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Embajada de Costa Rica
2114 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

SEP 10 10:08

September 9th, 1999

The Honorable
Maria Echaveste
Deputy Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20502

Dear Ms. Echaveste,

I have the honor of forwarding President Miguel Angel Rodríguez' letter of last August 31st to President Clinton regarding the current situation of Central American immigrants in Costa Rica and the need of assistance to provide them with health care, education, and other social services.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

9-10-99

From Maria Echaveste

Send to USC?

Yes ☒

No ☐

~~Jaime Darreblum~~
Ambassador

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

9-9-99

SEN. WARNER: It very clearly challenges our role as a leader with other nations in that region of the world. And perhaps a more troubling issue is a moral issue. In many respects what we did in Kosovo was driven by moral considerations, that Europe simply could not stand idle while genocide was taking place before its eyes. Now, we have been through that in this hearing room many times. We are now seeing another chapter of virtual genocide taking -- of these hopeless, helpless people. But there is a distinction. We took a very active role -- I say "we" as a member of the United Nations -- took a very active role in inducing them to take the actions which precipitated this problem of recrimination against them. And it's on that issue that this particular senator finds most troublesome as relating to whether we do or do not join other nations in offering some military assistance. Personally I haven't arrived at my own conclusion. It would be my hope, and I expressed it yesterday through others to the secretary, that we come and consult with the Congress before we make that final decision. Would you so recommend that to the secretary?

*Start w/
Logistics, don't
lay down marker*

GEN. SHELTON: Sir, that is appropriate. It would be my recommendation --

SEN. WARNER: I think it's very important that that be done.

*Start w/
logistics, don't
lay down marker*

Now, I have to go and make this second vote. We are going to do our very best to have this hearing -- I appreciate your cooperation --

HEARING OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF

GENERAL SHELTON TO BE REAPPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE STAFF

9-9-99

CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF 216 HART S
WASHINGTON, D.C. 10:06 A.M. THURSDAY, SEPT
SB-09-02 page# 4

*Any need to send
anyone copies?*

but otherwise we'd be delayed by an hour.

GEN. SHELTON: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

(Recess.)

*cc: NSC
Roths*

SEN. CARL LEVIN (D-MI): (Sounds gavel.) We're back into session, perhaps briefly. Other members of th

CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF 216 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 10:06 A.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1999
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us.

So I am glad you are willing to serve for another two-year term as chairman of our Joint Chiefs. Patriots like you have kept this nation strong and kept our values aloft, and that will continue as long as have men and women like you in service.

So that's my short opening statement. And I also at this point would put in the record a statement of Senator Landrieu, which is also praising you and raising of course a number of questions which she has. I don't know if she'll be able to get here for her questions, but that will be made part of the record as well.

MORE

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HEARING OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION
OF

GENERAL SHELTON TO BE REAPPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF
STAFF

CHAIRMANED BY: SENATOR JOHN WARNER (R-VA) WITNESS: GENERAL HUGH SHELTON,
CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF 216 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 10:06 A.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1999
SB-09-01 page# 1

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THIS IS A RUSH TRANSCRIPT.

SEN. WARNER: (Sounds gavel.) The committee will come to order.
The floor is in the process of voting. There are three votes, and in
order to move this hearing along, I have come back -- will depart for
the second vote. Senator Levin will be over after the second, and
then we'll rotate back and forth.

But we welcome you, general, and I start off by saying I commend
you for your services to the country for many, many, many years, and

also the recognition that the president and the secretary of Defense
have given you by coming forth with a nomination for a second two-year
term as chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

I fully anticipate to give you the strongest support. Of course

I have to wait until the hearing is completed. But having looked at all of the papers in connection with this hearing, and all the communications to the committee, I am confident that we will report favorably your nomination out.

You have served well as chairman since 1997, and you are well

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known to all of us. It was two years ago today exactly, September 9th, 1997, that committee held the first confirmation hearing for your first term. I understand your lovely wife Carolyn is with us today. Carolyn, we thank you. We recognize there is a tremendous demand on your services, and you have been very forthcoming. I have seen recognition given to you in other ceremonies of recent, so I think it's very important that you join us this morning. And on behalf of all in this committee, and indeed the Senate, we express our appreciation to you.

