

THE CONTINENTAL NEWS



339 Lafayette St.
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Issue 15

June 15, 1976

Southern Walkers Released -- Case Dismissed

By Max, June 14.

After five minutes of deliberation Judge James D. Hester dismissed all charges against the 22 walkers arrested on May 26 and urged them to continue walking. Apparently, the leafletting, demonstrating, and protests from all around the country was an important factor in the dismissal.

The day before 30 people (according to the AP) from all over the state joined Frederick Kirkpatrick, New York folk singer, and Jim Peck of the WRL staff and Freedom Rider converged on the courthouse for a rally and a vigil, lasting until 11:00 p.m. Portia showed up the next day for the hearing.

According to Jim Peck, the sheriff and two deputies showed up 9:30 p.m. at the courthouse with a concern that the vigilers should not use the courthouse lawn as a toilet. Portia appeared to prove a point made earlier in the rally when a speaker mentioned that there were still people who regard Blacks as animals. The walkers are now proceeding toward Meridian, then towards Montgomery.

Walk Enters Oklahoma City

By City, June 10.

On Tuesday the Walk reached Oklahoma City with a contingent of 30 people. Coverage was good during the 17 mile walk. The walkers were joined by Leonard of the national Walk office and Dave Dellinger. A Tuesday evening attraction of 400 people, basically different from those who walked the day before.

... Amarillo, earlier

By City, May 31.

The Walk entered Amarillo on May 29 and set up a 2-day vigil at the Pantex plant just outside of Amarillo. Pantex is the final and only assembly area for hydro-munitions in this country. It was estimated that at least 50% of the plant workers were exposed to the leaflet. Local media coverage was great—4 or 5 minutes on evening TV news, article and photo in local paper.

OTHER

Rosa Parks, who touched off the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1956 by refusing to give up the back of the bus and is currently an aide in the office of Rep. John Conyers, Democrat from Detroit, has joined the list of prominent signers to the Call for the Continental Walk. Freds Fishman and the Rt. Rev. Richard W. Teague, Jr., Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande have also signed the Call.

CALL FOR RESISTANCE OF BLACK MAJORITY CITIZENS WALK

1. "WHEREAS, the United States has moved from an agricultural to an industrial military-industrial economy; and,
2. "WHEREAS, racism, sexism, militarism and imperialism have been and continue to be the foundation for insuring the stability of this economy; and,
3. "WHEREAS, such economic development has resulted in staggering military expenditures, human exploitation, and human underdevelopment; and,
4. "WHEREAS, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is committed to the creation of a nonviolent economy, and economy that guarantees adequate

... health care, education, employment and human dignity.

"NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southern Conference of Black Mayors, Inc., endorses the concept of a nonviolent economy on behalf of minorities, the poor and the oppressed.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Southern Conference of Black Mayors supports the SCLC's Continental Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice."

WALK FUND RAISING DAY

August 6 to 9 has been designated as a time that we are encouraging supporters and organizers of the Walk to make a special effort to raise money for the National Walk office. Currently, we have a \$4500 debt which is likely to grow because of anticipated expenses due to the Washington, D.C., activities. Over one third of our expenses has gone towards literature, about 25% has gone to the 2 current routes of the Walk, 12% for postage, 10% for salaries, 10% for travel, and so forth.

Please do what you can by

- 1) taking up a special collection from religious bodies or at religious services on August 7 or 8;
- 2) holding a benefit--entertainers, speakers, et al.;
- 3) having a literature, craft, or bake sale;
- 4) donating the salary you will earn on Friday, August 6;
- 5) sponsoring a mini-walk in solidarity with the current routes (4 to be in operation then) and having walkers get pledges from sympathetic people at a quarter or dime per mile walked.

The Walk has no secret source of funding and must depend on all of you to help.

CONTINENTAL WALK T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Hot off the presses--Continental Walk T-shirts in small, medium, large, and extra-large. White with red trim and red and black lettering with the torch and dove logo. The cost is \$4 (includes postage), \$2 each for 12 or more plus postage.

NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

On July 5 in Philadelphia (probably beginning at 9 am at the Friends Center) will be a meeting of the Walk Coordinating Committee. The main order of business will be to finalize the Washington, D.C., scenario. All organizers and representatives of sponsoring organizations are urged to attend. Please contact the national office for details.

