp signature is 2.68 inches.

Taking the average of the two measurements, which statistically increases the accuracy of the dimension, gives a signature width of 2.6 inches.

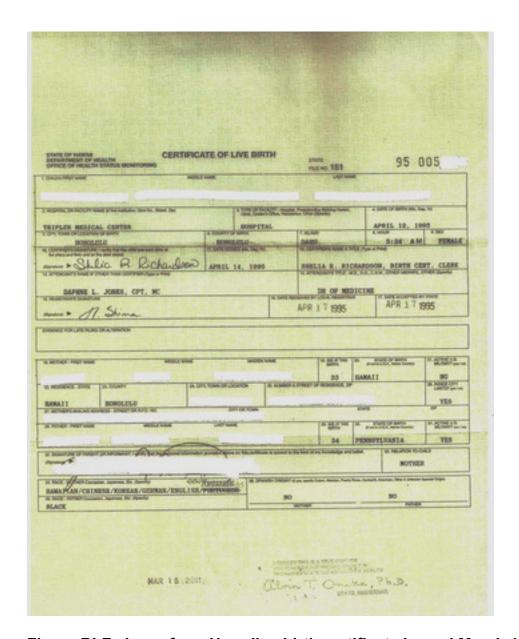


Figure BLF. Long-form Hawaiian birth certificate issued March 15, 2011.

With the width of the rubber-stamp signature known, let's return to the forgery-deniers who think that the Obama PDF (seen in Figure OFS, against a black background to show off its lovely white border) is a simple scan of a paper document.

Knowing that a genuine rubber-stamp signature is 2.6 inches wide (30.6% the width of an 8.5-inch-wide document), and assuming the stamp on the forgery was correctly sized by the forger to also be 2.6 inches wide, we find that the rubber-stamp image on the PDF is exactly the right size for the PDF with the white borders included. But if you exclude the borders, which measure .25 inches each on the left and right, and .2 inches each at the top and bottom, the image size is 8 inches wide by 10.6 inches high -- not the size we know Hawaiian birth certificates to be.

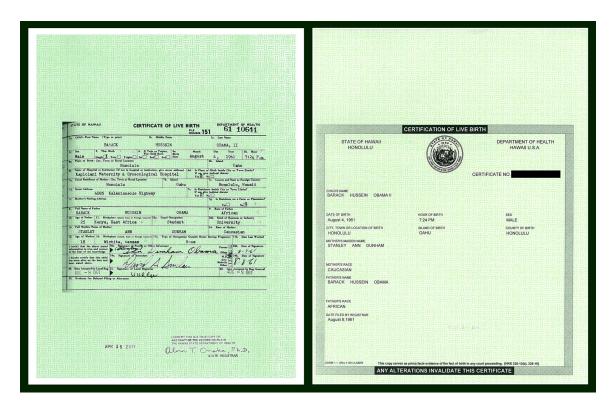


Figure OFS. Obama PDF forgery (with white border) and genuine shortform birth certificate, side by side, each measuring 8.5 by 11 inches.

OK, the forgery-deniers may say, then the Preview program must have shrunk the image to "print" it (make the PDF). But that can't be, because the Onaka signature would then be 2.45 inches wide, not 2.6; and if the 8 by 10.6-inch image were scaled up to be 8.5 inches wide, it would be 11.26 inches high -- in other words, longer than an 8.5 by 11-inch sheet of security paper.

Don't let the forgery-deniers try to tell you that the Preview program will lay a white border on top of an image like a picture frame, where the frame masks (hides) part of the image. The Preview software doesn't do that.

Let me demonstrate using the short-form birth certificate, which is a borderless document of the correct size. (I am using MacOS 10.6.8 on a Mac connected to a Canon D420 printer).

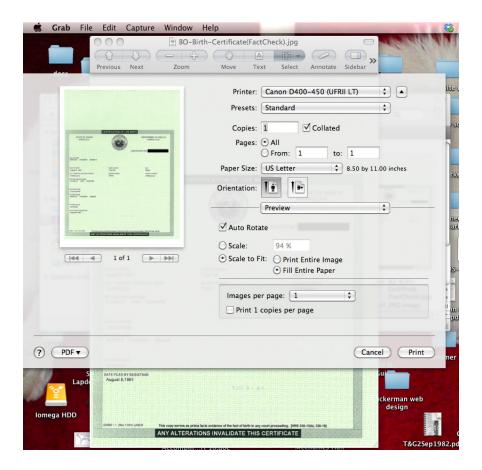


Figure PP. Making a PDF with Preview shrinks the (borderless) document.

As you can see, asking Preview to print the birth certificate in the largest possible size will shrink it to 94% of life-size (for my Canon D420). Even if you hit the other radio button and ask for a scale of 100%, Preview will still shrink the image to the area your printer is able to print. Preview does not clip a borderless image.

So, my measurements have told me that the Obama PDF is not an image scanned beyond the edges of a paper document. I have also shown that Mac Preview software does not lay a white border over the edges of the image. There is no way this PDF is a simple scan, on a Mac, of a borderless paper document.

Another way of checking this is to look at the security-paper background, which is a square repeating pattern. It's tedious work, but if you count carefully before you go blind looking at square patterns, you will find that the genuine short-form birth certificate has about 24.1 repeats horizontally and 31.2 vertically. The Obama PDF image has not quite 23 repeats horizontally and about 29.8 vertically. If you were to extend the green pattern into the white borders of the PDF, you would find that it would be about 24 by 31 repeats.

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Figure G2. Savannah Guthrie's snapshot (#2) of Obama forgery on paper.

Finally, remember that NBC News reporter Savannah Guthrie took two cellphone snapshots of the paper forgery on April 27, 2011, one of which I show here as Figure G2. There are 24 (approximately) security-pattern repeats horizontally on the paper in this picture, and the Onaka rubber-stamp image measures correctly, 2.6 inches for an 8.5 by 11-inch piece of paper. (You may have to digitally enhance the image to be able to count the pattern repeats on the paper.) The paper version of the forgery is, of course, borderless.

It's clear: *The white border on the PDF was added by the forger* (hiding the edges of the image being created). Why?

I can think of one really good reason: To keep the image from shrinking in size when the forgery was printed on paper, so key elements (rubber date-stamp and Onaka signature) would be the same size as real rubber-stamped legends on real birth certificates. (Preview will not forcibly shrink an image when there is already a border present that keeps the image being printed within your printer's limits.)

