

An International Committee composed of nationals of Denmark, Germany, Great Britain and the United States, desires to suggest to the Chinese and Japanese authorities the establishment of a Safety Zone for Civilian Refugees, in the unfortunate event of hostilities at or near Nanking.

The International Committee will undertake to secure from the Chinese authorities specific guarantees that the proposed Safety Zone would be made free and kept free from military establishments and offices, including those of communications; from the presence of armed men other than civil police with pistols; and from the passage of soldiers or military officers in any capacity. The International Committee would inspect and observe the Safety Zone to see that these undertakings are satisfactorily carried out.

The International Committee proposes the designation of the area indicated below, as convenient and suitable for the care of civilian refugees. This area lies well within the western section of the city which the Japanese air forces have carefully respected in their bombing operations. The proposed area is delimited as follows: On the east, by North Chung Shan Road from Hsin Chieh K'ou to the Shansi Road Circle. On the north, by a line running due west from the Shansi Road Circle to Sikang Road (which is the western boundary of the New Residential District). On the west, by Sikang Road from the northern line just mentioned, running southward to the intersection of Hankow Road (this intersection is the southwest corner of the New Residential District); thence southeasterly in a straight line to the intersection of Shanghai Road with Han Chung Road. On the south, by Han Chung Road from the intersection of Shanghai Road to the original starting point at Hsin Chieh K'ou. The International Committee would see to it that the boundaries of the area would be clearly marked with white flags or with other indications to be agreed upon, plain



to all concerned. The Committee proposes that the Safety Zone become effective from the date of notification/ to the authorities of both sides that the understanding is completed.

The International Committee earnestly hopes that the Japanese authorities may find it possible for humanitarian reasons to respect the civilian character of this Safety Zone. The Committee believes that merciful foresight on behalf of civilians will bring honor to the responsible authorities on both sides. In order that the necessary negotiations with the Chinese authorities may be completed in the shortest possible time, and also in order that adequate preparations may be made for the care of refugees the Committee would respectfully request a prompt reply from the Japanese authorities to this proposal.

The International Committee confidently trusts that there will be favorable consideration <sup>of</sup> ~~ef~~ this appeal.

Respectfully submitted:

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*Transmitted from the East.*

*Mon 10:00 P.M. Nov. 22d.*