

'Peace Pilgrim' Here On Sixth Year Of Walk

By DIANA BRUCE

A gray-haired woman dressed entirely in navy blue, her tunic emblazoned with the words "Peace Pilgrim," yesterday afternoon walked briskly along Highway 101 to a rendezvous in San Rafael.

Yesterday's trek was a mere 20 miles from the San Francisco main post office to the home of Rev. and Mrs. Ervin C. Tipton at 25 Sunset way, San Rafael.

13,500 MILES

She has walked 13,500 miles since January of 1953 when she started her pilgrimage for peace. On the back of her navy blue tunic are the words: "Walking 25,000 miles for world peace."

Today, despite rain and wind, she left on another hike—this time, to Vallejo.

She will accept no rides.

All her worldly possessions consist of the clothes she wears—crepe-sole canvas shoes, slacks, shirt, tunic and head scarf—and the pen and paper and small amount of money carried in her pockets.

NAME, AGE UNKNOWN

Asked her name she replied: "My name is Peace Pilgrim. When God gives you a name, you don't ask for any other."

Perhaps, then, she would not mind divulging her age. The reply was: "I am ageless. After you have found inner peace, you are ageless."

Apparently a veteran of press interrogations, she explained: "The reason I do not give unimportant biographical details is that I know people can only remember so much and I want them to remember the important things about me.

"I want people to know that a woman, any woman, cared enough about world peace to walk this many miles."



25,000 MILES FOR PEACE — "Peace Pilgrim" — she gives no other name — paused in Marin today on her 25,000-mile "walking prayer for peace." Even wind and rain did not deter her for the next walk of her long journey, as she took to the highway heading for Vallejo.

(Independent-Journal photo)

FIRST PETITION

Her first petition was for an end to fighting in Korea. Her walking, she says, is a prayer.

"I know that all right work and right prayer has effect," she declared.

Her walking prayer has used up 16 pairs of crepe-sole shoes since she began six years ago. The pilgrimage has taken her to 48 states, 10 provinces of Canada and Mexico.

Peace Pilgrim has vowed: "I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food."

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