The White House released two versions of this fake: The digital PDF, and a paper copy passed out to reporters on the morning of April 27, 2011.

The forgery-deniers will perhaps tell you that somebody put Obama's paper "birth certificate" on the copier, set the number of copies, pressed PRINT, and used the printed copies for the press packets. Is that what really happened?

There were two images taken of the paper copy by the press for release. One is a photograph (Figure BS) of the entire 8.5 by 11-inch sheet of paper in the press packet, taken by Brendan Smialowski for Getty Images.

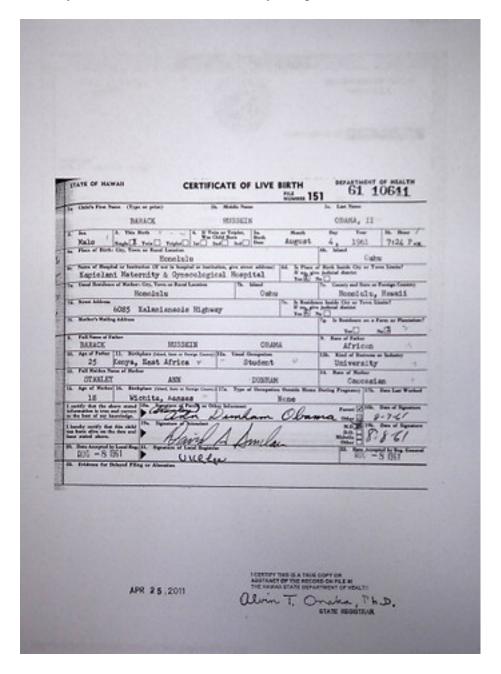


Figure BS. Photo of press handout of the forgery taken for Getty Images, showing "bleed-through" of the 2008 Certification of Live Birth.

As I previously described in "What Did Savannah Guthrie Really See?" (*American Thinker*, June 11, 2012), the photo shows no traces of the security-paper background except in the very dark left edge of the birth-certificate pseudo-microfilm image. Would the spearmint-green security-paper background disappear so quickly in a first-generation copy? No.

In the Smialowski picture the paper edges do not show, so we can't tell if the image passed out to the press corps was larger or smaller than real life (that is, the size the forger had made). But we do know that if a genuine paper Hawaiian birth certificate had been copied on a copier, there would have been no need to enlarge or shrink the image. And the forger, knowing this, and having been careful to forge a printable life-size image, would most likely have printed out a life-size image for copying.

So I took the Smialowski photo and the PDF forgery, scaled them to the same size (as best I could) and overlaid the photo on the PDF, as shown in figure FSO.

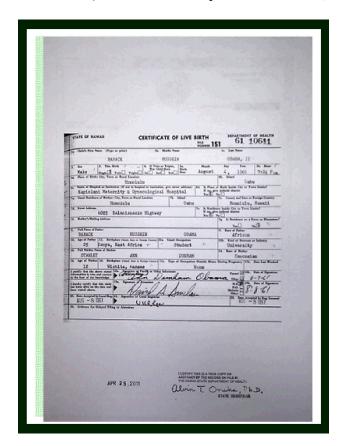


Figure FSO. Smialowski photo overlaid on the Obama PDF forgery.

(The photo has a little distortion because the picture was taken slightly off-center, so I lined the images up using the words "CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH", which is in the area with the least distortion. The software I use, GraphicConverter for the Macintosh, renders the photo translucent while I'm lining up the two images, but the translucent effect disappears when I let go of the mouse, so I can't show it in the figure.)

You can immediately see how important it would be for the forger to make the green security-paper pattern disappear before printing. Otherwise, the white border would stick out like a sore thumb, and even the dullards in the White House press corps would know they'd been handed a computer printout instead of a simple copier-made copy of a real paper birth certificate.

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Figure JSA. Photo of press handout of the forgery taken for The Associated Press.

The other image of the forgery was released by The Associated Press (Figure JSA), which I at first thought was a scanned image, but it's not.

It is a full-color photograph, with the strange blue background probably an effect of the room lighting, or possibly resulting from a filter used by the photographer, J. Scott Applewhite. And, it is a very high-resolution image. (In its original form, that is, 19.6 megabytes. For Figure JSA I shrank the photo to about a half-megabyte so my editor wouldn't get upset.)

About two years ago researcher John Woodman observed that this press handout is of much higher quality than the Obama PDF forgery, and I hadn't paid much attention at the time. But, sure enough, it is a higher-quality image! In Figure LHQ you see some comparisons:

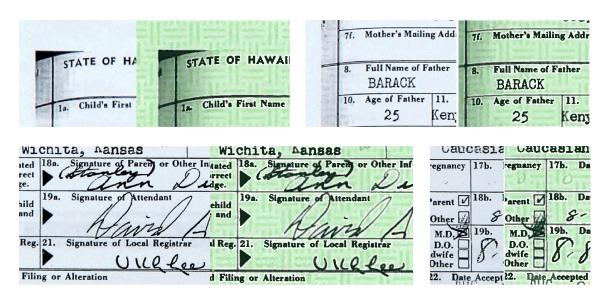


Figure LHQ. High-resolution (blue) and low-resolution (green) comparison.

(You may want to zoom in on this image to see the differences more clearly.)

In the upper left portion of the figure, the hi-res (blue) image clearly shows some sort of hole, like a staple hole, punched into the paper at the very top left of the microfilm-image part of the "birth certificate". On the low-res (green) PDF, it's just a blob.

In the upper right portion, in the hi-res image, above Line 8 there clearly is a double horizontal line in the form. In the low-res image, it's just a single thick line.

In the lower left portion, the printed information on the form is clearer in the hi-res image; and there is no indication at all of the mixture of bitmap and (blurrier) grayscale images that appear in the low-res version. Look especially at the signature "(Stanley)" and the printed text above it to see this distinction.

In the lower right portion, for the smudges in the box to the right of "M.D." the low-res version probably is a more accurate representation, as the streaks are too light to survive the copying process. The penciled-in zeroes also almost disappear in the hi-res version for that same reason.

