The CONTINENTAL
# NEWS
Walk

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# The "Call" to Washington

Copies of the new Call to Washington are hot off the press. We have been contacting all co-sponsoring organizations asking them to include the Call in their next mailing, or do a special mailing. We are also asking all local groups to send out the Call - with a letter containing information on rides to Washington for Oct. 16.

The Call is composed of a peace conversion graphic on the front page, two pages of text linking disarmament, peace and social justice and giving our immediate demands for the government, and a back page with a coupon and the final schedule of events in Washington. They are printed on newsprint, have space for an address, and weigh less than half an ounce. They cost $10 per bundle of 500, which includes postage. Let us know how many you want - Today!!

The Washington scenario is:

Friday, October 15

- local activities focussing on the needs of people of Wash.

the three branches of the Walk--from the West, South, and North--reach the outskirts of the city

Saturday, October 16

- morning: the three Walk routes begin final walk into Wash.
- 1 pm: the three routes meet at the Lincoln memorial led by the Bread and Puppet theater

2 pm: the rally begins at the Sylvan Theater

- 8 pm: concert at the Sylvan Theater

Sunday, October 17

- morning: Ecumenical service and leafletting of churches
- afternoon: Peace and Justice Fair, displays of sponsoring organizations; workshops and preparation for Monday's activities
- evening: Gospel singing

Monday, October 18

- morning: gather at Lincoln memorial for silent "Procession of Death" to the Pentagon carrying coffins of people, cities, buildings, communities, projects which have died as a result of Pentagon spending; coffins deposited on Pentagon steps.
- afternoon: Walk turns into a "Procession of Life", unfurls banners, releasing balloons, and heads back to Washington past HEW to the White House with a list of demands for the President; demonstrators will remain until the President appears to accept demands.

# New England

Two imaginative demos marked the Continental Walk's Boston to Washington route crossing of Rhode Island, the country's smallest state.

On Aug. 19, some 75 persons walked through the gate of General Dynamics' Electric Boat facility to plant on its property a Japanese cherry tree symbolizing life, in contrast to the deadly Trident submarine which is being manufactured there.

Two days later, over 100 persons gathered at the site of a proposed nuclear power plant at Charlestown and released 300 helium-filled balloons. Attached to each balloon was a postcard saying: "This balloon is not dangerous to your health in any way. It represents some of the radioactive particles which are emitted into the environment during the normal operation of a nuclear power plant. If you find this balloon, you may be in an area which would be contaminated by radiation from the proposed Charlestown plant."

In Providence, a noontime rally was held on the Mall, David McReynolds was the main speaker. On the way to the Mall, the walkers took fifteen minutes out to join a mass picket line of Brown University maintenance workers who had been on strike since June.

Jerry Elmer, Carol Bragg and their co-workers did an excellent job of coordinating the five days of walking across the state. Media coverage was extensive both in Providence and in the smaller towns.

On August 22 Nelia Sargent, a blind woman who is walking all the way from Boston to New York, Paul Graseck, a Walk local co-ordinator, and I went to Hampton Falls, N. H., to represent the Walk at a mass rally to support the occupation of the proposed Seabrook nuclear power plant by some 200 persons. Following their arrest, we went on to the State Armory at Portsmouth, where they were being booked, and conducted a vigil there.

Walkers left Providence and traveled on to Old Lyme, Clinton and Guilford, Conn., for the weekend of Aug 28-29. The Walk experienced some open hostility when we arrived in Westbrook, where a patriotic Bicentennial parade was in progress. When we came abreast of the parade, a state cop warned us that we might have some "trouble" with "some of these people". As we marched near the spectators, many of them shouted "creeps go home". The closest thing to violence, however, was when one of them rolled up one of our leaflets into a ball and threw it at a walker.

The walk on Sunday wound up in Guilford at a historic town hall, with Rev. Kato presenting two of the village's three Selectmen (the equivalent of the mayor) a letter from the Mayor of Hiroshima. One of the selectmen expressed his hope for no more Hiroshimas and no more war. Both selectmen then signed the Hiroshima Appeal. Present at this outdoor ceremony was Scott Herrick, a long distance walker in the 1961 San Francisco-Moscow walk, who walked with us several days.

--Jim Peck

EVANSVILLE TO FT. WAYNE FEEDER

Jim Troutwine, organizer and walker from Muncie, IN, writes us: "Organization for the Evansville to Fort Wayne feeder route of the Continental Walk for Social Justice and Disarmament is actually progressing better than we anticipated. August 15th a group left Evansville enroute to Bloomington where it is hoped that they will be reinforced by others to walk to Muncie via Indianapolis." The "Southern Indiana" walkers hope to meet the main route walkers for an afternoon fair in Freimann Park in Fort Wayne on Sept 6.

# Main Route

The main route of the Walk spent three days in St. Louis Aug. 26-28. Barbara Corr really did a tremendous job of organizing activities there.

A group of 150-200 people attended a panel discussion between Sid Lens and two military people. Barbara relates there was a very heated exchange with the military advocates being informed, articulate and quite willing to enter spiritually into the fray. The audience was not entirely pro-disarmament. The panelists did all quickly agree that a peace time economy would be economically advantageous to everyone.

Walkers and 150 other concerned individuals held a rally in front of Homer S. Phillips Hospital, an all black out-care city hospital threatened with closing. It was a dramatic example of national priorities. Very good speakers addressed the rally including the best known leader of the hospital struggle.

The main route entered Chicago on Aug. 27 and Dave Albert cheerfully reports that all went as planned. For two days previous to the 27th, the feeder routes participated in activities in surrounding cities. The Minn.-Wis. feeder route was in Evanston, IL, while the main route and the Lincoln, Neb., routes entered Wheaton, IL, to be met by fifty Japanese World Federalists.