NATIVE AMERICAN GROUP SENDS MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY

In a statement supporting the Continental Walk, the National Indian Youth Council pointed out that when Columbus landed on the Western Hemisphere there were 13 million Native people living in what was to become the United States. Today, there are less than a million Native Americans living within the same borders. "The genocide that accounts for the more than 12 million human difference is unprecedented in history... Our 439 peace treaties with U.S. government spoke of disarmament and social justice. Yet we now live in extreme poverty and misery because government sanctioned violence was perpetuated on our ancestors. Our lives, land, religion, and way of life were taken away at literal gunpoint... It is because of our past history and present-day conditions that we support the Continental Walk and further desire to work with those people who are sincere and dedicated toward achieving military disarmament and social justice"

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE AND DISARMAMENT WALK IN JAPAN

"Today, we start our march from Tokyo to Hiroshima, and soon, six more trunk courses will start from the north and the south, one after another aiming at Hiroshima in August. The March of 8000 kilometers will cover all of the 47 prefectures of Japan. We continue walking, spreading the Hiroshima Appeal. The voice of NO MORE HIROSHIMAS AND WAGASAKIS shall echo all over the world, so are we determined. If we, the peace-loving American and Japanese peoples move forward helping one another and strengthening the bond of friendship, greatest achievement will be expected.

"We join you in walking for creating the world of peace and social justice, and the world free from nuclear weapons." Yoshino Yoshida, Deputy Director General, on behalf of the Peace Marchers and the Japan Council Against A & H Bombs.

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS

The main route of the Walk is in need of more people who have experience and can articulate the issues of disarmament, social justice, and nonviolence. In

in, there is a need for women (currently, there are about 10 women and 15 men) and more people with a feminist perspective.

Those interested in joining for more than a few days (i.e., more than a week), must fill out a questionnaire (available from the National Office), be interviewed by organizers, and then be accepted by the long distance walkers after a week's trial period.

The Southern route is in need of more Whites to join the predominantly Black walk through the Deep South, preferably Southern Whites. All who are interested must contact Rev. Bernard Lee, The Continental Walk/SCLC, 334 Auburn Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30303, 404-522-1420.

DISARMAMENT RELAY IN GERMANY

The car relay for disarmament organized by the DFG/VK section of the WRI which began in West Germany ended in Geneva, Switzerland on May 29. In Geneva, participants on the relay had a discussion with members of the United Nations Commission on Disarmament.

SAN QUENTIN SIX STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY

In a statement to the Continental Walk, the San Quentin Six Defense Committee said "We are faced with a legal system that is paying \$1.4 million to prosecute six brothers when the prosecution has admitted having no real evidence against. Nothing less than an all-out mass mobilization of every sector of our society will cause a just verdict... Our solidarity is with you. Your struggle is our struggle".

On June 5 a Freedom March and Rally calling for the acquittal of the San Quentin 6 was held in Marin County, California. The Defense Committee (3159-16 St., San Francisco 94103) is requesting messages of solidarity and any financial aid people can contribute to help with publicity. The San Quentin 6 defense was one of the first social justice issues addressed by the Walk after it started in Calif.

PERMISSIONS AD

The July Progressive carried a full page ad on the Walk on the inside back cover. We still have in stock the February Progressive with Sid Lens' special report "The Doomsday Strategy", a brilliant analysis of the current U.S. nuclear foreign policy. Available from us for \$1.

FILE

Films can be used for both educational and fundraising purposes. Below are listed some excellent films which deal with issues the Walk is trying to raise. The walkers on the main route are carrying with them two films from Japan - *We Don't Fear the Nuclear Bomb* is about Nuclear weapons in Japan, and *Whirlwind* which is the story of the aftermath of the bombing of that city. They can be shown when the walk is in your community. Other films include:

Mr. Joy's Nuclear War (60 min.) is a documentary on Sam Lovejoy's actions to stop the building of a nuclear power plant in Western Massachusetts. The film won the Best Political Film Award at the San Francisco International Film Festival in 1975 and the Silver Hugo Award at the Chicago International Film Festival in 1975. Available through Green Mountain Post Films, Box 177, Montague, Mass. 01351 (413) 475-4754. Rental fee is \$50, and confirmation of rental should be made two weeks in advance.

Dr. Gore (49 min.) is an attempt to show what would happen to Britain in the event of a nuclear attack. Shows there is no way to "prepare" for a nuclear attack, only to "prepare against" it. Rental fee is \$75, available through:

Contemporary Films/McGraw-Hill

1714 Stockton St.
San Francisco, Ca, 94133
(415) 362-3115

Princeton Rd.
Hightstown, NJ 08520
(609) 448-1700

828 Custer Ave.
Evanston, Ill 60202
(312) 869-5310

Long for Our Lives (58 min.) is a documentary film depicting the 1971 California grape strike and the struggle of the United Farm Workers to defend their union. Film rental is \$100, available through your local boycott office or contact UPW, PO Box 17, Leona, Ca. 93331.

Love and Minds (112 min.) is available through VSB Films, 973 Innes Ave., Los Angeles, Ca. 90038 (213) 874-7330. Rental fee is \$125 for non-profit groups. Write to above address for special prices depending on your situation.