This led me to wonder: Is there any evidence of the blurrier grayscale images in the hi-res version -- and is there any evidence of low-resolution imagery being inserted into the high-resolution master document which the forger was creating? The trailing digit "1" in the certificate number is the most obvious use of grayscale in the PDF; you can see it's blurry even at low magnification, which I previously described as Mole Hole #3 in "Birth Certificate Whac-A-Mole" (*American Thinker*, May 30, 2012). Also, one of the most difficult items for a forger to find would be the Bates-stamp certificate numbers themselves, since there are numerous images of Hawaiian birth certificates floating around on the Internet, but not too many for the year 1961.

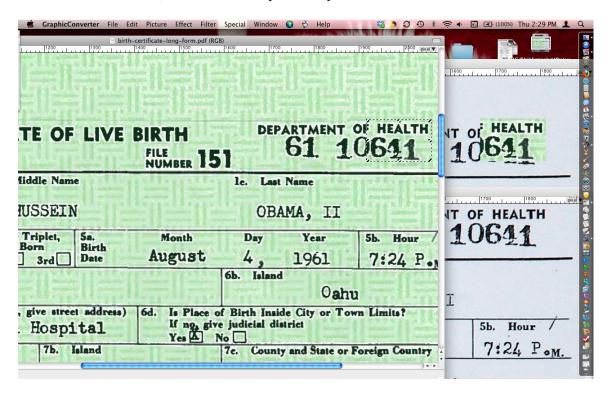


Figure CN1. High-resolution (blue) and low-resolution certificate numbers.

As you see in Figure CN1, using GraphicConverter I selected and dragged the digits "641" from the low-res PDF to line up with the digits on the high-res photo. I exactly lined up the left edges of the base of the digit "1" for each version, then shifted the green low-res version up a bit, and I could see that in the low-res version, the base of the "1" was a little shorter. (A duplicate of the high-res digits appears beneath so you can see that image unobscured.) However, the low-res "1" also lost the little bump on its right side, so I decided that wasn't conclusive. But it did seem to me that the Bates-stamp digits on the hi-res version did not have the image quality of the rest of that document, and could have been copied from a lower-resolution image, such as a JPEG fetched from the Internet.

Then I wondered: What image was used to produce the paper forgery that Savannah Guthrie saw?

Recall that Savannah Guthrie took two cellphone pictures, the overview shown in Figure G2 and a close-up shot shown below in Figure G1:

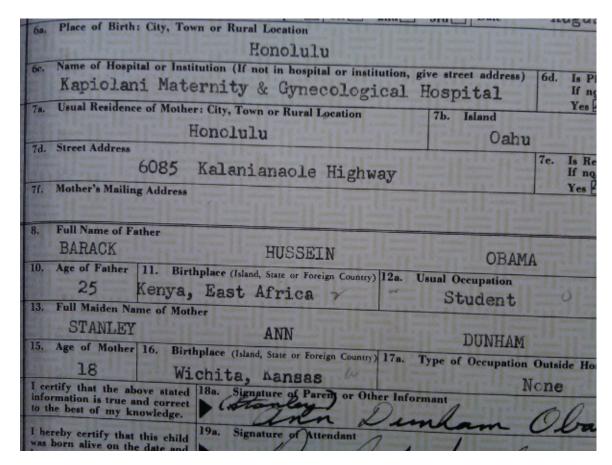


Figure G1. Savannah Guthrie's close-up snapshot (#1) of Obama forgery.

Even with the low quality of this phone-photo JPEG, you can see that the line in the form above entry #8 is a double line.

So the White House used the high-resolution version of the forgery to produce copies for the press corps, and to make the paper copy Savannah Guthrie saw, but released a poorer-quality image on its website. (The poor image quality of the digital PDF is what initially made me doubt the authenticity of the "birth certificate", because I knew from my years of experience that an authentic scan of a paper document would produce a much higher-quality image. But you can't go around telling people that something is a forgery just because the image is lousy.)

Why?

Then the light bulb came on. Of course! The digital PDF of the forgery was *dumbed down* before it was released.

Why would the forger do that?

Because the forger knew that once the digital version hit the Internet, the geeks of the world would be analyzing the hell out of it, and it would live forever. Whatever tracks the forger had left during its creation had to be disguised. In contrast, the paper copy passed out to the White House press corps would wind up in the circular file within a few days, and the pictures of it taken by the press would disappear with the next news cycle and wind up in the Getty and AP photo archives, never to be seen again.

I'll go further: The digital PDF forgery was *intentionally digitally damaged* before its release, *intended to mislead*. It's strictly a consumer item, pretty to look at, but not wholly reliable for analytical research. The researchers who obsess over the fine-point flaws in this digital document are likely analyzing the methods the forger used to destroy it instead of the methods used for its creation. This leads researchers to quibble over bitmap versus grayscale, white halos, pixellation, chromatic aberration, optical character recognition versus compression, and the like, most of which is beside the point.

What in the digital PDF is likely to have escaped this destruction?

Information it yields relating to position and size is likely to be good, because spatial relationships cannot be changed without making it obvious that the image has been tampered with.

The appearance of the typed letters would likely survive well enough to tell if more than one "typewriter" was used.

On the digital-analysis side, the existence of single items in their own "layer" of the PDF is likely significant (like the spearmint-green security pattern, which as a single layer can be turned off, and which was turned off for printing the high-resolution copies), because single items can be easily resized and moved into position.

The least dependable information is that which relates to image quality and clarity.

There may be more useful information that can be extracted from the PDF, but in doing so you would have to be careful that what you see resulted from the forgery's creation, not from its being digitally obfuscated.

In the many hours I have spent analyzing the PDF, I observed one of the most important pieces of information it reveals, and one which would survive most any deliberate image degradation: The (invisible to us) grid on which the "typed" characters were laid out is perfectly aligned with the computer screen - it is perfectly vertical, right to the last pixel.

Why is this important? Because it tells us for sure that this digital document is a forgery, because the odds that a scanned piece of paper containing a microfilm image would have typed letters that are perfectly aligned with the horizontal and vertical axes of your computer screen are minuscule.

Secondly, it tells us that entering and aligning many "typed" characters was of great importance to the forger, and indicates that most, if not all, of the microfilm-image part of the "birth certificate" was created from scratch, rather than being a genuine microfilm image which was modified slightly to remove some inconvenient detail.

In "Birth Certificate Whac-A-Mole" I noted that the forger actually did a pretty good job of maintaining "typewriter pitch" (that is, sticking to the grid) throughout the document, except for a few places where "typed" letters go awry. Christopher Monckton (Viscount Christopher Monckton of Brenchley, an Englishman) has done a more thorough analysis of the forgery's pitch by drawing that invisible grid on the forgery, as shown in Figure MP1.

