‘Peace Pilgrim’ Visits El Centro

The Peace Pilgrim who is walking from Los Angeles to New York to dramatize her pleas for world peace visited El Centro Tuesday.

The Peace Pilgrim, who refuses to use her own name because she wants to avoid personal publicity, says her objective is to get as many signatures as possible on three petitions which she intends to present to United States government officials and officials of the United Nations when she arrives on the east coast, a trip which she expects will take one year of continuous walking.

End of Fighting

The petitions call for the establishment of a Peace Department, an end to Korean fighting and world disarmament. She leaves her petitions with anyone she meets along the route, and asks that they be sent to Peace Pilgrim, Cologne, New Jersey, where she will gather them together for official presentation.

The first petition reads:

“Stop the senseless slaughter in Korea now. Then deal with this conflict situation according to the only principles which can solve it—overcome evil with good, and falsehood with truth, and hatred with love.”

Second Petition

The second petitions says, “This is the way to peace—overcome evil with good, and falsehood with truth, and hatred with love. We plead for the establishment of a Peace Department, with a Secretary of Peace who accepts these principles, with all conflict situations at home or abroad to be referred to this department.”

The third petition is a plea for the end to the “crushing burden of armaments,” addressed to the United Nations.

She urged that any person interested in helping her use the wording above and mail their own copies in to Cologne, New Jersey with as many signatures as possible.

Left Jan. 1st

The Peace Pilgrim left Los Angeles Jan. 1. She carries no food or clothing other than she wears for the trip.

The gray-haired, blue-eyed woman said she has never been without food for very long, nor without shelter so far on her trip.

“I am treated with wonderful courtesy, and no one has ever accused me of being a Communist or anything but someone interested in bringing peace to the world,” she said.

“There is a magic formula for resolving conflicts. It is this. Have as your objective the resolving of the conflict, not the gaining of advantage. Be concerned that you do not offend, not that you are not offended,” she said.

“Until mankind has learned the way to peace; I shall remain a wanderer to bring my message of the way to peace to my countrymen and to the world.”

She declared that her ideas are practical, even though they are simple religious concepts.