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A Correction to Bosak's "Photographs of the Owens Valley Paiute"

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Early photographic collections of Native Americans have for many years provided rich insight into their distinctive but disappearing material culture. Jon Bosak's recent article (1975) on Andrew A. Forbes and his photographs is a welcomed addition to the field of Great Basin ethnological research and provides much valuable information on the Owens Valley Paiute and the man who photographed them in the early years of this century. There is, however, a minor error that should be brought to the readers' attention.

Figure 5 of Bosak's article (p. 45) is a portrait of a man identified as "Capt. Dave Numana — Chief of the Paiutes." This is in fact a photograph of Captain Dave *Numana* of Pyramid Lake, Nevada, and is the sole instance known to me where his name appears as "Numana." It seems apparent that Forbes erred in his spelling of the name.

There is no doubt that the photograph in question is of Captain Dave Numana, as several others exist in published literature (Angel 1881: facing p. 144; Hermann 1972: 156, 164; Harner 1974: 54, 85). These all identify Dave Numana as a Paiute of Pyramid Lake, rather than of Owens Valley.

In the early part of this century, Dave Numana was among the few Northern Paiutes

widely known by the whites. Biographies and other data on him appear in a variety of sources, including Hopkins (1883: 96-98), Hermann (1972: 155-165), Harner (1974: 107-108), and Wihr (1974: 45-49). From these sources, it appears that Dave Numana was born near Unionville, Nevada, near the Humboldt River in 1828. He was a grandson of Captain Truckee of Truckee River fame, and his mother was a Shoshone. In 1871, he was given the chieftainship of the Kuyuidokata Paiute band at Pyramid Lake by the aging war chief Numaga. In 1879, he was chosen in council to succeed Poito, better known as Old Winnemucca, "Chief of all the Paiutes." In 1888, he journeyed to Washington, D.C., where he was commissioned to head the Pyramid Lake Indian Police, a position he held until his death in 1919 near Burns, Oregon. He is buried in the cemetery at Nixon, Nevada.

Hermann (1972: 163) has this to say of Captain Dave Numana's medals which are clearly seen in Forbes' photograph:

Whenever Numana was asked his name, he usually displayed a large medal [on the left in Forbes' photograph]. His obituary quotes its inscription: "From the United States Indian Department, Presented to Captain Dave Numana in recognition of his meritorious services as a peace officer. W.D.C. Gibson, Indian Agent, 1888. Grover Cleveland, President, U.S.A." . . . He also received a badge [on the right in the photograph], which he wore at all times, and it reads: "Captain Dave Numana, Chief of Police U.S.A."

Dave Numana was born in Kupadokata territory (the lower Humboldt River and the Humboldt Sink), spent most of his life in

Kuyuidokata territory (Pyramid and Winnemucca Lakes), and died in Wadadokata territory (eastern Oregon), but was never known to have resided for any length of time in the Owens Valley. He may, however, have visited Owens Valley in the capacity of Indian policeman, or as a prominent Indian leader, and it may have been during one of these visits that Forbes photographed him there.

This minor point in no way detracts from the overall value of Mr. Bosak's article, and future publication of American Indian photographs would indeed be a welcomed addition to our knowledge of their lifeways.

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Comment on Wallace's Review of Gerow's "Co-Traditions and Convergent Trends in Prehistoric California"

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William J. Wallace's brief review in the preceding issue of this journal calls for comment. Several statements are questionable representations of the position set forth in the monograph under review:

1. "What emerges from the discussion is a hypothesis of initial heterogeneity in the two regions followed by a trend toward more homogeneity."

2. "... biological variability between the lower Sacramento Valley and Southern Coast peoples, as reflected in measurements and indices, is seen as being greater at an earlier date than in later times."

3. "The entry and expansion of Penutian speakers is suggested as a possible explanation for hybridization in the Delta."

4. "A comparison of selected material items and burial practices leads to the parallel conclusion that in the two regions the cultural diversification was greater and more fundamental on an earlier time level."

Statements 1, 2, and 4 may lead incorrectly to the conclusion that the study under review posits that Windmiller type assemblages in the Delta region and Early Island assemblages on Santa Cruz Island were characterized by greater somatic and cultural heterogeneity or variability some three to four thousand years ago than that exhibited by their respective successors in later times. Such terms or phrases as heterogeneity, homogeneity, biological variability and cultural diversification are those of the reviewer. What is actually stated several