		FILE NUM	SER 151 61 10641
la.	Child's First Name (Type or print) 1b. BARACK	Middle Name HUSSEIN	lc. Last Name OBAMA, II
2.	Malle Single 4 Twin Triplet 1st 2n	ild Born Birth	nth Day Year 56. Hour /
Sa.	Place of Birth: City, Town or Rural Location Honolulu		6b. Island Oaku
×.	Name of Hospital of Institution (If not in hospital or institut Kapiolani Materrity & Gynecologic		s Flace of Birth Inside City or Town Limits? no. give judicial district es A. No
10.	Usual Residence of Mother: City, Town or Rural Location Honolulu	7b. Island Oaku	7c. County and State or Foreign Country Honolulu, Hawaii
7d.	Street Address 6085 Kalanianaole Highwa		Residence Inside City or Town Limits?
f.	Mother's Mailing Address		7g. Is Residence on a Farm or Plantatio
	Full Name of Father BARACK HUSSETIN	OBAMA	9. Race of Father African
0.	Age of Faither 11: Birthplace (Island, State or Foreign Country) 25 Kenya, East Africa	12a. Usual Occupation Student	12b. Kind of Business or Industry University
3.	Full Maiden Name of Mother		14. Race of Mother

Figure MP1. Monckton's "typewriter pitch" grid superimposed on the high-resolution Associated Press photo.

Remember "Mole Hole #5 - who lost the comma?" in "Birth Certificate Whac-A-Mole"?

BARACK	HUSSEI	N	当出当日	OB
3. This Birth X Single Twin Triplet	4. If Twin or Triplet, Was Child Born 1st 2nd 3rd	5a. Birth Date	None August	Day 4
: City, Town or Rural Location	THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER, THE OW	21124	THE PERSON NAMED IN	6b. Islan
Honolul	1			Large III

Figure FDT. "Out of pitch" in the forgery is the day "August 4", here compared with the word "None" from Line 17a.

Here it is again in Figure FDT, the top half of Figure FD -- the comma is too far to the right and out of pitch in comparison to "August 4". But when we look at the "typed" line of text on Lord Monckton's grid, as shown in Figure MP2, we see that "August 4" is actually shifted slightly left of true pitch, and ", 1961 7:24 P." is shifted about a third of a character to the right of true pitch.



Figure MP2. The column containing the comma is where there is a rightshift of about a third of a character in pitch for the rightmost third of the forgery.

If you look back at Figure MP1, you will see that the column containing the comma is where the forger "lost" horizontal pitch. While the leftmost two-thirds of the forgery (mostly) has one typewriter pitch, the right one-third (mostly) has a different pitch, with the column containing the comma being (about) an extra third of a character too wide. This pitch-shift is very abrupt and cannot be accounted for by lens distortion in Applewhite's camera, nor by any conceivable behavior by a real typist at a real typewriter. A true, and obvious, forger's mistake.

In Figure MP1 Lord Monckton also drew baselines for the "typewritten" text. (The baselines are for double-spaced lines on a typewriter, when the typist pulls the carriage-return lever twice after typing a line.) You can see that some lines of "typewritten" text are on the baseline, some are close, and others are off, with no consistency from line to line. While the forger tried to maintain consistent pitch horizontally, vertical pitch was lost.

Shown in Figure MP3 is a very-beaten-up genuine Hawaiian birth certificate for the summer of Obama's birth, on which Lord Monckton has superimposed a pitch-grid showing that a genuine typewritten Hawaiian birth certificate of that era maintains horizontal and vertical pitch on a form designed to accommodate double-spaced typewritten lines (as one would expect.) (The items "Waihee", "Negro", "Porter Service" and "6-13-61" are later modifications made with a different typewriter.)

More information can be extracted from the PDF (on the digital-analysis side) when we take a closer look at the paper copy of the forgery which only one person from the press - NBC News reporter Savannah Guthrie -- was allowed to view and touch, and of which she was able to snap two pictures. In "What Did Savannah Guthrie Really See?" I concluded that what she saw was a color-laser printout of the PDF forgery with the edges trimmed off.

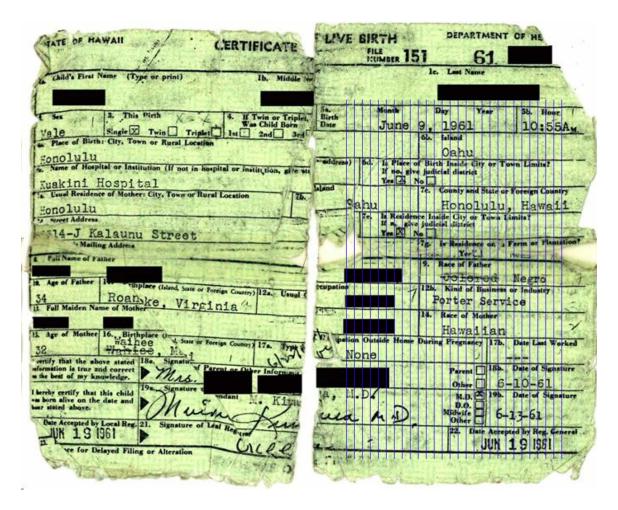


Figure MP3. A genuine Hawaiian birth certificate from 1961 which maintains perfect horizontal and vertical typewriter pitch.

Obviously, my earlier conclusion is completely wrong. By having counted the security-pattern repeats in Figure G2, we know the paper certificate is 8.5 inches wide, and the Onaka rubber-stamp image measures correctly at 2.6 inches. We also know that the image Guthrie saw is of higher quality than the PDF everybody can download from whitehouse.gov.

I have examined both Figures G1 and G2 carefully, including versions I corrected for color and clarity, and in my opinion the security paper used is genuine.

What about the rubber-stamp date and signature? On most genuine documents a rubber-stamped item (in black ink) is typically a little lighter than form-printed information, and will show variations in intensity depending on how pressure was applied during stamping, and how the stamp was inked.

