

*The Jomon Connection*

In Figure 3, the Mongols still remain remote from the rest of mainland East Asia, but the Yayoi jump over and tie with them. This may tell us something about the composition of the population on the Korean peninsula from which the Yayoi farmers were derived before they crossed the Korea Strait to colonize southwestern Japan in  $\pm 300$  B.C.E. One of the more surprising things shown in Figure 3, however, is the tie between the prehistoric people of Japan plus the modern Ainu not only with the people of Remote Oceania but also with the populations all the way across the US-Canada border and from the Northwest Coast right down to the tip of South America. Although we do not show it in the dendrogram represented here, we have done other runs with a lot of other groups thrown at each other, and one set that fits in is from the San Francisco Bay area and adjacent parts of northern California. These tie nicely to the Haida in the north and the miscellaneous specimens we have called Argentina in Figure 3. The two specimens we have from Baja California also fit into this group.

It is our guess that what we can see in the recent inhabitants of the areas represented are the descendants of the terminal- and immediately Post-Pleistocene marine-resource-utilizing people who spread from Early Jomon Japan starting maybe as much as 12,000 years ago. Since their adaptation was geared to the sophisticated exploitation of the products of the sea, there was relatively little direct competition with the preceding hunters of the New World who had initially made use of the available megafauna as their subsistence base. There would have been virtually no opposition to a spread along the west coast of the entire hemisphere right down to its southern end by a canoe-using seafood-exploiting people, and the entire western shore of the continent could have been traversed and intermittently occupied in leisurely fashion in only a few millennia or so.

At the same time, the region of swamps, streams, and lakes left by the melting glaciers across the continent from west to east but north of the game-supporting plains