MEMORANDUM TO SECRETARY STIMSON

There is attached a proposed statement to be issued by General Eisenhower with respect to prisoners in enemy concentration and forced labor camps which the War Refugee Board has submitted for consideration.

In view of the seriousness of the situation, I think General Eisenhower should issue such a statement as promptly as possible.

[Signature]
There are within your midst large numbers of persons in forced-labor battalions and in concentration camps. Without regard to their nationality or religious faith, Germans, these are my orders: You shall disregard any order from whatever source, to molest, or otherwise harm or persecute any of these people. As the Allied armies, already firmly on German soil, advance, we shall expect to find these persons alive and unharmed. Severe penalties will be inflicted upon anyone who is responsible, directly or indirectly, in large measure or in small, for their mistreatment. Those now exercising authority, take heed—

[Signature]

SECRET