In Figure RSI the forgery's stamps are compared, both to each other and to form-printed information at the bottom of the "birth certificate". At top, Savannah Guthrie's picture (from Figure G2); in the middle, the high-resolution photo (from Figure JSA); and at the

bottom, the PDF forgery (from Figure OFS). It seems to me that the high-resolution version of the forgery would be able to produce the "stamped" images that Savannah Guthrie photographed. The "stamped" images in the PDF forgery are actually bitmap (solid black; no shades of gray) resulting from the digital destruction process, and are too light to have produced what Savannah Guthrie saw.

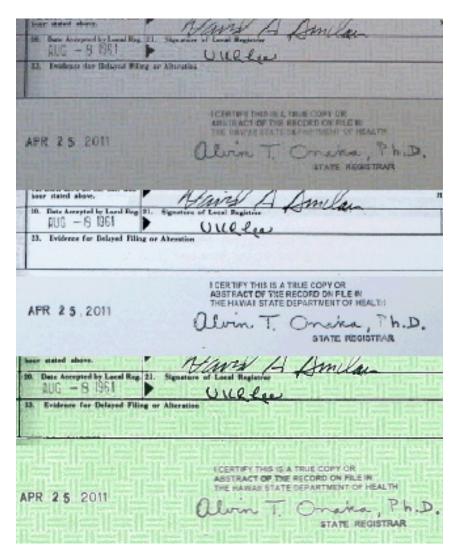


Figure RSI. Rubber-stamp items compared on Guthrie photo of paper forgery (top), high-resolution AP photo (middle), and digital PDF forgery (bottom).

To settle the issue, we turn to information that analyst Mara Zebest provided, not in her reports produced for WND or Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio's "Cold Case" Posse, but as an offhand comment in a WND article of June 28, 2011: The Onaka rubber-stamp image was rotated clockwise 90 degrees and shrunk to 24% of its original size before its final placement in the forgery. Cold Case Posse chief investigator Mike Zullo reinforced this information in his affidavit filed with the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama on May 14, 2013.

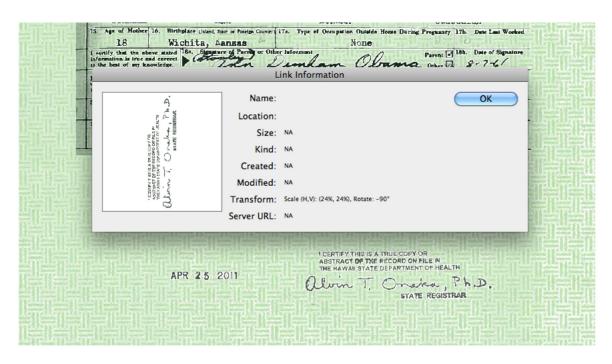


Figure ROT. From Zullo affidavit: Adobe Illustrator shows the Onaka rubber-stamp image was rotated 90 degrees clockwise and scaled to 24% of original size before being added to the PDF forgery.

Why is this significant? Because it is likely that these two images were extracted from the genuine paper birth certificate delivered from Hawaii to the White House. The specific rubber-stamp date, "APR 25 2011", would be essentially impossible to find on the 'net, and most of the Hawaiian birth-certificate images floating around on the Internet do not include an Onaka rubber-stamp image, and those that do are of too poor image quality to be usable in the forgery. (And the forger would be very foolish to use the rubber-stamp image that is imprinted on the backside of Obama's short-form birth certificate.)

Most scanners have "default" settings for scanning at 600 pixels per inch or 1200 pixels per inch. If the genuine long-form paper certificate were scanned at 600ppi, then scaling a selected image from it down to 24% means the forgery was being created at 144 pixels per inch -- a doubling of the very common 72 pixels per inch typically used for JPEG images found on the Internet. If scanned at 1200 ppi, then 288ppi was being used in the creation of the forgery. In either case, we're being told that the forgery was generated using fewer pixels per inch than would result from a simple scan of a paper document (at least 600ppi), and this is an indication that the basic source materials for the forgery (such as the preprinted birth-certificate form from 1961) came from images/pictures plucked from the Internet.

Why the rotation, when the genuine item sent by Hawaii is an 8.5 by 11-inch piece of paper, and could be placed on the scanner glass top edge up in the same way you place a document on copier glass for copying? I suspect the forger put the Hawaii-issued birth

certificate on the glass sideways to capture only the rubber-stamp images, while the microfilm-image part of the document was left hanging over the edge so it would never, ever, in any way, be entered into the computer as a digital file where it could later be discovered (even if deleted) or wind up in a backup file.

In my opinion, the strongly circumstantial evidence points to the rubber-stamp items being forged (with the genuine long-form birth certificate which came from Hawaii as their source).

OK, let me take a stab at how I think the forger created the paper version of the forgery that Savannah Guthrie saw.

First, the security paper. The Hawaiian birth certificates use a simple green basket-weave-patterned paper (which will reveal alteration by chemicals), readily available from commercial suppliers, similar to what you can see in Figure SSP:

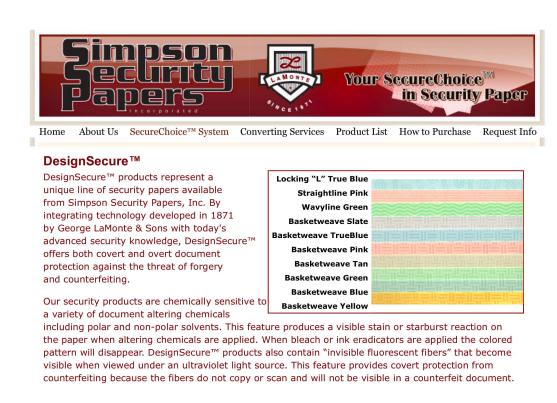


Figure SSP. Basket-weave security paper is readily available commercially.

Anybody can buy this stuff.

We already have good reason to believe that the "rubber-stamped" issue date and Alvin Onaka signature are part of the forgery image that was printed by laser printer onto the genuine security paper.

That leaves the embossed seal.

Now, I have never forged an embossed seal -- or anything else, for that matter. But from my knowledge of materials I can tell you what I would try -- and if that didn't work, I would have plenty of time to work out a method that does the job.

