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TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE FIRST LADY AT THE WALKATHON
ORGANISED BY THE SINGAPORE GIRLS' BRIGADE AT
FAIRFIELD METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL, NEIL ROAD,
ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, AT 8 A.M.

It is a great pleasure to be present at this very interesting event in the history of the Singapore Girls' Brigade, namely the Walkathon of Faith, Hope and Love.

I wish to commend your steadfast faith in setting out to achieve two objectives through this Walkathon. Firstly, the Walkathon is organised to raise funds for the delegates attending the Brigade International Council Conference and the Fonomarae in New Zealand in 1973. Regional and international gatherings of youth ought to be encouraged, because they provide our young people with the opportunity of experiencing what it is like to live with other peoples, whose outlooks and ways of life are different from their own. They will learn to accept other people for what they are, regardless of race, culture or religion.

The second objective of this Walkathon is to service the needs of two local institutions for the aged, namely, the Christian Old Women's Home and the Old People's Home. This Walkathon, therefore, not only shows the love of the Girls' Brigade for outdoor adventure but it also reflects their concern for the aged and the needy in our Republic. My fervent hope is that as members of the Girls' Brigade you will continue to render greater service to those with whom you come in contact and to our nation.

The training you receive through the Girls' Brigade helps you to be rugged, self-reliant and useful young women of our Republic. May your participation in the Walkathon this morning strengthen your will to share your ideals with others and to serve without thought of reward.

Now it is my great pleasure to declare the Walkathon open.