Peace Walkers Cross Belgium; To Enter West Germany Today

France Denies Entry, Confiscates Signs

The European contingent of the San Francisco to Moscow Walk for Peace expected to enter West Germany from Belgium today, July 15. The international Team, comprised mainly of the nucleus from the transcontinental walk across the United States, with additions of Europeans from five different countries, was admitted to Belgium on condition that it would not try to enter France from Belgium. A warm reception in Belgium is reported. A Catholic community, followers of Lanza Del Vasto, entertained the team at their farm in Belgium. At some towns official receptions were given, and entertainment provided.

A. J. Muste, described by Peace News as "the walkers' Ambassador extraordinary," has been negotiating the team's passage in Warsaw, Bonn and East Berlin.

A group of ten young people in France had walked to the Belgian border to meet the international walkers who had been denied admittance to France. Soon after starting out across France they were arrested and held for two hours, their signs and leaflets confiscated. They continued over the complete route in France wearing signs which said "Censored," and nothing else.

WALKERS IN BELGIUM

July 3. Yesterday's meeting with the French Team was colorful, amusing and well covered by the press and TV. At almost every city we are being given an official reception by the burgermeister. This is significant since this official is elected like our mayors and is a political figure. One of these burgermeisters was unaccountably helpful. His party is in no way pacifist. It certainly is clear that the Belgian people have deep sympathy for us. Help has come from all quarters. We received lavish hospitality from a Catholic school. Socialists are planning a reception for us in one city. The major parties, of course, have not officially supported us.

-Bradford Lyttle

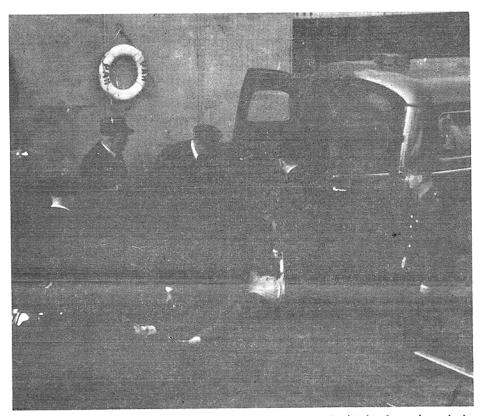
The Peacemaker

Number 10

Volume 14 July 15, 1961



Bob Kingsley and Regina Fischer prepare to jump from the Normannia



Police get ready to carry Barnaby Martin (prone on dock) back on board the Normannia

was handed up to a policeman who carried her in his arms up the steps and to the van. Regina had been in the water an hour and 45 minutes.

A few minutes ago a crew member came running back to the ship laughing like anything. He said Regina had gotten herself into a small boat to rest perhaps. A police inspector tried to talk her into coming ashore. She refused. He attempted to get into the boat whereupon the thing sank. This thrilled the crowd.

Swimmers Brought Back to Ship

There was a TV camera mounted on a truck throughout the entire demonstration. I can't help feeling the French would have been better off letting us walk. I just heard a newscast: "The Ban the Bomb Marchers swam to shore and have been returned to the ship."

We are expecting the police to come and ask for dry clothes for them. Most swimmers have laid out a fresh set of clothing for this purpose.

The demonstration was over in an hour and 45 minutes. The crowd began to disperse and the remains of the walk on board (Brad, Erika, Bea, Ray and Jules and myself) went into the lounge to eat. We had a few sandwiches, some chocolate drink and a few crumpled cookies. We talked about the demonstration to a few

crewmen standing around.

The people who jumped planned to jump again at 11:15 when they were returned to the ship. This worried me since there was every chance that by the time the jumpers got to their positions the screws would be turning; if they jumped they might be caught up in them. It was decided that it would be desirable to leave someone on shore when the ship pulled out.

Gendarme Overboard

We couldn't tell what it was except that we apparently had one swimmer left in the water. Guess who? Regina. It took another half hour to get her. She, as far as we could make out, had been clinging to a boat apparently waiting to see what was happening to Scott and Gunilla. We heard shouts of laughter and the crowd was thoroughly enjoying whatever it was that was going on. We couldn't see her since she was hidden by the first bridge. Then she appeared in a boat at the opposite shore being rowed by someone. She