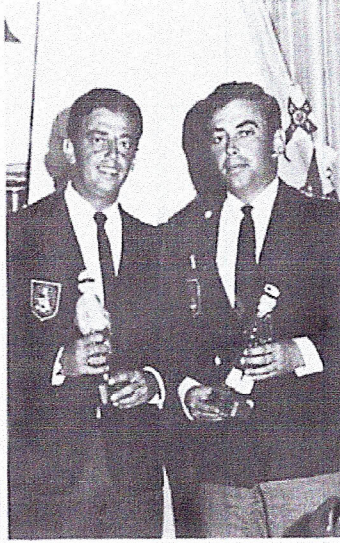


Japan Won Western Hemisphere Championship Title

New Brazilian Brother Team Takes Second — Argentina in 3rd Place



THE CHAMPIONS - Takao Ninomiya proudly holds the Hayward Trophy high after it is handed over by Horacio Campi, General Secretary of the Western Hemisphere. Crew Hideo Kawamura holds other awards.



THE RUNNERS-UP - Skipper Edgard Hasselmann and his brother Robinson of Brasilia, Brasil, hold carved wooden prizes.



THIRD PLACE WINNERS - Skipper Luis Orella and his crew Manuel de la Oren of Buenos Aires, Argentina receive their memento prizes from Bud Hook, National Secretary of the United States.

For the first time, Japan headlines the BULLETIN, and the occasion is none other than winning one of the Big Three titles in international Snipe competition - the Western Hemisphere Championship title.

Naturally, the first question is: How come? Well, for two reasons: (1) Japan has sailed in World Championship Regattas for several years, but did not quite fit in geographically with either the European or Western Hemisphere events. So, in 1959 at the WC in Porto Alegre, they requested permission (since there was no organized competition in the Far East), to be considered as a WH country as it was more convenient to make such trips. Permission granted, they entered the 1960 WH Regatta at Buenos Aires and added spice to their inaugural by taking 3rd place.

(2) Their boys have learned how to sail Snipes! From a slow start; isolated from good boats and sails which the rest of the world had; with natural light weight teams; the Japanese have developed expert sailors over the years equipped with their own fine sails (made by O'Hara), and the Japanese Yachting Association sent over 2 of their best teams to represent them. Young men in their early 20s, they know what and how to do it.

24-year old Takao Ninomiya and crew Hideo Kawamura convinced everyone that they could take it when they sailed a 2-1-4-2-6-3 series for 31.4 points after dropping their worst race (8). That was 11.7 points difference between the 2nd place winners, Edgard and Robinson Hasselmann, another brother team from Brasil, who sailed 4-7-1-3-8-2 and dropped a 10th. (By the way, how does Brasil manage to pop up with so many brother teams. We have had the famous Schmidt twins, the Conrads, and Piccolos — now they send 2 teams to this race — the brothers Hasselmann and brothers Pontes! And they are always good, but will it ever end?) Luis Orella of Argentina sailed a fine series, but with a DNF in the 2nd race, his 14th spot in the 6th definitely shoved him down from the top in spite of winning the last race.

A little contest between Brasil (Pontes), the 2 Bahamas teams (Kelly and Siegenthaler), and the U.S. (Elms) developed in the last race for the next places, but when Elms ran into trouble around a mark (DNF) and Siegenthaler took the 10th spot, Pontes and Kelly with 54.7 and 57 finished for 4th and 5th.

This 10th WH Regatta (a biennial event) was organized by the U.S. Snipers with the Florida Yacht Club of Jacksonville as the host club, and a series of 7 races was scheduled from Oct.

20-25. Each country is allowed 2 teams, so 19 champions represented 11 nations, the largest one to assemble. Ralph Conrad of Brasil could not defend his title due to Olympic participation.

20 new fiberglass hulls built by Eugene Lemke Engineering & Boat Co., of Indianapolis and identically equipped, were furnished by the U.S. hosts, so drawings for boats between races were not necessary as all were equal from the start. Each contestant had to furnish his own sails.

Modified Olympic courses were sailed on the St. Johns River in front of the club on the outskirts of the city. Running north from central Florida to the ocean, the river is as much as 4 miles wide with plenty of room to lay out good courses. The water is brackish, but with not much current or tide, but it did contain large patches of "weeds" or floating haycynth beds which had been torn loose by recent heavy rains and flood waters. A natural hazard for all.

Winds were light to moderate from Monday to Friday, with the heaviest weather during the Sunday tune-up races (won by Elms) and the Secretaries' Swan Song event Friday afternoon (won by Horacio Campi) when winds were from 20-28 mph for both events. With Hurricane Gladys passing through Friday night, weather was unpredictable, and winds were lighter than desired, shifting day after day from east to west and back again similar to lake sailing with no large waves or heavy slop.

