

Message From French Prison Camp: Help Now!

Postcard From Anti-Fascist Prisoner Tells of
Urgent Need for Aid; 'This May Be My
Last Word,' It Says; Firing Squads Ready

AN OPEN LETTER TO SECRETARY CORDELL HULL AND THE PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS // ON BEHALF OF THE ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEES TRAPPED IN FRANCE

An Appeal

To the New York Herald Tribune:
At this moment, when the future
of our nation alone but that of
all nations is being decided, we, the
undersigned English writers, ask to
be heard by the writers of other
countries.

BERGEN EVE REC.
JULY 10, 1940

BERKLEY CAL. GAZETTE
JULY 4, 1940

DESPERATE appeals from the Ger-
man, Austrian and Spanish ex-
iles in French concentration camps,
many of whom face execution within
next few days if they fall into the
hands of the French government
the Nazis. The shameless terms of the arm-
istice provide that the French government
can save the lives of
these exiles over upon demand.
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N. Y. HERALD TRIB
JULY 9, 1940

Victorious Shall We Batt
Jewish Blood Runs from
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to Save Refugees
Urging that the American
do all in its power to
refugees in France, Dr. Wil-
E. Ritter, well known scien-
and professor of zoology
at the University of
California, this week sent a tele-
to the State Department, to
California's two senators and to
Congressman John R. Tolan.
The telegram read: "Speaking
member of American Commit-
for Democracy and Intellec-
tual Freedom I urge our Govern-
ment do its best to save refugees
in France, some of whom have
been in their homes and as
likely to be over to Germany
after armistice agreement between
France and Germany."
Ritter said today that he
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on the first have we done to show
many appreciation of their course
Julian gallantry?
Exactly nothing. For the visas for
German and French and
Polish and Dutch immigrants have
long since been used up. It is true
that America will still give a tem-
porary visa to such fugitives, pro-
vided they have a second visa for
definite destination in still
country. But with the rising
Fascism and
scientific material.
at shall be done? Obvious
should follow the example
to Domingo, Bolivia, Cuba
pressed their willingness to grant
lum to Spanish refugees and in-
national volunteers who are in
France and North Africa and who
are not flee to Spanish and Por-
tuguese ports even if they could
at the end of the

*Handbill given to
Berlin B. Chapman
at CCNY.*

July 22, 1940

The Honorable Cordell Hull
Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers
Havana, Cuba

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The terms of the armistice under which France surrendered to Germany and Italy endanger the lives of a large number of anti-fascist refugees, many of great distinction, who now, as German and Italian subjects, are to be returned to their respective countries. This includes large numbers of Poles, Czechs, and Austrians who are regarded as German subjects. Some of them are in especial danger because of their service in the former International Brigade of the Spanish Republican Government. Others, including internationally known scientists, writers, doctors, lawyers, etc., have long been marked men by reason of their anti-fascist activities of varied types. In addition, approximately 160,000 Spanish Republican men, women and children are in exile in France and are now faced with forcible return to Fascist Spain.

Mexico and other Latin-American countries have signified their willingness to admit a large number of these refugees. Mexico has, in addition, offered the protection of its government to these refugees while they are in France, both in German-occupied and French-occupied territory. The Chilean and Cuban Embassies in Washington and the Bolivian Legations have recommended to their respective governments a similar program of protection. These plans would be greatly furthered by the co-operation of all American governments and relief agencies, including the Red Cross societies.

Inasmuch as the agenda of the forthcoming Havana Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers provides for a discussion of this subject, we urge

A. That our government immediately instruct the United States delegation to the Havana Conference to propose to the Conference that all American governments extend their protection at once to the anti-fascist refugees in France whose lives are in danger, and that this protection be offered to all such refugees without distinction or discrimination.

B. That the American governments immediately notify the French government and the governments of all belligerent nations of such offers of protection.

C. That the American governments immediately instruct their diplomatic representatives in France to issue visas to the refugees, such visas to be good for either temporary or permanent entry to the American countries issuing them and their numbers to be as large as the conditions and laws of the respective countries make possible.

D. That the diplomatic representatives of the American countries in France be instructed to transport, under their protection, the refugees to French-occupied and/or Portuguese ports, transportation to be provided and paid for by the American governments, Red Cross societies and other interested agencies.

E. That a commission be set up consisting of representative of the American governments, Red Cross societies, relief agencies, labor groups, and other interested organizations, to arrange the protection, evacuation, and rehabilitation of the refugees.