General, there are standard questions. I'll just lead off with them. In order to exercise this legislative and oversight responsibility, it is important that this committee and other appropriate committees of the Congress are able to receive testimony, briefings, and other communications and information. Do you agree, if confirmed by the United States Senate for this second term, to appear before this committee and other appropriate committees of the Congress and give your responses, and if necessary your professional opinion, which could be at variance with that of the president and the secretary of State -- excuse me, Defense -- and State perhaps?

GEN. SHELTON: I do, Mr. Chairman.

SEN. WARNER: I thank you very much. Do you agree, if confirmed, to appear before this committee or designated members of the committee, and provide information subject to appropriate necessary security protection with respect to your responsibilities as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff?

GEN. SHELTON: I do, Mr. Chairman.

SEN. WARNER: Thank you very much. I've looked over all of the other technical papers and everything seems to be in order. I've spoken to my distinguished ranking member, Senator Levin. He is going to make the next vote, which will be momentarily, and then we'll come over and make his opening statement.

I think I will await the presence of other members before we start your statement, so they can have the full benefit. I'll proceed to several questions which are of great concern to me. And of course I think we should lead off with the problems confronting indeed the United Nations and the world in East Timor. I know you've taken an

active role here of recent. I have received some information from the department on it, but I think your comments on that crisis would be very appropriate, and specifically the actions taken thus far by yourself and the secretary of Defense.

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GEN. SHELTON: Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. The -- first of all, I have been actively involved in that, along with our commander in chief of the Pacific Command, Admiral Denny Blair (ph). In fact, Admiral Blair did in fact meet with General Wiranto last night our time. We've made it very clear --

SEN. WARNER: For the record you better identify General Wiranto.

GEN. SHELTON: General Wiranto, the chief for defense for Indonesia, or the head of the TNI, or the Indonesian military force. And we've made it very clear to the Indonesians that we from a military perspective feel like that it is their responsibility to restore order in East Timor, and we expect them to do so. They certainly have the forces there to do that at this time. And when we talked to General Wiranto, he even had more forces that he was planning to send into that area.

SEN. WARNER: Incidentally, did he receive any of his training in

the United States?

GEN. SHELTON: Sir, to my understanding he is one of the very few Indonesian officers that have not had the advantage or had the opportunity for schooling outside of Indonesia.

SEN. WARNER: Many of them, however, have had training here in the United States, and we're hopeful that some of those liaisons can be beneficial in this crisis.

GEN. SHELTON: Sir, that is always a plus in our favor, along with our military-to-military contacts programs. And I have met General Wiranto twice in a previous role, once when I was at Fort Bragg, North Carolina when he visited, and another time when I visited CINCSAC. And that relationship in fact helped me get through to him through the bureaucracy.

But we have also in this process maintained very close coordination with the Australian forces in the area. I've talked to General Barrie, who is my counterpart in Australia. They've taken a leadership role, as you know, in pulling together a plan with others in the region, particularly as relates to a potential evacuation of either all of their forces or even the United Nations military mission that is there on East Timor at this time.

For right now they continue to do planning for both the NEO (ph) -- whether or not that will be executed remains to be seen. As I left the Pentagon this morning it's on-again, off-again. But right now the

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withdrawal of the United Nations force is the same way. Right now any speculation about --

SEN. WARNER: You used the term "withdrawal of the United Nations forces" --

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

SEN. WARNER: That could be somewhat misleading. You mean the United Nations representatives -- they don't have any military as such?

GEN. SHELTON: The mission that they have down there right now --

SEN. WARNER: That's right --

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

SEN. WARNER: -- "forces" connotes military I think the minds of some.

GEN. SHELTON: Right.

SEN. WARNER: But it's just their mission.

MORE

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CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF 216 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 10:08 A.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1999
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GEN. SHELTON: The mission, the United Nations mission that is in fact on the ground there in East Timor. As of this morning there is speculation of a little over a 200 of them plus another 200 or so that are part of the local nationals that have been hired to work for them. Whether or not they'll be pulled out or reduced in size even further remains to be seen as of this morning.