1st RACE - Since the usual pattern is for winds to come up about 11 A. M., it was decided to run 2 races each day back-to-back, with lunch boxes provided for intermissions. So, on Monday, the initial race got away in 12-15 mph winds. In the lead, the 2 Bahamas boats went off to port; Elms down the middle; and Brasil (Hasselmann) in to shore on starboard. At the reaching mark, only Hasselmann was visible behind Orella (Argentina) and Garcia (Uruguay). Kelly and Elms were 10 and 11. At the 2nd ww, Kelly had moved up to 3rd and Elms 7th. This order held until Garcia passed Orella on the home beat. Kelly took a DNF as Elms replaced him in 3rd, followed by Hasselmann and Miguel Casellas of Puerto Rico.

2nd RACE - Shortly after, in diminishing winds of 8-10 mph. This was all Kelly as he got on the right track to lead all the way around. Japan (Ninomiya) and Elms chased him all the way, but as winds went up to 14, Kelly showed increasing open water. At the finish, it was Ninomiya in 2nd, Warfield (U.S.) 3rd (he



THE OPENING CEREMONY was held Sunday evening around the dance floor on the waterfront lawn in front of the clubhouse to the strains of martial music from a navy band. National flags were held by decorative Luffmates in front of the entrants as they were introduced under the flag pole dressed with appropriate flags and burgees.

moved up from 8 in 2 legs); Canada (Richards) 4th, and Dates (Argentina) 5th. Orella took a DNF here.

3rd RACE - Tuesday: Winds continue to lighten, 5-8 and very shifty. Japan now demonstrated her strength by taking the lead over Siegenthaler (Bahamas) by 38 seconds at the first ww mark and held it all around the course as both boats ran away from the rest of the fleet. At the 2nd ww mark, Siegenthaler in turn was 60 seconds ahead of Orella, Elms, and Kelly. The race ended in that order.

4th RACE - Still light 5-6, but increasing to 8-18 before the finish. This was Brasil - Japan Day! Good start with Elms leading one group to land on starboard; all others to port, except 4 Japanese and Brasil boats down the middle - and they were smart! At the reaching mark, it was Hasselmann, Tada (2nd Japanese boat), Pontes, Ninomiya, and Orella. At the 2nd ww, the order remained, and Elms had worked up to 10th. The fleet was strung out for the entire length of the run, and at the finish the only change was Puerto Rico replacing Orella for 5th.

5th RACE - Wednesday: The only one scheduled and started late in the P.M. in very shifty 8-10 mph winds. This looked like Bahamas - Brazil Day, for Kelly, Hasselmann, Siegenthaler, and Pontes led the way around the triangle while Ninomiya was way back in 14th after his worst start of the series. But on the 4th and ww leg, things started to change as he turned on the gas. Pontes tacked his way into the lead; Elms dropped from 6th to 12th; Ninomiya tacked clear up to 3rd behind Kelly. Pontes held his nice lead to finish 1st; Japan, still on the move, 2nd; Hasselmann 3rd, followed by Orella and Kelly.

At this point, Ninomiya and Hasselmann were the only ones without a bad race or sure throw-out, and odds were all for Japan taking the series. Hasselmann had a shot at the title, but would have to sail two near-perfect races while Ninomiya fell away from his week's form. While rough weather on Thursday could be a very large and deciding factor, it still didn't figure to happen. Orella, Kelly, Elms, and Pontes followed in overall standings with all positions up for grabs. Again, anything could happen in the last 2 races to upset.

6th RACE - Thursday: Delayed by lack of wind, finally started late in 6-8 breezes. Tada, Kelly, and Ninomiya led around the triangle, but on the 2nd ww a flat calm preceding a thunderstorm descended. After much rain, lightning, low visibility, clearing showed a change in the spread-out fleet formation with Siegenthaler now in 1st; Pontes 2nd; Elms 3rd; then Richards and Kelly on the finish line. Elms and Kelly

thus improved their positions overall for they beat Ninomiya in 6th, and he was still ahead of Hasselmann in 8th place. Due to the lateness of the hour and little wind in the aftermath of the storm, the 7th and final race was carried over to Friday morning, the make-up day. This 6th race was protested due to changing of a mark plus storm conditions, but the protest was eventually disallowed.