First, I would spray the area of the seal on the backside of a genuine Hawaiian birth certificate with a thin layer of plastic in a spray can (Plasti Dip®, widely available at hardware and auto-parts stores), to waterproof the paper. Then I would mix up a batch of the goop dentists use when making "rubber" molds of your teeth (alginate compound or equivalent) and, with the certificate face down, pour a puddle of it on top of the sprayed area. After a few minutes, when the goop had solidified, I would peel the certificate away from the goop and spray the goop with a thin layer of WD-40 or non-stick cooking spray. With the goop flat side down, I would pour epoxy onto it. After an hour or two the epoxy would be hard and the goop could be peeled away, leaving a one-sided die for embossing onto the forgery.

The resulting impression on the forgery wouldn't be good enough to survive forensic analysis, but it probably would be good enough to fool an NBC News reporter.

During the year that I have been analyzing and writing about Obama's long-form "birth certificate" I have drawn several conclusions with which I am satisfied, even if others don't agree with me. (And I have not been doing any of this research to please others or to make a political point; I have only been trying for my own satisfaction to solve this maddening, real-life mystery of Obama's origins and of what's being hidden that's on his real birth certificate.)

- 1. In "What Did Savannah Guthrie Really See?" I concluded that a classic "bait-and-switch" operation had taken place. The Hawaii Department of Health shipped two genuine certified copies of Obama's long-form birth certificate to Washington via Obama's lawyer, Judith Corley. The White House released images of the forgery to the press the following morning.
- 2. Only one reporter, Savannah Guthrie, was allowed to view and touch the paper version of the forgery on behalf of the entire press pool. Guthrie has a sharp legal mind but is no document expert. Fortunately she had the presence of mind to take a couple of pictures.
- 3. Hawaiian officials have never verified that the PDF image of the forgery released to the public is identical in appearance to the document they sent to Washington.
- 4. The short-form birth certificate ("Certification of Live Birth") image released by the Obama campaign in 2008 is of a genuine short-form birth certificate.
- 5. In "Secrets Revealed" (*American Thinker*, June 15, 2012) I compared the short-form birth certificate, the forgery, and the "Verification of Birth" sent by the Hawaii Department of Health to Arizona secretary of state Ken Bennett -- line by line -- and concluded that the certificate in Hawaii's possession "looked different" or contained more information than was released to the public. At that time I suspected that Obama's mother signed her maiden name to the birth certificate;

but I've never been really happy with that conclusion, because it seems like such a piddling item for risking the discovery of a forgery being foisted on the public.

To summarize: The short-form birth certificate is genuine, and all of the information on it and on the long-form forgery that was released to the public is true, but the genuine long-form image cannot be shown. What options are left?

There is only one: *Adoption*. Specifically, legal adoption by Obama's mother's second husband, Lolo Soetoro, in a way that caused the Hawaii birth record to be visually altered.

Is there any evidence that Lolo Soetoro legally adopted Obama after he and Ann Dunham (Obama) were married in Hawaii on March 24, 1965?

Yes, there is, though it is sketchy. (Adopted children don't usually go around telling people they're adopted, nor do parents typically advertise that their children are adopted -- though in mixed-race adoptions it's obvious.)

There is a Facebook posting made in 2011 by Maya Soetoro-Ng, Obama's half-sister, in response to a critic where she wrote in part, "When you said that my brother was a Muslim, I said no, that I was MISquoted as saying my whole family was Muslim, but that I was referring to my Indonesian family, not my brother. I did not say my brother was a Muslim... You mentioned the adoption laws of Indonesia that you saw as related to my brother's legitimacy (you were suggesting that *because my father*, *his stepfather*, *had adopted him*, that my brother was no longer American) and I said that I had no idea about Indonesian adoption law and what you were saying didn't make any sense to me but that the law that mattered was the law of this country [that is, U.S. law] and the fact that he was born in the United States." (Italics are mine.) It would seem that Maya thinks that Barry was adopted, believing it to be an Indonesian adoption.

Also relevant is young Barry's registration for the school term beginning in 1968 at Santo Fransiskus Asisi (St. Francis of Assisi Catholic) school in Indonesia, as shown in Figure SFA.

The translations for some of the line items are:

- 1. Name of the student Barry Soetoro
- 2. Place and date of birth Honolulu 4-8-61 [August 4, 1961, date in European format]
- 3. Nation: a, citizenship Indonesia b, foreign descent (left blank) c, race (left blank)
- 4. Religion Islam
- 5. Student's address Ment[eng] Dalam R007/R1003
- 7a. School term beginning date 1-1-1968
- 7b. Placed in class 2
- 8a. Parents' names: Father L. Soetoro M. A. Mother (left blank)

	ANGKA NILAE
203.	
Nama murid :	Barry Soutoro
Tempat dan tanggal lahir	: Honolulu 4.0.6
Bangsa: a. Warga negara	: Indonesia
b. Keturunan asing	(1-
c. Suku bangra	Islam.
Aganta Alamat murid	Ment Holem Poot/Ris ns
Dari sekolah mana (dipinda	hkan) dan kelas berapa: Toman Hanak floods asisis
a. Diterims disekolsh ini tg	1: 1-1-194
b. Ditempatkan dikelas	
a. Nama crang tua Alah Ibu	L. Soctore ma.
b. Pekerdjaan	(nama ibu disi, haya djika ajah sudah meninggal)
c. Alamat	ment Balan Alooj Roos
a. Nama wali	
	(hanja diisi, djika orang tha murid tak ada, sudah meninggal atau karena hal lain
b. Pekerdjaan	
e, Alamat	1
Meninggalkan sekolah ini	1
	A. Belum tautat. Keluar dari kelas tanggal Sebab Posselah
	Kemps
	B. Tunat, monorima idjazah tanggal No. No.
	C. Melandjutkan sekolah ke

Figure SFA. 1968 Indonesian school registration for Barry Soetoro. (Associated Press photo by Tatan Syuflana.)

Indonesian citizenship (which comes through the father under Indonesian law) would be conferred to Barry by legal adoption.

Chapter 2 of ghostwriter Bill Ayers' eloquent composite biography of Obama, *Dreams From My Father*, covers Obama's time spent in Indonesia.

On Page 38 we read, "So it was to Lolo that I turned for guidance and instructions. He didn't talk much, but he was easy to be with. With his family and friends he introduced

me as his son, but he never pressed things beyond matter-of-fact advice or pretended that our relationship was more than it was. I appreciated this distance; it implied a manly trust." (Italics are mine.)

And on Page 41 we find, "My mother watched us from inside the house... She really was grateful for Lolo's solicitude toward me. *He wouldn't have treated his own son very differently*. She knew that she was lucky for Lolo's basic kindness." (Again, italics are mine.)

