

# AMERICANS UNITED

for

## DEMOCRACY and WORLD ORDER

*By Ulric Bell*

CAN Americans be made to realize what a close call this country had in being unprepared, morally and otherwise, against the Nazi-Fascist attempt to enslave the world?

And, now that the military menace to the world's freedom, including the freedom of Americans, is being lessened, can the country be roused so to act that neither the military menace can recur nor the Fascist idea again take hold anywhere, most particularly in the United States?

Many of the most distinguished men and women of the day believe that popular awareness of these things can be brought about. By banding together in Americans United for World Organization, they have set the pattern for a movement paralleling the steps taken in other countries to mobilize democratic forces and promote unity of the nations for permanent peace. They even hope that this endeavor will surpass the proportions attained by the Free World Organization elsewhere. Theirs is a thoroughly American undertaking but it takes into account the common aspirations of free men the world over. It will therefore cooperate closely with FREE WORLD in all proper fields, having, indeed, absorbed the American Free World Association in its framework.

On the auspicious side, AU starts out with a consolidation of most of the active national groups working for world organization in the field of political action. For once, after many vicissitudes, these groups are now under one banner, and many others have joined the line-up of cooperating organizations within educational and

research limits. The united front consists of the old Committee to Defend America, the Fight for Freedom, the United Nations Association, Citizens for Victory, the American Free World Association and the United Nations Committee of Greater New York. These are the organizations actually combining their activities in the political sphere—and political sphere means supporting and opposing candidates, and combatting isolationism in every respect.

Another asset is the non-partisan and catholic array of individuals enlisted in the effort. These names are a broad cross-section of every phase of American life—labor, business, the press, the clergy, educators, the arts and sciences, politics and both sides of the railroad tracks. On the question of fighting the elements and trends and individuals threatening to a democratic and secure future for the world, they are of one mind. They are determined that ignominious political history shall not repeat itself.

Still another advantage is that the components of the consolidated endeavor attract at once the militant citizenry allied at one time or another with such organizations as the Fight for Freedom and the Committee to Defend America. A legion of Americans followed these banners and millions more have joined them under the lessons imparted by this war.

Some of the staff and officer personnel of the former groups have joined Americans United in the activity flowing out of 5 West 54th Street, New York. This is a factor against old pitfalls.

In technique, the AU leaders are proceeding in the conviction that the man in

the street must have the issues presented to him in simple and understandable terms. No matter by what intricate processes the blueprints for the future are arrived at, the average citizen must be able to grasp the idea that heroic and unprecedented action must be taken by the nations to prevent the "next" war, or civilization will be rocked. He must know that neither he nor his children can withstand the super-robots, and the women of America must know that their sons and husbands might have been spared this time but for the failure of recent generations.

Americans United will argue that Americans failed the last time because they did not insist upon applying to international organization the same democratic precepts of equality of standing and unity of action they practice—to the awe and admiration of the world—in the system known as the United States of America. They will seek *democratic* principles in the establishment of a world organization. At the same time, asking that this organization

have the automatic power to act against aggressors, they will set forth that national sovereignty is something to be used to the degree necessary and not made a pretext for not joining in an effective line-up of the nations.

Moreover, Americans United has the task of rousing Americans to the fact that democracy begins at home; that it cannot be compromised at any point without incurring the risk of a Fascist foothold somewhere. It will fight and fight hard for political candidates of either party who support its objectives. And it will combat to the utmost the subversive and anti-American elements which masquerade as superpatriotic groups. Whether it can wake up average America to the danger that even with military victory the Fascist idea can grow in this country, remains to be seen. But the determined men and women who have launched this undertaking have the faith that the ordinary American citizen only needs to know the facts—his own way.

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**SOMETHING NO READER CAN AFFORD TO MISS**

# IN DEFENSE OF THE AMERICAS

By

ALBERTO GUANI

**T**HE Emergency Committee for Political Defense, created by the conference of Secretaries of State at Rio de Janeiro, is an integral part of a plan of total defense against the project of world domination by Axis countries.

Since the beginning of the war in 1939, nazi societies more or less secret in character, made their appearance on the American continent. In the case of Uruguay the existence of German fascist organizations was officially recognized in July of 1940, when Minister Langman, accredited to Montevideo, was forced to take action to dissolve these organizations according to the outline given him by the Ministry of Foreign Relations.

The strangest part of this affair is that the Chief of the German delegation thought a dual function or a political mission from his country into ours a feasible addition to his official diplomatic functions. That was the extreme to which the Nazis erred as far as international judgment was concerned.

The Minister declared openly that the organization of the Party called NSDAP in our country was under his personal supervision. This statement, obviously, presupposed government consent to allowing powers to be attributed to the Chief of a diplomatic mission, not in accord with the functions foreseen by public law, since foreign residents are completely under the jurisdiction of national laws.

Uruguay, like all the countries of the Americas, though conceding all kinds of guarantees and liberties to the foreigner in his activities, expects him, once he is

established in our territory, to obey no other authority, nor be under any jurisdiction other than that established by the laws of the Uruguayan State. The "Concept of Minorities" which the above statement implies, is unknown to our legislature and to our history.

Similar activities of the Axis were scattered all over the Americas, utilizing thousands of persons, financial, commercial and transportation groups and organizations, as well as the Axis diplomatic missions, as in this instance—and even traitorous citizens of the American States.

Here, in short, is what the Emergency Committee has been organized to combat in a logical, legal and political manner. I will outline briefly the form of organi-