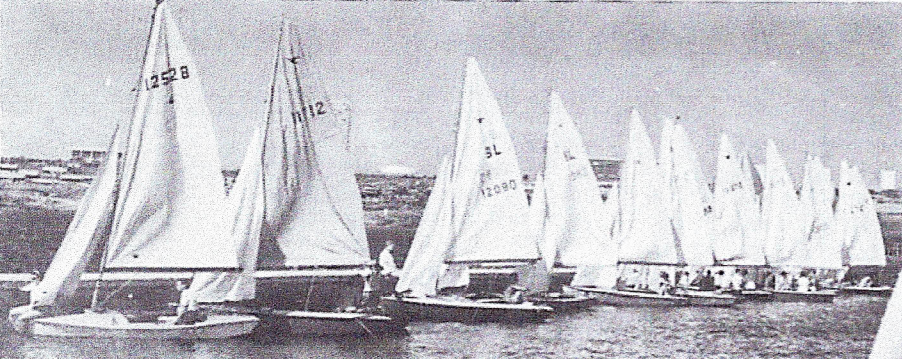
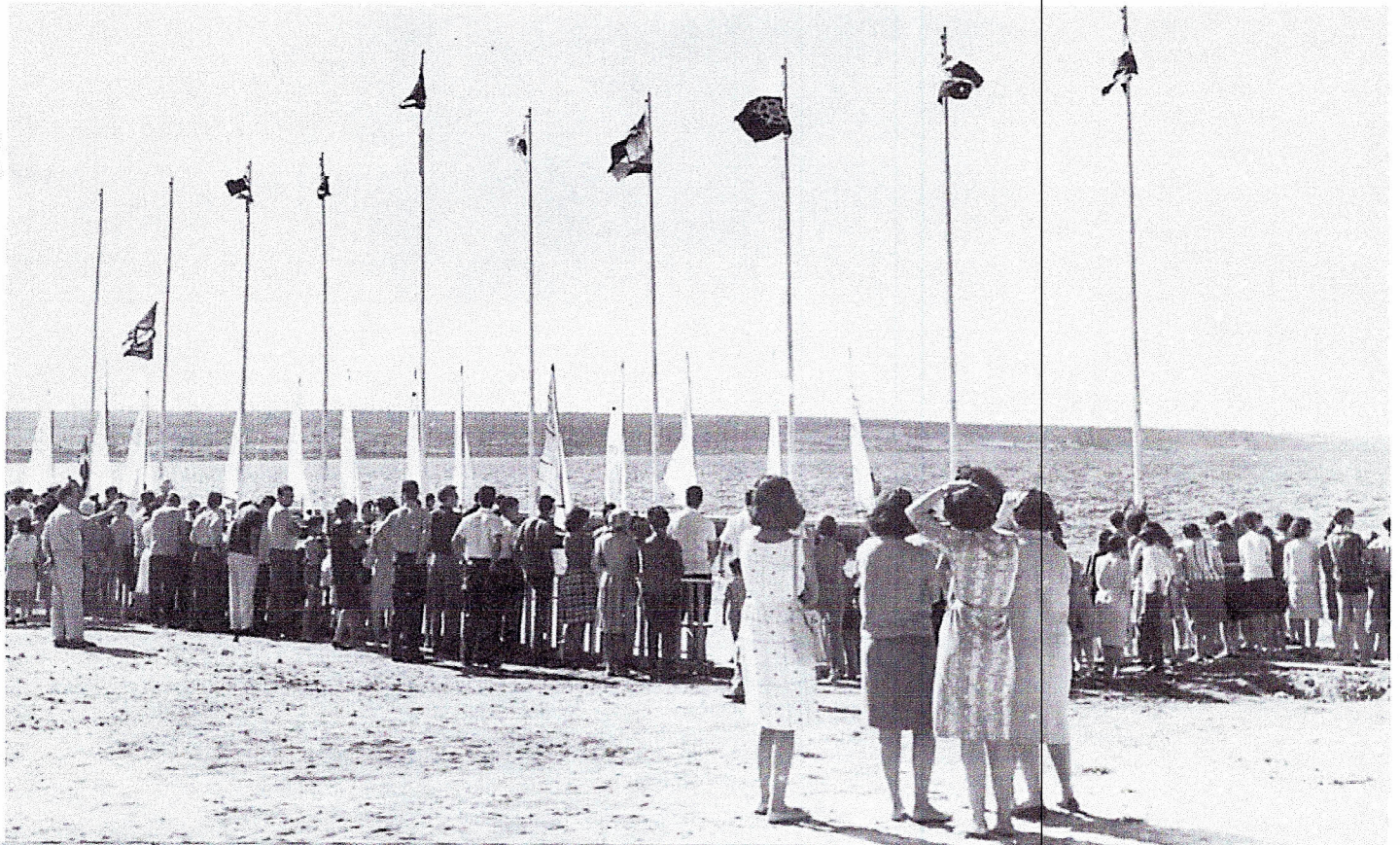
7th RACE - Friday A.M. This became the crucial race, for standings now were Japan 25.7, Hasselmann and Pontes 30.7 each, Elms 46.1, and Kelly 47. Japan had to stick close to the Brazilians, Winds were the best of the week, up to 12-16 and fairly steady as they increased. All got good starts, especially Orella who took the lead and held it to the finish by a large margin. Ninomiya was way back, in 8th at the triangle, while Dates was 2nd and Kelly 3rd. At the start of the run, Ninomiya had moved up to 5th and in the last beat, moved on up to 3rd, finishing right behind Hasselmann, who had sailed a nice 2nd. Again, Ninomiya had pulled his chestnuts out of the fire with a brilliant performance. Kelly was pushed back to 5th place by Poulsen (Canada), while Elms took a DNF.