Dreams From My Father is revealing not just in what it says, but in what it omits. Nowhere in Chapter 2 is there a reference to Lolo Soetoro as "father", "stepfather", "adopted father" or any reference at all to his formal/legal relationship to young Barry. He appears as just "Lolo", with an apparent unwillingness on Barry's part to shed the Kenyan figment of a father in favor of a man who clearly was reaching out to be a real father to him.

Finally, we have Stanley Ann Soetoro's 1968 application to extend her 1965 passport (now destroyed) for an additional two years, as shown in Figure PPA.

On the second page of the application, Ann moved to exclude her son Barack Hussein Obama (Soebarkah) from her passport, but the item has been crossed out -- perhaps on the advice of the consulate in Jakarta, as this would have left seven-year-old Barry passportless -- so it didn't happen.

The appendage "(Soebarkah)" has never been satisfactorily explained by anyone, and I certainly don't know what "Soebarkah" means, but it does seem to indicate a name change or change in citizenship status for the boy.

If, as I think is likely, Barry was legally adopted by Lolo Soetoro, was the adoption in Indonesia or Hawaii? Most observers (like half-sister Maya) have assumed that it would have been in Indonesia, but if we look at the timelines and circumstances of the Soetoro family's piecemeal return/emigration to Indonesia, we see that a timely Indonesian adoption would be very unlikely, while there was ample time for the parents to put in place a Hawaiian adoption before settling in Indonesia.

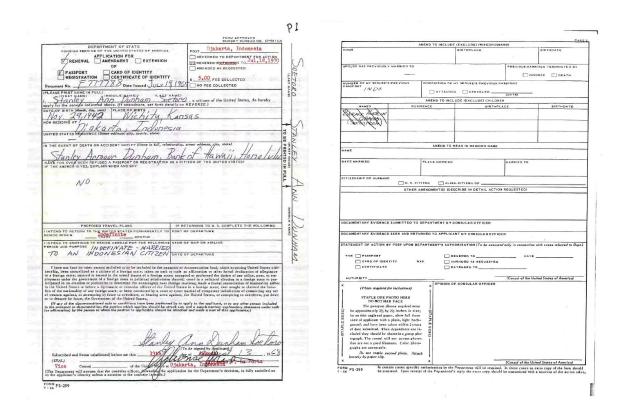


Figure PPA. Ann Soetoro's 1968 application to extend her 1965 passport.

Stanley Ann (Dunham) Obama and Lolo Soetoro were married in Molokai on March 24, 1965, while they were both still graduate students at the University of Hawaii. Lolo was in the U.S. on a student visa scheduled to expire in June 1965. But because Indonesia was in turmoil following a failed military coup in September 1965 which resulted in the purging and killing of communists in 1965-66, Lolo stayed in Hawaii for as long as he could, until the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service forced his return to Indonesia in July 1966. On his return to Indonesia Lolo worked for the government, mapping western New Guinea.

Finally, in 1967 it was safe for Americans to go to Indonesia, so Ann Soetoro emigrated there in October 1967, with Barry in tow, to join her husband Lolo, where they lived in a district of south Jakarta. Barry was enrolled as an Indonesian citizen for school beginning in 1968, as we have seen; Indonesian citizenship was a requirement for students attending Indonesian state-supported schools.

Under Indonesian law of the time, if Lolo adopted Barry before he turned age 5 (that is, before August 4, 1966), Barry would automatically become an Indonesian citizen, subject to the approval of the Pengadilan Negeri (district court) for the district of the father's residence. A Hawaiian adoption of a U.S.-citizen child by a foreign-nationality father would pose no U.S. legal problems, and it would be recognized in Indonesia under international treaty. (Under U.S. law, Barry would hold triple citizenship -- U.S., Indonesian, and Kenyan.) And since the parents knew they would eventually be living in Indonesia, it would make sense for Lolo to adopt Barry in Hawaii, and take advantage of

the automatic Indonesian citizenship for the child, as part of the preparations for emigration and Barry's schooling there.

If Lolo had adopted Barry in Indonesia, he would then be adopting a six-year-old foreign-born child under Indonesian law, in less than four months' time, so Barry could go to school at the beginning of January 1968. Unlikely.

In 1965 and 1966 the only kind of Hawaiian adoption available for young children was a sealed adoption, where the pre-adoption birth certificate of the adopted child is sealed under court order, and a new birth certificate is issued showing the adopting parent(s) as the birth parent(s). In his affidavit Mike Zullo notes, "We later learned that Hawaiian law permits amendment of a birth certificate and the creation of a document file containing the sealed record of the original document and supporting documentation that authorized a change to the information contained in the original document. We also learned that an amended certificate would be distinctly marked alerting to the fact it was altered." (Today, most adoptions can be "unsealed" and the pre-adoptive birth information restored to the vital records, but this does not "undo" an adoption -- nor a change of surname, if there was one.)

Whatever that "distinctly marked" alteration to Obama's hospital-generated birth certificate is, it must be obvious enough that, if shown to the public, people would see that Barry had been adopted.

Do we have any concrete evidence that Lolo adopted Barry in Hawaii?

Yes, we do.

First is the forgery itself -- it was released in lieu of a genuine long-form birth certificate so the public would not know that Lolo Soetoro had adopted Obama (as would be evidenced by the amending of his hospital-generated birth information).

Second, we have a myriad collection of official statements by various Hawaii officials.

In the English language there are (at least) two different meanings of the word "original" when referring to documents. It can mean "master", rather than a copy or facsimile; or it can mean "first version", rather than revised or subsequent versions.

The section of Hawaiian state law (578-14) which covers birth certificates being issued as part of the adoption process refers to the pre-adoption birth certificate as "original" and the post-adoption birth certificate as "new". So when bureaucrats who are following the law refer to an "original" birth certificate, they most certainly mean the master, but they could also be using the legal meaning, the certificate generated at time of birth, before it was amended by adoption of the child.

In this light let's take another look at some of those carefully-worded statements by Hawaii state officials:



Figure FDF. Dr. Chiyome Fukino, former Director, Hawaii Department of Health.

Former Hawaii Department of Health Director Dr. Chiyome Fukino on October 31, 2008: "I as Director of Health for the State of Hawai'i, along with the Registrar of Vital Statistics who has statutory authority to oversee and maintain these type of vital records, have personally seen and verified that the Hawai'i State Department of Health has Sen. Obama's *original* birth certificate on record in accordance with state policies and procedures."

