

Ohta

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Frazier Enters Plea Thursday

By CLIFF JOHNSON
Sentinel Staff Writer

John Linley Frazier, 24, accused slayer of five, will appear Thursday in Superior Court to enter a plea.

The defense has had the transcripts of the Grand Jury proceedings which ended in Frazier's indictment for nearly a week, according to an informed source.

Details concerning the testimony, as well as all other aspects of the case, are not public, because of a ruling by Superior Court Judge Charles Franich.

When Franich handed down the gag rule, he told the court it was due largely to "at least two instances (in which) the press has disseminated information which is incorrect and prejudicial to the case."

Franich Tuesday refused to elaborate on his original pronouncement.

"I can say no more," he said, and grinned. "After all, it's my order. I of all people can't go around making comments."

Frazier is accused of the Oct. 19 execution-style slayings of Dr. and Mrs. Victor M. Ohta, their sons Taggart and Derrick, and Dr. Ohta's secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Cadwallader.

The five were found bound with silk scarves in the swimming pool of the Ohta's \$250,000 home while Soquel firemen and other area departments battled a set fire.

All except Dr. Ohta had been shot once in the neck with a .22. The doctor was shot twice in the back and once under the arm with a .38.

When Soquel firemen arrived at the scene at about 8:10 p.m., they found the drive blocked by Mrs. Cadwallader's Lincoln Continental. It was parked across the drive, the doors locked and the brake set. Firemen smashed a side window to enter and move the car.

Dr. Ohta's Rolls Royce was found similarly blocking a rear access road, although that road was seldom used.

Live Oak Fire Chief Dick Pound, on hand to assist the Soquel Fire Department, discovered the bodies in the pool.

Hours of investigation followed, using all available police agencies, and on Oct. 21, armed with a name given by informants, a manhunt began. On Oct. 23, in a shack off Cornwall Road in Soquel, sheriff's deputies arrested Frazier.

A Grand Jury indictment followed on Oct. 28, and Frazier first appeared in Judge Franich's courtroom Oct. 29.