August 27, all routes converged in Haymarket Square in downtown Chicago to hear Sid Lens and Caroline Ashbough, a feminist historian, speak. The Walk then went through the Loop, past the Hilton where Reagan Maddox was being nominated for President, and out to Grant

Park for a picnic. Later in the day, they were joined by folks from PUSH and went to the Martin Luther King headquarters in North Chicago. Sunday, the 20th, walkers headed through South Side Chicago into east Chicago where they were greeted with great support from the Steelworkers Union. There was great media coverage in 17 newspapers and a good radio show with Studs Terkel, Sid Lens, Seldon Osborne, Susan LaFlamme, Bernie Noven and Sam Day. ( Dave Albert has a one hour cassette of this if you would like to use it: 343 S. Dearborn, Rm317, Chicago, Il 60604, (312) 939-3347.)

The main route will be in Ft. Wayne, IN, for Labor Day, Sept. 6.

MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN ROUTE IN MADISON, WI

On Tuesday, August 10, eight long-distance walkers were guests at a noon meeting in the City of Middleton Common Council chambers. Middleton Mayor, Judy Karofsky, welcomed the walkers and signed the Hiroshima Appeal.

Wednesday morning, Aug. 11, 15 people and a newspaper reporter walked through the suburb area west of the University and arrived on the campus by 11:30 am for a parade up State St. to the Capitol Building. By noon at the Capitol, the group had increased to nearly 150 people including State, County, and City officials , and Madison area clergy. Walk participants were introduced and special recognition was given to the two "International Guests" from Japan -- Rev. Oyama and Kowamoto. Madison Mayor Paul Slogin welcomed the Walk to the city and spoke of his recent trip to Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a guest of the Japan Council Against A & H Bombs. Following this ceremony, walkers went to Waupan State Prison to demonstrate in solidarity with prisoners in segregation there.

Thursday the Walk joined a picket line with the UFW support committee. That evening, walkers were guests at a community meeting with over 40 local people. On Friday morning, Aug 13, the walkers numbered 17 as they departed Madison for the 20-mile hike to Cambridge. Saturday afternoon walkers leafletted at the proposed nuclear power plant at Lake Koshkonong and that evening were special quests of the city at a pioneer celebration.

# Organizing

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

The South New Jersey palnning committee met Aug. 16 to discuss events to happen there when the Boston to Washington route proceeds through Trenton to Bordentown and on to Philadelphia. The schedule for that part of the route is:

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|---|---|
| Trenton-Bordentown | sept 26 |
| Bordentown-Willingboro | sept 27 |
| Willingboro REST DAY | sept 28 |
| Willingboro-Camden | sept 29-30 |
| Camden-Philadelphia | oct 1 |

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

The Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern plans a mini-Walk through the Lehigh Valley on Saturday, Sept 25. Their theme is peace conversion. They will begin at 8:30 am at "recruiters row" in Easton and then move on to Bethlehem for a rally at the corporate headquarters of Bethlehem Steel--the largest military contractor in the Valley. Sunday, the 26th, they hope to be invited to several local churches to speak about Walk issues. Monday morning a smaller group will leave from Bethlehem to walk to Philadelphia to join the New England branch. Their planned schedule is :

| | |
|---|---|
| Quakertown | sept 27 |
| Doylestown | sept 28 |
| Abington | sept 29 |
| Philadelphia | sept 30 |

For more information contact Steve Kraft at LEPOCO, 14 W. Broad St., Bethlehem, PA, 18018. (215) 691-8730.

# Important!

ORGANIZERS -- really exciting radio tapes have been pulled together and are ready to circulate to your local stations. The tapes are a Call to Washington for October 16-19 in 30 and 60 second spots. Each tape has seven spots: two done by Gloria Steinem, two most likely to be done by Ralph Abernathy.

Tapes are available from the national office for $5 each. If you're short on funds, we'd much rather get the tapes to you and cover the costs later but as always anything you can send to defray our mounting debt is much appreciated. Price does include postage. Let us know how many tapes you can use as soon as possible - October 16 in not far away.

# Notes

WALK SLIDE SHOW

We have finally procured three copies of the slide show of the main route of the Walk. The slide show was done by the walkers and beautifully expresses the long journey from Ukiah toward disarmament and social justice.

Copies are available on a first come-first serve basis from the national office. Donations are welcomed to maintain the show and pay for its reprinting.

FOR TOWNS AND CITIES YET UNREACHED

Barbara Corr of St. Louis and several of the long-distance walkers have drawn up an extremely good and complete four page letter detailing everything friends and organizers of the Walk need to know. It is a very helpful account of what the walkers needs are for a stay in your town. Copies are available from the national office.

FLASH!

Stewart Meacham reports that Vietnam's application to the UN is coming up in September and strong rumors from the UN indicate that the United States will veto the application. Letters of protest are very important right now and should be addressed to congresspeople asking that pressure be put on the State Department to reconsider application. Letters to the Editor would also be helpful. For more information contact Friendshipment, 235 E. 49th St., New York, NY 10017.

HELP!

Pat Lacefield really needs folks to help him organize in Washington, D C. He will be able to provide housing. If you can go to Washington to help, please call or write Pat at:

The Continental Walk
c/o Washington Peace Center
2111 Florida Ave N W
Washington, D C 20008
202-234-2000

The National Office still has a supply of ORGANIZERS MANUALS. If the Walk has not yet come through your area and you don't have one - Order Now! 40¢ for 1 to 9, 35¢ for 10 to 24, 25¢ for 25 to 49 and 20¢ each for over 50.