June 20, 1942

The Hon. Herbert H. Lehman
Executive Mansion
Albany, New York

Dear Sir:

The vast concentration of American manpower in camps and naval bases offers an unprecedented opportunity to do a job of strengthening the sense of unity now, and building bridges of understanding that will be helpful during the period of demobilization when the men return to their villages, towns and cities all over the country.

As a result of conversations with responsible officials who have given their hearty personal approval to the program, the National Conference of Christians and Jews plans to make available distinguished Americans, singly and in teams of two or three, for visits to camps. Copy of one invitation is attached. We have a number of other requests for speakers. And there are 400 camps. The speakers will be presented in the theaters of the camps except where outdoor meetings are advisable. The themes will deal with the values for which we are fighting, and with some consideration of the post-war world Americans want to live in.

I am writing to ask if you will make at least one appearance in a camp this summer at a time most convenient for you. It merits the sacrifice of an American leader, busy as I know you are, to do this for the men in uniform.

So that the program may be as speedily initiated as possible, may I have a favorable reply at an early date? If you assent, we can communicate later about the camp and the date.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Everett R. Clinchy
President