Equipped only with a toothbrush, comb and the clothes on her back, this Mystery Lady, who calls herself “the Peace Pilgrim,” has traveled 30,000 miles (25,000 of them on foot) across the U.S. and Canada since 1953 on a private mission for peace. She told Family Weekly: “I gave up home, possessions, age and name in 1953 because I found them meaningless. I had inner peace—that was all I needed to survive. At the time I felt like a voice crying out in the wilderness, but now I’m definitely on the popular side because most Americans have overwhelmingly accepted the idea of peace.

But world developments have not changed my pilgrimage. Peace is much more than the temporary absence of war; it is the absence of the causes of war. I believe it will take another 10 years for an outer peace to develop and sustain itself, but even after that time I will continue to talk about the inner peace man needs to maintain outer peace.” She says her pilgrimage is not supported by any group.

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the new orientation in her life began 28 years ago, with 15 years of “spiritual and psychological preparation” before the pilgrimage began. With no organizational backing, she can be reached only through general delivery in Cologne, N.J.—where a friend forwards her mail to wherever she happens to be at the moment.

When does the pilgrimage end? “The pilgrimage will be over when all nations are like the United States and Canada—where there are still disagreements, but they would never dream of killing each other.”

Until that time, Peace Pilgrim will keep walking. She walked down to Albuquerque Saturday following her stay here. And she plans to be back in Santa Fe in 1970. You may see her walking, dressed in her blue lettered tunic, along a highway anywhere in the country. We saw her walking, as a matter of fact, a few years ago somewhere in the Midwest.