AN OPEN LETTER TO
S E C R E T A R Y  C O R D E L L  H U L L
A N D  T H E  P A N  A M E R I C A N
C O N F E R E N C E  O F  F O R E I G N
M I N I S T E R S  —  O N  B E H A V I O R
O F  T H E  A N T I -  F A S C I S T
R E F U E G E E S  T R A P P E D  I N
F R A N C E

To Save Refugees
Urging that the American government do all in its power to
save refugees in France, Dr. William E. Ritter, well-known
zoologist, professor of zoology at the University of
California, this week sent a letter to the State Department, to
Senator Pat Harrison, and to President-elect Franklin D.
Roosevelt. In the letter, Dr. Ritter said he feels that the
American people have a moral obligation to save the
refugees from France, and that the American government
should do everything possible to aid them.

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 Appeal
To the New York Herald Tribune,

At this moment, when the future of
our country is in our own hands, we
the undersigned English writers, ask
our country to help the anti-Fascist
refugees in France.

Secretary Cordell Hull

And The Pan American
Conference of Foreign
Ministers — On Behalf
Of The Anti-Fascist
Refugees Trapped In
France

N. Y. HERALD TRIB
JULY 9, 1940

BERGEN EVE. REC.
JULY 10, 1940

BERKELEY CAL. GAZETTE
JULY 4, 1940

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
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 special 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 100,000 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 cooperation 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 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 representatives 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 Boos
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.

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

Helen Marrell Lynd
Sarah Lawrence College, N. Y.

Dean Charles M. McDonnell
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.

YOU CAN TAKE....
**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.**