

## Cross-Country Rev. Moon is Innocent Peace Walk: Our Goal, Together

Matsuo Machida  
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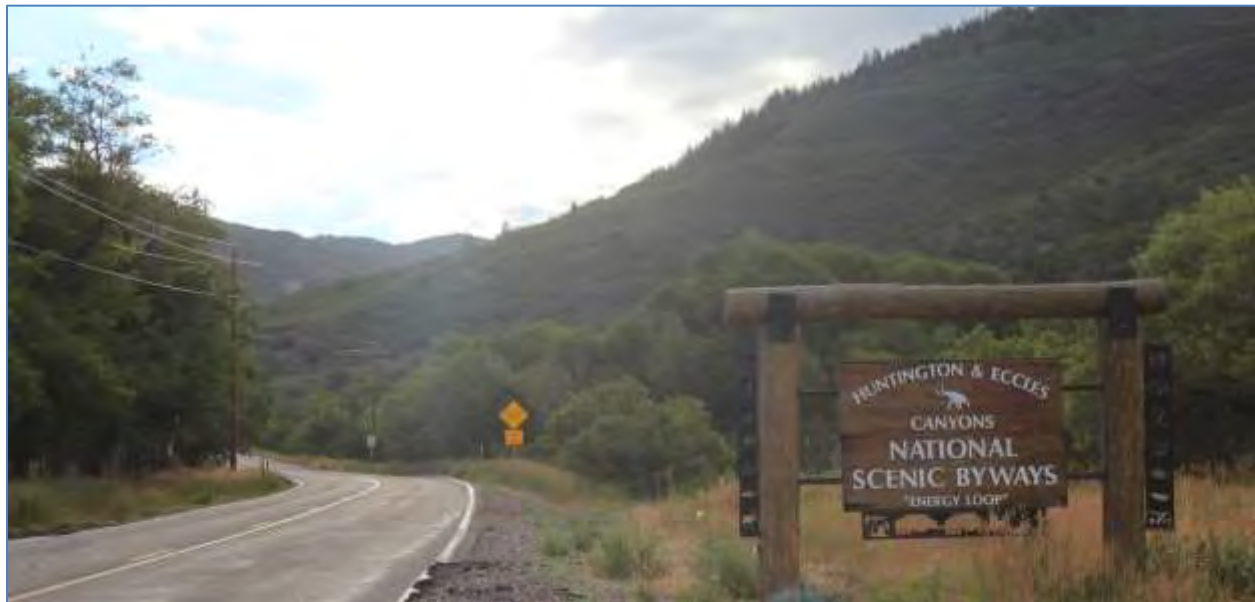


On July 20, day 26 of the journey, Bill Betchel and Luke Higuchi went to pick up Mr. Machida five miles east from Fairfield, Utah. They had a farewell dinner for Bill at the Home Plate Café, as Luke took over the route to accompany Mr. Machida. Over dinner they also met one family of which the father was Japanese, and had a nice conversation about the cause of Mr. Machida's cross country trek.





The next day, Luke met Mr. Machida just past Scofield, at a beautiful lake. He had been walking until 9:30 pm. Luke took him to a motel in a small town called Helper. The town was the location of the famous rail road that provided service to the coal mines of Westers, Carmon and Emery counties.



Mr. Machida woke up at 4:00 am the next day. Luke took him back to the spot where he had picked him up, five miles south of Route 6, and he started walking at 5:45 am. It was still in dark, but the sun rose soon after. He took Route 6 and took a short cut to route 191, also called Ema Parkway. The Ema parkway was beautiful and not many cars drove through. He had a peanut butter sandwich for lunch and then hiked seven miles up the mountain (9114 feet in elevation). This wasn't easy, and he enjoyed a well-deserved dinner of rice, pasta and fish, 20 miles south of Duchesne, Utah.



The next morning was another early rise, before 4:00 am. Luke asked Mr. Machida, “How you wake up every day? Do you use alarm clock?” He said, “No, I don’t use an alarm clock. God wakes me up every day; God knows about my physical condition well. I feel God is really paying attention to me for the cross country condition.”



Luke also asked him one question the previous night: “What are you thinking as you walk all day long?”

He laughed and said, “Many people ask me that same question. I don’t really thinking anything, I just concentrate to go forward one step after another. I’m thinking about pain in my feet when there is any. I care about my body condition and how I manage my time and pace to walk. I am focusing on how I can reach my goal to arrive at the United Nations Headquarters in New York by September 18. It is not an easy goal. I need to reach Denver by August 4.”



He told Luke a story about the day before his departure from Japan at the Narita Airport in Tokyo. His wife had a vision that True Father appeared and said, “There is no value without victory.” Mr. Machida is

challenging and pushing himself, motivating himself to reach end by September 18.

Luke says, "I think this is not only his goal but also our goal. We need to help him and pray for him to reach his goal."



Mr. Machida walked 25 miles that day from Duchesne to Roosevelt, and anticipates a 45-mile day on July 24.

