

Prosecution rests in kidnap hearing

SAN BERNARDINO — The prosecution rested Friday in the preliminary hearing of Michael Iwakiri, who is charged as an accessory in the 1977 murder here of Beverly Wise and the kidnapping of her two daughters, Brandi Jon-dell Summers and Tiffani Wise.

More testimony was heard Friday from Vivian Casner, Iwakiri's sister-in-law. She had told police in February that she saw the abducted girls — who have never been found — at the Iwakiris the month before.

But she recalled Friday that she thought one of girls she saw was the same one who had sat on her husband's lap in 1976 — before the kidnapping — during a visit with the Iwakiris. Casner, who was granted immunity from prosecution for her testimony, said she wasn't sure what the little girl's name was.

Michael Iwakiri's wife, Juanita, is Casner's sister. Police believe Mrs. Iwakiri babysat Brandi and

Tiffani off and on since their March 30, 1977, abduction through last summer, and that the girls were probably at the Iwakiri home in January.

In other testimony Friday during the fifth day of the hearing in Municipal Court, San Bernardino Police Detective John McDonald said that a neighbor of the Iwakiris in Idaho had initially said she didn't recognize pictures of Brandi and Tiffani — who were 5 years old, and 2, respectively, when they were kidnapped — as girls who had been in her neighborhood.

(The neighbor, Rebecca Boyer, apparently later changed her mind, because she testified here earlier this week that she did recall seeing the girls several times during the last three years. She had agreed to be hypnotized at the Boise Police Department, to help her remember).

The hearing will continue Monday at 10 a.m. -30