Further, we urge that, in keeping with the generous offers of asylum made by Latin American countries, our Department of State cooperate with the proper government agencies to make available ships for the transportation of the refugees to the American countries admitting them, the cost to be born by the United States government and/or the American Red Cross and other interested organizations.

Respectfully yours,

Rev. Henry A. Atkinson
Church Peace Union, N. Y.

Prof. Ruth Benedict
Columbia University, N. Y.

Prof. Franz Boas
Columbia University, N. Y.

Prof. Walter B. Cannon
Harvard Medical School, Mass.

Dr. J. McKeen Cattell
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Henry S. Coffin
Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.

Prof. Robert L. Hale
Columbia University, N. Y.

Dr. Robert S. Lynd
Columbia University, N. Y.

Helen Merrell Lynd
Sarah Lawrence College, N.Y.

Dean Charles M. McConn
New York University, N.Y.

Bishop Francis S. McConnell
Methodist Church, N. Y.

Dr. Kirtley F. Mather
Harvard University, Mass.

Prof. Clyde R. Miller
Columbia University, N.Y.

Prof. S. A. Mitchell
University of Virginia

Dr. Roscoe Pulliam
Southern Illinois Normal
University

Prof. Walter Rautenstrauch
Columbia University, N. Y.

Prof. Harlow Shapley
Harvard University, Mass.

Prof. L. J. Stadler
University of Missouri

Dr. Ordway Tead
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Randall Thompson
Curtis Institute of Music
Philadelphia, Pa.

Prof. Harold C. Urey
Columbia University, N. Y.

Carleton Washburne
Winnetka, Ill.

Dr. Mary E. Woolley
Westport, N. Y.

YOU CAN TAKE . . .

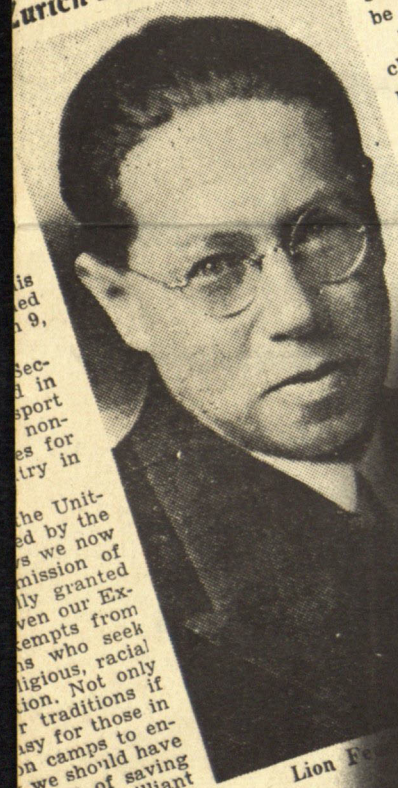
FRANCE MUST POLITICAL REFUGEES

Berlin Explains Trace Clause for Surrender of Persons Named

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. BERLIN, June 23—The full significance of the armistice with France that "France will protect all Germans living in French colonies, protected by the German Government," was frankly revealed in a formal statement here today.

France, it is stated, has admitted in the years since 1933 a number of "questionable political personages" and given them an opportunity to agitate against the National Socialist-Nazi Germany within her jurisdiction. It is hotly denied that the "war criminals" can in any way be interned with the Allied army. "All Italian within her jurisdiction and Italian mand can in any way be sentenced for trial for the crimes, or on two years ago. Nor is it war shall be imposed on the Germans say, that in violation of the Versailles treaty, it is stated, shows "an in-credible lack of tact and sense of honor."

As Hold Feuchtwanger, Zurich Dispatch Declares



Lionel Lincoln Feuchtwanger

LONDON, Teleg. change Zurich reported Feuchtwanger, was author, who the

College of Wisconsin University of its committee is naturally interested and rightly, in the fate of educators who are writers and other intellectuals who are caught in the Fascist net in France.

BROOKLYN CITIZEN JULY 11, 1940

There are, however, many others among refugees who should be rescued if possible for better social conditions and trade unionists and political refugees who had to flee from their home countries and Naziism and Fascism in their lives. The committee suggests that the release of the refugees from the concentration camps might be secured and that they might have consular protection and then be evacuated to other countries by the Red Cross. Practically all citizens have contributed to Red Cross fund.