Again, on July 27, 2009: Fukino indicated she had "seen the *original* vital records maintained on file by the Hawai'i State Department of Health verifying Barack Hussein Obama was born in Hawai'i and is a natural-born American." (One can disagree on legal grounds with the additional qualifier of natural-born, but her statement does identify Obama as native-born.)

On April 11, 2011, following a telephone interview with Dr. Fukino, NBC News reporter Michael Isikoff wrote, "the *original* so-called 'long form' birth certificate -- described by Hawaiian officials as a 'record of live birth' -- absolutely exists, located in a bound volume in a file cabinet on the first floor of the state Department of Health. Fukino said she has personally inspected it -- twice. The first time was in late October 2008 -- taking with her the state official in charge of vital records. She found the *original* birth record, properly numbered, half typed and half handwritten, and signed by the doctor who delivered Obama, located in the files. She then put out a public statement asserting to the

document's validity. She later put out another public statement in July 2009 - after reviewing the *original* birth record a second time."

On April 22, 2011, President Obama wrote to current Director of the Hawaii Department of Health Loretta J. Fuddy, "I am writing to request two certified copies of my *original* certificate of live birth."

On April 25, 2011, Fuddy wrote to the president, "Enclosed, please find two copies of your *original* Certificate of Live Birth. I have witnessed the copying of the certificate and attest to the authenticity of these copies."

Finally, we have State Registrar Alvin T. Onaka's (rubber-stamped) Verification of Birth letter to Ken Bennett of May 22, 2012 in which Onaka writes, "Additionally, I verify that the information in the copy of the Certificate of Live Birth for Mr. Obama that you attached with your request [that is, a printout of the PDF forgery] matches the *original* record in our files."

(Italicized emphasis of the word "original" in all of these statements is mine.)

So you see, these folks have been telling the truth all along. Moreover, they are adhering to state law by *not* indicating that an adoption had taken place, because they are not authorized to release that information.

Was there anybody else telling the truth? Oh, yes -- President Obama on the morning of April 27, before the release of the PDF: "As many of you have been briefed, we provided additional information today about the site of my birth. Now, this issue has been going on for two, two and a half years now. I think it started during the campaign. And I have to say that over the last two and a half years I have watched with bemusement, I've been puzzled at the degree to which this thing just kept on going. We've had every official in Hawaii, Democrat and Republican, every news outlet that has investigated this, confirm that, yes, in fact, I was born in Hawaii, August 4, 1961, in Kapiolani Hospital. We've posted the certification [short-form birth certificate] that is given by the state of Hawaii on the Internet for everybody to see. People have provided affidavits that they, in fact, have seen this birth certificate. And yet this thing just keeps on going." (The rest of his comments were political talking points.)

"We provided additional information today about the site of my birth" -- yes, he did. The information is truthful, but it was revealed via a forged document.

Just when Barry reverted from using the surname Soetoro back to the surname Obama is not clear. It was sometime after his return to Hawaii in the summer or fall of 1971, alone as a ten-year-old boy with his own U.S. passport. He graduated from Punahou School in 1979 as "Barry Obama", as you can see from his senior-yearbook photos shown in Figure SYP.

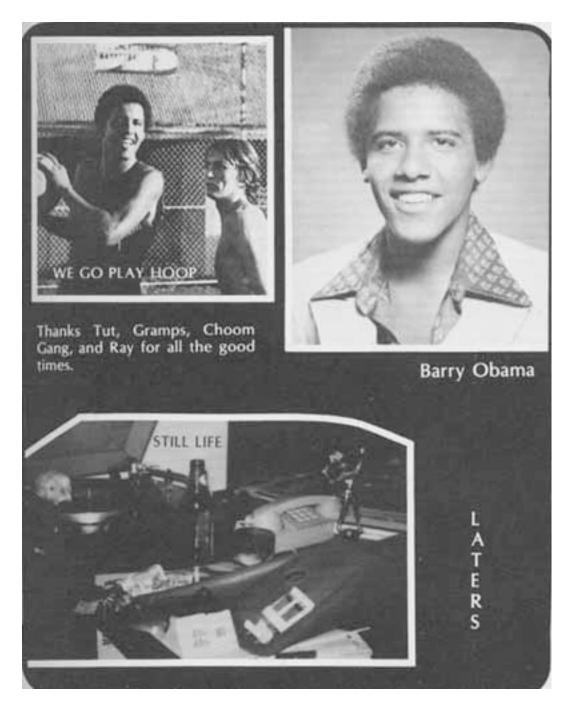


Figure SYP. Barry Obama photos from Punahou School 1979 yearbook.

The libertarian streak in me says that you, I and Obama are all entitled to use whatever names we please to identify ourselves -- though we usually retain the names given to us by our parents. It is not the government's role to tell us what our names are, something so central to our identities; otherwise we would be slaves of government, rather than the government being our servant. But for legal purposes there does need to be a recognized, "official" name in our dealings with other people.

If Barack Obama still legally carries the surname Soetoro (as I suspect), or did for a good portion of his teenage and young adult life, that might go a long way toward explaining why his college transcripts, passport records, genuine draft card, complete medical records and other documents which require a legal name for issuance have never been made public.

We can now say beyond all doubt that Barack Obama (Soetoro) was born in Hololulu on August 4, 1961, and is a native-born U.S. citizen. All "official" evidence prior to the release of the long-form "birth certificate" forgery told us this -- his short-form birth certificate, statements by Hawaii officials, the contemporaneous birth announcements in the Hawaii newspapers, his (birth) father's correspondence and dealings with the Immigration and Naturalization service, Obama/Soetoro's registration form for Fransiskus Asisi school. Now we have the "birth certificate" forgery itself to seal the deal, because by knowing what *was* being hidden with the release of the forgery -- his legal adoption -- we know what was *not* being hidden -- his place and date of birth.

Hail to the Chief, President Barack Soctoro!

About the author: Nick Chase is a retired but still very active technical writer, technical editor, computer programmer and stock market newsletter writer. During his career he has produced documentation on computers, typewriters, typesetters, headline-makers and other pieces of equipment most people never heard of, and he has programmed typesetting equipment. You can read more of his work on the *American Thinker* website and at contrariansview.org.