

# The CONTINENTAL WALK NEWS

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339 Lafayette Street  
New York, NY 10012

## WALKERS LEAVE UKIAH

On January 23, 100 walkers left Ukiah heading towards San Francisco. Though about half of them had colds, spirits were high.

The weekend before in San Francisco 50 people attended the workshop on long distance walkers. Twenty-five people at that workshop have committed themselves to walking the full distance across the country. Included within that contingent is a collective of 5 photographers; so we hope the next issue of the NEWS will contain the first photographs of the Walk.

### BAY AREA EVENT JAMMED

Four Hundred very enthusiastic people packed the auditorium in San Francisco on January 23. The Women's Event, Holly Near and Berkeley Women's Chorus, and Women's Dance were the first public events for the Walk in the Bay Area.

### MAYOR OF HIROSHIMA SENDS GREETINGS

Takeshi Araki, Mayor of the city of Hiroshima, has sent a letter praising the goals and spirit of the Walk. Quoting in part, "We do sincerely hope that this peace procession ... will deeply move not only Americans as a whole, but also people all over the world, to encourage a world-wide consensus for the annihilation of nuclear weapons. May this campaign bear great fruits."

### NEW SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

Pax Christi, USA, Movement for a New Society, and the World Fellowship have endorsed the Walk, bringing the total number of sponsoring organizations to 19 (the other 16 are listed in the Organizer's Manual).

### NEW SIGNERS

New Signers to the Call include Margaret Kuhn (of the Gray Panthers), Dick Gregory, Ruth MacLennan Uphaus, Willard Uphaus, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Fr. Paul Mayer, Most Rev. Carroll T. Dozier (Bishop of Memphis), Martin Sostre, and Holly Near.

## ORGANIZING

### SF BAY AREA

Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Daniel Ellsberg, Betty Kaplowitz, Grant Fisher, Dick Gregory, among others will be at the Walk send off rally in San Francisco on January 30. The walkers leave San Francisco 10 am Saturday, January 31, after assembling 9 am in Union Square (assuming no rain). Bay Area organizers report that the response has been fantastic and are having to double all estimates of the number of people expected to turn out. Apparently 50 to 100 people will walk all of California!

## UP-STATE NEW YORK

Fifteen people met in Syracuse January 17 to discuss organizing the Walk in the up-state New York region. At least two routes are now planned: Albany to New York City and Syracuse to Rochester to Buffalo to Cleveland. It was an exciting and productive meeting.

## SOUTHEAST

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference and War Resisters League/Southeast held a joint press conference in the SCLC Atlanta headquarters January 23 to announce the organizing of a Southern branch to the Walk. The conference was well attended with 10 to 15 news people including a TV camera, AP and UPI.

An all-day regional conference was held on January 24, attended by 50 people representing SCLC, WRL, AFSC, CALC, etc., from Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. The Southern route will begin in New Orleans on April 4, the anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination.

## TEXAS/OKLAHOMA

About 15 organizers from Texas and Oklahoma gathered on January 17 in Dallas for a regional conference. Texas will have two branch routes: one from San Antonio and the other in Houston (or Bay City, the site of a nuclear power plant), both beginning April 4.

## NEW ENGLAND

An all-day New England regional conference will be held January 31 in Hartford, Connecticut. Seymour Melman, David McReynolds, Louise Bruyn, Terry Provance, Ed Lazar, and others will be speaking and conducting workshops. There will be workshops, panels, food, music, and an evening rally. A phone hook-up with the walkers in San Francisco will be attempted for the conference.

## SOUTHWEST OHIO

Regional meetings for the Southwest Ohio area were held in Dayton December 13 and January 18. Two particularly creative ideas were suggested in connection with a branch route of the Walk: 1) an alternative tourist map for Dayton identifying institutions, businesses, or agencies which engage in social injustice; 2) an alternative exhibition for the Air Force Museum showing the victims and results of the technology of war; each exhibit would be paired with a particular weapons on display at the Air Force Museum; organizers will see if students in certain college classes might want to take on a weapon as a semester project. The next regional meeting will be February 28.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

There will be a car caravan from San Diego to reach the main route in Riverside on March 14. Preceding the San Diego caravan will be a 30-mile walk from the Mexican border to San Diego. Contact Debbie Tippin (4673 Alabama Street, San Diego, CA 92116, 714-299-4677).

## PLAINS STATES AND MIDWEST

Organizers from Missouri, Kansas, and surrounding states gathered January 18 in Columbia, Missouri, to discuss the route from the Oklahoma/Kansas border through to Springfield, Illinois, as well as branch routes through Nebraska and Iowa. The next regional meeting will be February 28 in Columbia.

## IMPORTANT NOTE

The Walk office needs photos, newspaper and magazine articles, copies of leaflets, and anything else mentioning the Walk to possibly use in the NEWS or general publicity. So please send anything you may have as soon as possible to The Continental Walk, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012.

Blaine and Alison Metcalf (two of the long distance walkers) also would like copies of such material to be possibly included in a book on the Walk. Mail to: Alison and Blaine Metcalf, Walk Media Project, 904 Lathrop Drive, Stanford, CA 94305.