ALTOONA PA. MIRROR JULY 16, 1940

Washington to aid it in evacuation of refugees would be useful. The suggests writing to the president, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, to send national headquarters, to the Red Cross to the French and British embassies at Washington. If these activities should result in saving part of the refugees, they would be able.

NEW YORK POST JULY 8, 1940

WHAT IS TO BECOME OF GERMAN EXILES IN FRANCE

That is a burning question and one that must have an answer soon. The only solution seems to be to find an asylum for these unfortunate people and induce the conqueror of France to permit them to leave, as emigrants, for any asylum that might be provided for them.

Hundreds of men, women and children constituting for the most part an intellectual and cultural group and known as anti-fascists, were compelled to flee Germany in pre-war days. Many of these found a haven in France, others in Holland and elsewhere. Now what? France and Holland are merely corporative states of Germany and, according to the armistice, the only solution is to surrender these exiles to the German government.

We are taking the liberty of asking for editorial comment upon the desperate plight of the German, Austrian, Italian and Spanish exiles in French concentration camps, many of whom face execution within the next few days if they fall into the hands of the Nazis. The shameless French-German armistice terms should be turned over by the French government is to hand.

MILWAUKEE EVE. POST JULY 12, 1940

Only a few of the exiles can save the lives of the thousands—literal unionists, and rank and file workers have been in the front line of struggle against Fascist barbarism. Such men as Heinrich Mann, Konrad Heiden and Friedrich Wolf—to name but three of the thousands—literally face immediate death.

OHIO AMER. TRIB. JULY 13, 1940

Some of these exiles actually have American visas and others have visas for Latin-American countries. For the great majority, however, a visa must be found. The camps until they are released. Some similar cases they can resolve. In connection it is worth noting the president's executive order (March 9, 1939), which reads: "The secretary of state has discretion to waive passport requirements for a non-immigrant alien admission at a port of entry in the United States."

Refuge for Britain and declared war against Germany but proceeded to impound refugees who were German subjects. Later, when Italy entered the war, the victims of Mussolini's displeasure who happened to have fled for asylum to Great Britain and France were similarly treated. The measure was undoubtedly justified. It was obviously easy enough for a German or an Italian spy to pass himself off as an exile and to gather information of value.

Under the terms of Article XIX of the German armistice and Article XXI of the Italian, France is required to surrender "all Germans named by the German Government and within French jurisdiction and Italian civilians who have been interned or arrested and sentenced for political reasons, crimes or on account of the war." There is little doubt that both Hitler and Mussolini intend to wreak vengeance on exiles who have waged the fight for democracy on French soil.

The fate that awaits the unfortunate exiles who have been conventionally interned, so that Hitler and Mussolini are spared the trouble of tracking them down, may have been indicated in the threats of Nazi orators broadcast for the special benefit of the return of refugees to provision of the armistice which provides for "political criminals" and "dark political criminals" was held up for especial radio commentary. "It is nothing more than clear justice that these criminals should be turned over by the French to German justice," ran the argument.

To list even the more distinguished of the exiles who are in danger of their lives is impossible. Among the Czechs and Slovaks are the playwright and poet Frantisek Langer, who writes in ten languages; Adolf Hofmeier, author of "American Swings" a well-known writer and cartoonist Anton Pelc, whose lauding of Hitler was often the cause of diplomatic protest by the German Legation. The German Austrians include Heinrich Heine, brother of Thomas; Josef Wirblich, the dramatist; of the Reich Chancellor of the Reich, Leopold Budislawsky, former man Weltbuehne; Leopold schuld, who edited Daedalus, a liberal paper which was suppressed; Professor I. Feuchtwanger, who was a member of the secret committee of the Nazis; Konrad Heiden, author of the biography of Heinrich Heiden, and Alfred Polgar, a member of the editorial staff of the New York Times.

... THESE STEPS

- 1 Cable Secretary Hull in Havana urging the five-point program embodied in the enclosed open letter.
- 2 Write your local congressmen and senators and the national office of the Red Cross in Washington to the same effect.
- 3 Write to your local newspapers asking for editorial support of this program.

authoritative information reached us that our government is willing to take in Spanish refugees and that their German governments on the question have already approached both the need our help, however, in arranging transportation. We are confident that you will want to give support to this humanitarian campaign. We should appreciate receiving copies of such materials or of other materials on the issue which Sincerely yours,
FRANZ BOAS,
Committee for De-

NEW YORK JULY

All the man and lists and Slovaks of Poles and sc' Paris a ed a much Wh we s Sant Chil' exp asy te F