THE

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY



317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003 110 Sutter Street, Suite 1003, San Francisco, CA 94104

To all News Editors, Feature Editors, Sports Editors and Assignment Editors:

RE: The HikaNation - a transcontinental hike from San Francisco to Washington, DC, 1980/1981

The American Hiking Society will conduct a press conference for all members of the Bay Area media on Wednesday, April 2, at 1:00 p.m. The press conference will be held in the State Building, 350 McAllister Street, in Room 1159.

Members of the Bay Area organizing committee of the HikaNation, including Nobel Laureate Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Associate Director-at-Large, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, will be available to answer questions. Dr. Seaborg has walked the entire width of California laying out the route the hikers will take on their way to the Nevada border before going on to Washington, DC. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Interior's Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, the co-sponsoring organization, will also be on hand to answer questions, as well as long-distance hikers from the Bay Area who will attempt the 14-month long transcontinental hike.

A major feature of the opening weekend activities in San Francisco, April 12th and 13th, will be the crossing of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge on foot by an estimated 15 to 25,000 hikers. This will be the first (and possibly only) time CalTrans has allowed the top deck to be opened to foot traffic since the Bridge was built in 1936.

A core group of 80 to 100 hikers ranging in age from 5 months to 68 years will attempt the crossing of the United States.

For further information concerning the Press Conference and the upcoming <u>HikaNation</u>, contact Mike McReynolds, 981-0970. Previous information concerning the event and the route through California has been sent to you.

The American Hiking Society

and

U.S. Department of Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

HikaNation Press Conference, April 2, 1980

Participant List:

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