But the Australians have been doing some planning. We have made an offer of assistance for planning staff members to go down from the Pacific Command to assist them in their planning. They clearly are in the lead. And I think any speculation at this point about any U.S. involvement is premature. We have not been asked per se to provide --

SEN. WARNER: When you say "any U.S. involvement" -- now, I think we have got to be careful with our words -- you are providing a planning staff --

GEN. SHELTON: As I --

SEN. WARNER: -- that's involvement.

GEN. SHELTON: As I just stated, we are providing a planning staff.

SEN. WARNER: Correct. Well, that's involvement to some degree.

GEN. SHELTON: Involvement in planning. But in terms of any type of an operation or doing anything other than planning, we have made absolutely no commitment. We in fact -- the Australians have not asked us for anything as of this morning. They have looked at the potential of the size of force they could provide, the type of coalition that they could potential pull together, and what --

SEN. WARNER: That's a coalition of nations.

GEN. SHELTON: -- of nations, which they would pull together.

And what U.S. might could do to assist them, or what they might ask us to do -- the most recent thing that we are hearing from them is the potential for some lift, strategic lift, potential for communications, for logistical support.

SEN. WARNER: Now, that's all military lift, military

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communications?

GEN. SHELTON: Right, correct. Exactly. So --

SEN. WARNER: So we have not as yet foreclosed the option for the president and the secretaries of Defense of State to indicate we are going to take an active role?

GEN. SHELTON: We have not.

SEN. WARNER: I see. Do you have concern that this could open up another operation on a draw-down of military forces of the United States, which again further stresses what I perceive is a very thin situation you now have worldwide?

GEN. SHELTON: Mr. Chairman, that is always a concern -- not so much involvement in an operation, but the continuing commitment of forces without an end date per se, or a capability to withdraw them in a fairly timely manner. It is always something we are concerned about, and of course is a contributing factor to our first tempo challenges in many of our systems and in many of our types of units. So that's something we watch. And that ties into the recommendations

SEN. WARNER: That's a fact that you and the secretary will take into consideration?

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir, it is in fact a part of the recommendation, a consideration.

SEN. WARNER: As I view this situation, we have a record whereby the United Nations took an active role in promoting this election; indeed, they urged the leader of Indonesia to sanction it, and that he did. The election was held. It was a remarkable chapter in the slow but steady democratization of countries in the world. Over 90 percent turned out. And then we all know what happened thereafter.

I do not see that this situation is in the vital security interests of the United States militarily. Do you?

GEN. SHELTON: Mr. Chairman, I think that that is really a policy question, but I would say I -- certainly if you look at East Timor by itself, I cannot see any national interest there that would be overwhelming, would call for us to deploy or place U.S. forces on the ground in that area.

SEN. WARNER: It doesn't put the United States in any position

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that challenges our security interests in that region, does it?

GEN. SHELTON: No, sir. It depends on how you look at Indonesia and then how that ties into the peace and stability within Asia itself -- financially, diplomatically, militarily -- and our relationships with our allies in Australia and New Zealand. In --

SEN. WARNER: But they are less political -- that's political.

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

SEN. WARNER: It seems to me you have three elements. You have whether it challenges our military security interests, vital security interests.

GEN. SHELTON: Yes, sir.

SEN. WARNER: I think you and I agree it's no.

TONY P. HALL

THIRD DISTRICT, OHIO

CLIMATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RULES AND
ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE

CHAIRMAN

DEMOCRATIC TASK FORCE ON HUNGER

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

September 10, 1999

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to commend to you Ms. Kim Denmark from my district who has requested a meeting with you to discuss her work to find jobs for welfare recipients. Ms. Denmark will complete an eight-month, 1100-mile walk from Dayton, Ohio when she arrives at the White House tomorrow. The purpose of her walk is to bring to your and the public's attention the employment needs of welfare recipients and the difficulties facing minority- and female-owned small businesses.

As you know, Mr. President, I have long been involved in the fight against poverty and in giving the less-fortunate the help they need to help themselves. In Dayton, Ms. Denmark started her own small business to fight that same battle. Further, over the last eight months, she has been living that fight in a very personal way during every day of her walk and making the fight real to countless others along the way. Please find enclosed additional information about Ms. Denmark and the attention her walk has been getting.

