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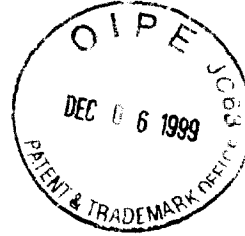
To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Hiroshi OOKI
Yuji KADOMATSU
Katsumi OGINO

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

NIKON CORPORATION
2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN



3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other: _____

Execution Date(s): **November 8, 1999, November 11, 1999, and November 15, 1999**

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

This document is being filed together with a new application:

(a) The execution date(s) of the application is/are: _____
(b) The title is: _____
*** OR

This document is being filed after filing of the application:

(a) Patent Application No(s). **09/375,385**, filed **August 17, 1999** or
(b) Patent No(s). _____, issued _____.

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
Attention: David M. Pitcher
700 Eleventh Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20001

Our Docket: 1445.1001DMP

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... \$ 40.00

Enclosed
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account.

8. Deposit Account No.: 19-3935 (Any underpayment is authorized to be charged to the Deposit Account)
(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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PATENT

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

David M. Pitcher, Reg. No. 25,908
Name of Person Signing

David M. Pitcher
Signature

December 6, 1999
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

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U.S. ASSIGNMENT

S&H 8/94

IN CONSIDERATION of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and of other good and valuable consideration paid to the undersigned inventor(s) (hereinafter, "ASSIGNOR") by

(Insert Name(s) & Address(es) of ASSIGNEE(S))

Nikon Corporation

2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan

(hereinafter, "ASSIGNEE"), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the undersigned ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE the entire and exclusive right, title and interest to the invention entitled

(Title of Invention)

MICROSCOPE

relating to International Patent Application PCT/JP / and/or for which application for Letters Patent of the United States was executed on even date herewith or, if not so executed, was:

(a) executed on _____;

(Insert date of execution of application, if not concurrent)

(b) filed on August 17, 1999
Serial No 097 375,385

Any registered attorney of STAAS & HALSEY, 700 Eleventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 (202/434-1500) is hereby authorized to insert in (b) the specified data, when known.

and to said application and all Letters Patent(s) of the United States granted on said application and any continuation, division, renewal, substitute, reissue or reexamination application based thereon, for the full term or terms for which the said Letters Patent(s) may be granted and including any extensions thereof (collectively, hereinafter, "said application(s) and Letters Patent(s)").

The ASSIGNOR agree(s), when requested by said ASSIGNEE and without charge to but at the expense of said ASSIGNEE, to do all acts which the ASSIGNEE may deem necessary, desirable or expedient, for securing, maintaining and enforcing protection for said invention, including in the preparation and prosecution of said application(s) and the issuance of said Letters Patent(s), in any interference, reissue, reexamination, or public use proceeding, and in any litigation or other legal proceeding which may arise or be declared in relation to same, such acts to include but not be limited to executing all papers, including separate assignments and declarations, taking all rightful oaths, providing sworn testimony, and obtaining and producing evidence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned inventor(s) has (have) affixed his/her/their signature(s).

(Typed Name & Signature of Inventor(s))

(Date)

(Typed Name & Signature of Witness(es))

- | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1) | <u>Hiroshi OOKI</u>
Hiroshi OOKI | <u>11/8/99</u> | <u>[Signature]</u> |
| 2) | <u>Yuji KADOMATSU</u>
Yuji KADOMATSU | <u>November 11, 1999</u> | <u>[Signature]</u> |
| 3) | <u>Katsumi OGINO</u>
Katsumi OGINO | <u>11/15/99</u> | <u>[Signature]</u> |
| 4) | _____ | _____ | _____ |