

The CONTINENTAL NEWS

WALK

ISSUE 9 February 10, 1976

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1000 LEAVE SAN FRANCISCO



Gregory, Abernathy, Japanese Buddhist monk and others leading the Walk on Market Street in San Francisco.

S.F. Examiner

The sixty walkers who crossed the Golden Gate Bridge from Ukiah into San Francisco January 30 swelled to 1000 on January 31 as the Walk left San Francisco's Union Square.

In the East Bay a small group of walkers left the Concord Naval Weapons Station on a feed route into San Francisco. A rally of 60 saw them off. When the walkers reached Berkeley, they joined in with a Continental Walk rally on the University of California campus. Daniel Ellsberg and Ying Lee Kelley, radical Berkeley Councilwoman, addressed a crowd of 800. At the rally's end, as a spontaneous gesture, people were asked to join in with the walkers, if only for a short way. As a result, 300-400 enthusiastic people took to the streets marching down Telegraph Avenue, stopping all traffic, as they walked several blocks towards San Francisco.

The January 30 San Francisco 'send-off' rally attracted 500 people. The next morning Dick Gregory gave a rousing send-off, proclaiming, "Anyone who walks across the country in the jet age is depending on spiritual power." Over a 1000 people turned out, according to the San Francisco Examiner, and all but a few started walking. As the day ended in Daly City 300 people were still walking. Approximately one hundred people walked down the Peninsula, holding a demonstration at a Lockheed plant with a 560-foot model Trident submarine, vigils and other actions.

Media coverage was excellent. All the TV stations, wire services, radio stations, the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner were present. A UPI telephoto was sent out nationwide. Several Bay Area radio stations contacted organizers about interviews just after the Walk left San Francisco. Herb Caen, the widely-read gossip columnist mentioned the Walk: "Yep, that was indeed Daniel 'Pentagon Papers' Ellsberg picking 'em up and laying 'em down on Highway 101 last Saturday, walking from here to Palo Alto on a leg of the so-called 'Continental Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice.' The hikers, working in relays, plan to hit Washington, D.C. by October . . . The Continental Walk is not to be confused with the Aztec Two-Step or the Buffalo Shuffle."

The Peace and Justice Fair in Santa Cruz was a terrific success—drawing 200 people and lots of interest in the 28 booths, workshops, music and poetry set up by local groups.

THE NEWS

The Continental Walk NEWS is usually sent to organizers of the Walk. But now and then we will make a mailing to our full list (such as with this issue). If you would like to get the NEWS regularly (and are not organizers), please let us know. If you can send money to offset costs of postage and production, that would be appreciated.

NEW SIGNERS

There are four new signers to the Call since the last newsletter, bringing the total to 102 signers: Cesar Chavez, David Harris, Tom Hayden, Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton (Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit).

The National Association of Women Religious has co-sponsored the Walk, the 21st national organization to do so.

EUROPEAN WALKS

The staffs of the WRI, IFOR, and ICR (International Collective Resistance) sent a message of support to all the Walkers and organizers of the Continental Walk.

They informed us of progress on "The First International March in Europe of Nonviolent Antimilitarists." This march will be in 3 parts: 1) July 28--August 1 in Northern Italy. 2) August 4--10 in Eastern France, and 3) August 13--17 on the island of Sardinia, Italy. The principal part of the march is the eastern France segment through Verdun, and will be organized by IFOR and WRI. Eleven goals were adopted for the march ranging from free speech for soldiers and a uniform CO statute to unilateral disarmaments, conversion, and civilian defense.

A car relay from West Germany to Geneva, Switzerland, for disarmament is being organized by the DFG/VK section of the WRI for April and May 1976. The relay is patterned after the Continental Walk except people will be driving in decorated cars instead of walking.

In addition, a march against nuclear power is being organized for the summer of 1976 in Scandinavia.



S.F. Chronicle

Rev. Qujin Sato and other walkers crossing the Golden Gate into San Francisco.



Ukiah walkers heading toward San Francisco.

J.C. Stockwell

ORGANIZING

NEW ENGLAND

The New England Conference on the Continental Walk drew 175 people on January 31. One of the highlights of the conference was a telephone hook-up over the PA system with San Francisco organizer Steve Ladd, just as the Walk was leaving Union Square in San Francisco. There will be two routes from New England, one leaving Boston on August 6 and the other leaving from Western Massachusetts. The two routes will meet in New Haven August 22. A major emphasis of the New England routes will be to hit *positive* as well as *negative* targets.

LINCOLN TO CHICAGO FEED ROUTE

A planning meeting for the Lincoln (Nebraska) to Chicago route was held in Perry, Iowa, January 31. The walkers will leave Lincoln July 13 going through Omaha, Des Moines, Davenport, and into Chicago meeting the main route.

MADISON

The Continental Walk people in Madison have linked up with a new Amnesty Coalition and a local coalition to Stop S.I., both Madison-based. Contact Don Behm, Center for Conflict Resolution, 520 University Avenue, Room 120, Madison, WI. 53703

SYRACUSE

Walk organizers and supporters did a leafleting of people in Syracuse to coincide with the Walk leaving San Francisco January 31.

INDIANA

Plans are underway for a feed route from Muncie or Indianapolis up to the main route which will be going across northern Indiana, probably dipping down from Elkhart to Ft. Wayne and back up to Toledo, Ohio. One of the issues which may be involved is the Baily nuclear power plant on the southern shores of Lake Michigan. For more information, contact Jim Troutwine, R.R. 2, Box 73, Dunkirk, In. 47336.

OHIO

Larry Gara (21 Faculty Place, Wilmington, Ohio 45177) reports that "on very little notice some of us decided to have a mini-Walk around our town to coincide with the start of the Walk in California. About 20 joined for a two-hour walk during which we also gave out some walk leaflets. We had several signs including single letter ones spelling out DISARM NOW."



Long distance walkers training program in San Francisco.

J.C. Stockwell

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS

Dick Linebarger, a long distance walker, suggests that tubs of hot water, Epsom Salts, soup, and towels to clean feet (and perhaps some cooking oil for feet) would be desirable for walkers, if the organizers and those providing could arrange such now and then. Also showers would be great.

Another long distance walker, Harvey Rosenberg, suggests that March 3 be chosen as a day for all Walk supporters to walk to work, school, the store, etc., instead of their regular means of transportation. Each person could then contribute the money saved to the Walk. *Reactions?*

Blaine Metcalf reports that a leaflet with the heading "take one of the Continental Marchers to

lunch" actually worked. Students who eat lunch at Santa Clara University used their guest passes to get walkers free lunches! Blaine emphasized that local organizers should allow time each evening for long distance walkers to meet, work out hassles, and plan for the next day.

THE LEAFLET

The national office has just received the first printed version of the leaflet. The printing run was 20,000 and costs \$1.50 per 100 and \$10 (plus postage) per 1000. Please send comments and suggested changes for the next printing. Stephanie Camilleri did the graphic.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

On February 23 a major Continental Walk Steering Committee meeting will be held in Washington, D.C., to discuss two main topics:

1) finances and fund raising

2) the scenario in Washington, D.C., at the Walk's end

Organizers (as well as representatives from national sponsoring organizations) are urged to attend or at least send ideas in before the meeting.

PRICE CORRECTION

The bulk price of the record album "OLD DREAMS AND NEW NIGHTMARES" (listed on the back page of the Organizers Manual) is \$2.50 (plus \$.25 postage) per album for orders of 10 or more. Single copies are available for \$5 (plus \$.50 postage and handling). This album features the song "Do the Continental Walk", and profits from it will go to the Walk.