Ms. Denmark's walk is certainly impressive. After meeting with her personally, however, I can tell you that her concern, her humility, and her commitment to service is even more impressive. I sincerely hope that you also take the opportunity to meet with Ms. Denmark's by accepting her request for an appointment.

Sincerely,



Tony P. Hall
Member of Congress

for Legislative Affairs

TO LEGAFF
FOR
REPLY
JPH

1432 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE
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THU
Staff
Secretary

GETTYSBURG

VOL. 97, NO. 191

GETTYSBURG, PA, AUGUST 12, 1999

TIMES

Activist passes through area on Ohio to D.C. trek

BY DEBRA BROWNLEY
Times Staff Writer

Hoping to bring awareness to the struggle in America for women, minorities and small businesses, Kim Denmark, 38, is walking from Dayton, Ohio to Washington, D.C. to deliver a personal message to President Clinton.

"I think this isn't really about what I want. I think in the end there's a deeper, more spiritual message that involves our entire country," Denmark said.

The businesswoman owns Performance Temporary Service in Dayton, which helps move women from the welfare rolls to the payroll. In her heart, she feels that the current system is not designed to help people get off of welfare.

Using her own funds, she purchased a van and went into the projects to recruit people. Then she provided transportation, uniforms and some training — free of charge — so her clients could make a professional impression.

Although Denmark has never

been on welfare herself, she said "... it gave me relief. It gave me joy ..." to do these things.

Denmark has helped to find jobs for more than 350 welfare recipients.

After trying unsuccessfully to secure a loan from several financial

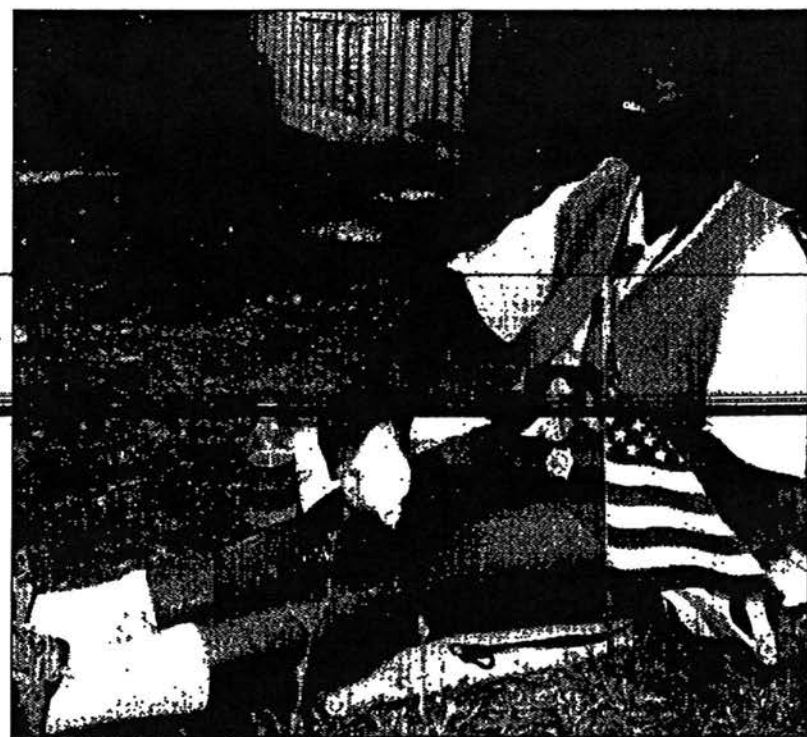
institutions, the college-educated woman had to close the doors to what she believed to be a viable business. Without a line of credit, she could not pay the people who depended on a weekly check.

(See TREK on Page A5)



Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times

Kim Denmark walks eastward along U.S. 30 near Cashtown Wednesday.



Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times

Along U.S. 30 near Cashtown, Kim Denmark cools down by pouring water on her legs during her Ohio-to-Washington D.C. trek Wednesday.

She's walked miles for welfare reform

KIM DENMARK sat in the lobby of downtown Baltimore's Hilton yesterday, still dressed in her walking togs: orange shorts and a T-shirt covered with an orange top so she can be seen in a car's headlights. She needs the protection. She's walked from Dayton, Ohio, and trudged into Baltimore on Saturday with aching knees, swelling legs and throbbing feet.