Thus Japan gained a well-deserved victory with a record of consistent comebacks after bad starts. The two Brazilian teams did as expected, putting up their characteristic hard fight for the top, and Orella of Argentina just missed higher rating when he got a 14th spot in the 6th race which he could not discard due to an early DNF. It is interesting to note that no one won more than one first place - 7 races, 7 winners.

Trophies and honors were awarded Friday night. The Florida YC with Billy McQuaid general chairman, spared nothing in its efforts to make this a memorable week of racing and the farewell occasion one never to be forgotten by those who had travelled so far and experienced famed Southern Hospitality at its best. U.S. Snipers will be extremely grateful to these fine hosts for the interest, friendship, and generosity given so freely.

Final Results - 12th WESTERN HEMISPHERE CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA - Jacksonville, Florida - Oct. 20-25, 1968.

BOAT	COUNTRY	SKIPPER	CREW	RACES:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts. 6-of-7	Fin.	
J-17293	Japan	Takao Ninomiya	Hideo Kawamura	M	2	1	4	2	6	3		45.4	31.4	1
BR-14002	Brazil	Edgard Hasselmann	Robinson Hasselmann	2	7	16	1	5	8	2		59.7	43.7	2
A-15378	Argentina	Luis Orella	Manuel De La Orden	1	DNF	3	6	1	14	1		73.4	48.4	3
BR-15235	Brazil	Cristiano Pontes	Jose Pontes	10	10	11	3	1	2	8		87.1	51.7	4
BA-16488	Bahamas	Basil Kelly	Pedro Wassitsch	DNF	1	5	8	5	7	5		82	37	5
US-17471	United States	Earl Elms	Jon Wegand	3	6	4	10	9	3	DNF		87.1	61.1	6
BA-13159	Bahamas	Pierre Siegenthaler	Collin Callender	13	9	2	16	6	1	10		86.7	64.7	7
A-15386	Argentina	Pedro Dates	Fernando De Aldecoa	12	5	7	7	10	5	6		91.7	73.7	8
US-16617	United States	Jin Warfield	Carl Willmott	6	3	8	15	11	11	7		97.4	78.4	9
EC-10547	Canada	Howard Richards	Peter Baillic	11	4	9	15	14	4	9		104	83	10
J-17280	Japan	Hiroshi Tada	Shigeru Esaka	7	12	DNF	2	13	9	11		110	85	11
PR-15960	Puerto Rico	Miguel Casellas	Jaimo Otero	5	DNF	13	5	7	10	12		111	86	12
U-14777	Uruguay	Horacio Garcia	Federico Latourrette	1	DNF	12	9	8	15	15		114	89	13
EC-13479	Canada	Bent Poulsen	Edward Crook	14	11	6	12	16	13	4		114.7	93.7	14
KR-10507	Barbuda	Richard Todd	James Anos	9	14	14	14	12	16	13		134	112	15
V-16828	Venezuela	Dr. Victor Tuesta	Dr. Terry Tiers	15	8	15	DNF	DNF	12	14		144	119	16
U-12707	Uruguay	Ricardo Migonone	Rodolfo Hernandez	16	13	16	11	DNF	17	DNF		155	128	17
CB-15505	Colombia	Daniel Moreno	Mario Fallace	17	DNF	17	17	16	19	17		166	139	18
CB-17312	Colombia	Lorenzo Dezascale	Pat Collins	DNF	DNF	18	18	DNF	18	16		169	144	19



XV BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP —

(Left) Snipes lined up at Iate Clube de Brasilia's Marina as fleet flags were raised in front of them during the opening ceremony. (Below) Races were held on Lake Brasilia. In the background: Palacio do Planalta (left) and the Congress Office Building (right). Note modernistic saucer and dome buildings where governing bodies meet.

— All photos by Stuckert