She stopped at Druid Hill Park, where Radio One's Stone Soul Picnic was in progress. From there, it was on to the Hilton.

"I'm taking a ... rest," Denmark said of her eight-month journey. "I can feel the difference in one day's rest on my lungs."

Her walk continues Sept. 7,

GREGORY KANE

south along U.S. 1 into the nation's capital, where she hopes to meet President Clinton to talk about jobs, welfare, welfare reform, small businesses, minority businesses and the lending practices of some banks.

Jobs are Denmark's career. The 38-year-old black woman opened a temporary agency in a poverty-stricken

black neighborhood of Dayton seven years ago. Using money she had saved from her post office job, Denmark sought out businesses, which paid her weekly. Her temp service grew. Soon welfare recipients looking for work swelled Denmark's office.

When she left Dayton in January, her business — Performance Temporary Services — had about 350 temporary

staffers and served 14 nursing homes.

Denmark

used the last of her savings to buy two vans to shuttle the temporary workers to the nursing homes and to [See Kane, 5a]



Original Article

Ohio woman lets feet do talking on welfare reform

[Kane, from Page 1B]

buy uniforms for her staffers who are certified nurses.

"I had taken a project area and was putting them [residents] to work," Denmark said. "I saw this as a great way to get them off welfare."

She estimated that her small but plucky enterprise got 35 women off welfare rolls last year. Performance also trains temps for jobs.

But the days when Denmark's clients paid her weekly are long gone. Most of the clients are in nursing homes. They pay Denmark as Medicare and Medicare pays them — every 90 days. She's had to borrow money from friends and relatives to make payroll. Frustrated with the situation, Denmark went to a bank for a small-business loan.

"I was rejected, with no real solid reason why I was rejected," Denmark said.

Oh, one bank proposed a partnership, suggesting that she relocate Performance to downtown Dayton and abandon her shuttle service. She refused. She decided to take her case to the city whence all the talk of welfare reform began: Washington.

"I want to bring [Clinton's] attention to what's going on on a national level," Denmark elaborated. "I don't think it's fair that welfare recipients want to work and every door is shut to them."

If that's the case, Denmark shouldn't just talk to Clinton. She should stick around Washington until Congress reconvenes and then walk down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol and pull up some senators and representatives — especially the conservatives and Republicans who (rightly, it should be mentioned) advocated welfare reform. They should be the first to see that a business like Performance

were all those Ohio Republicans during Denmark's plight?

Dayton "didn't want to touch the welfare issue," Denmark said of the response she's gotten when she's asked politicians for help. "I was told it was a political issue."

The nation's lawmakers — and Bill Clinton — had best be wary of Denmark's determination.

She started her trek Jan. 5 — in 4 feet of snow. A blizzard hit Dayton as she was scheduled to depart. She walked up Route 35 to Xenia, Ohio, then to Wilberforce, where she and Rose Patton, her publicist, got snowed in at Central State University.

They continued north to Cleveland, and then east through Pennsylvania. Sometimes local folks would join them for a portion of the walk. When they got to Baltimore, Radio One's Cathy Hughes got word of the march and put them up at the Hilton for the break. She also put them on the air to publicize their cause. The response, in both moral and monetary assistance, has been enormous in Washington — where a support group was formed — and less so in Baltimore.

"We need Baltimore to respond the way D.C. has," Patton said, adding that she and Denmark need money for food and lodging. The Arandale Elks Lodge of Altoona, Pa., has held a fund-raiser for them.

Those who want to put their money where their mouths are — especially you conservatives who railed about welfare reform and putting folks on welfare to work — can call Mandy Martin at 410-285-1023 to inquire about donations. Money also can be sent to Walbrook Junction, P.O. Box 6915, Baltimore 21216. Those wishing to talk to Denmark, the woman with the aching feet, can page her at 800-350-1000.

Trek

(Continued from Page A1)

"I couldn't understand why I had done everything so right and humanitarian, and was rejected from institutions that could have helped these people," she said.

Denmark hopes to find an investor to provide working capital so she can continue to operate. During her trek, she's raising funds along the way in support of business and welfare reform. When she reaches the nation's capitol, she hopes the President will "help her to help others."

The stress of having to turn away people lined up outside the door of her temporary agency made Denmark physically ill. One night, as she lay on her bed, she thought she was having a stroke. She fell into a deep sleep and heard a voice, which she believed to be God, whisper, "You're going to walk, Kim."

Her problem was resolved and her prayers answered. The next morning, Jan. 5, she set out on her nearly 1,000 mile hike from Dayton, in hopes of reaching Washington by Sept. 11.

"We started out on this route with \$20 in our pocket. It had to be God because he provided us with

shelter and food for seven months," said Rose Patton, Denmark's public relations person. "When we were out in the woods, there were no cities close by. We had no money, no sponsors, and we had no idea where we were going to sleep that night. And God sent us an angel that came in the form of a man."

While traveling through Central City, a man driving a pickup truck stopped along the roadside and talked with them for a while. Before he left, he handed Denmark a \$50 bill.

"Are you sure you meant to give me this," Denmark said, adding that she thought he meant to give her a \$20.

The man left, went down the road five miles, and returned with a Bible and two more \$50 bills.

Denmark said she has met many angels along the way. After leaving Caledonia Wednesday morning, she was treated to free peaches and bananas at Barbour's Fruit Market near Cashtown.

Keeping a steady pace, the "peace marcher" walked down Route 30, eastward toward Gettysburg. By 1 p.m., she had traveled 6.7 miles

before stopping for a break. By then, her legs had already begun to swell.

"If I pour cold water on them, it stops the burning. I don't dare take off my socks," she said.

She soon placed her tattered sandwich board sign over top her fluorescent orange vest, and headed down the road once again.

Denmark will be arriving in Gettysburg today about noon. She will have walked 800 miles, including an extra 200 miles out of her way to visit Cleveland, Ohio. But she still has another 140 miles to walk before reaching Washington.

The single mother has pledged to continue her trek while leaving her three youngest children, ages 13, 12, and 11, in her mother's care.

Her eldest daughter, Linda, 15, started traveling with her in June. Linda said that if her mother couldn't finish the trip, she'd do it for her.

"I'm very proud of her. I think that it is a wonderful thing that she is doing," Linda said of her mother's efforts. "She's trying to speak for all ... people in the United States of America that are still struggling."

At each stopping point for the

day, approximately every 10 miles, Denmark places an American flag. The following day, she returns to that spot to begin her walk.

When she hits the bed at night, Denmark falls into a very deep sleep and snores — a new habit that she has developed since being on the road. One of her children said, "Mommy, you sound like a man."

"At night, I cry because my ankles hurt and my toes have little white blisters on them," she commented.

Her children also have helped raise funds for the cause. Sitting outside the local grocery stores, they accepted donations in little coffee cans labeled "March for 99."

Although Denmark hasn't seen her youngest children in more than a month, she said it has been an interesting journey.

While walking along the shoulder

of the road, she has found souvenirs such as marbles, bullets, coins, a monkey wrench, a 1966 Pennsylvania license plate, and two dolls — one glass and one plastic that are both in perfect condition.

"You have to keep one eye down and one eye up (or) you'll fall into a pothole," she said.

The trip hasn't always been glorious. She has been taunted by Ku Klux Klan members, spit on by teenagers, and had lighted cigarette butts and cups of ice thrown at her. Cars have come close to ending her journey.

"I believe when I took this walk I was angry, but I discovered it wasn't a racial issue," she said.

Yesterday, she felt "thick in her lungs," a feeling she knows all too well. Just before entering the town of Cranberry, she succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning from inhaling the fumes of passing cars.

The incident left her bedridden for three weeks.

However, Denmark said, with a good heart there is "beauty in every town." She hopes people will come out and show their support today as she enters the borough limits. This weekend, she plans to take in the historic sites before departing Monday for Littlestown.

After traveling cross-country, Denmark is in a desperate need of road-trip amenities such as socks, underwear, meals and lodging.

"Every day the friction destroys my socks," she said.

So far, Denmark has gone through five pairs of shoes and more than 70 pairs of socks. People interested in contributing may call Rose Patton at 1-888-859-1023.

Monetary donations should be made payable to: c/o Kim Denmark, Deplacc, 4011 St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.