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## CONFIDENTIAL

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one being mailed from New York City. In TROTSKY circles it was considered that KLEMENT had been kidnapped by the G.P.U. (Soviet Intelligence) and forced to write the letters. VAN HEIJENOORT continued that in about September, 1938, the body of KLEMENT was recovered from the Seine River in Paris. Inquiry by the French police never solved the disappearance and death of KLEMENT.

VAN HEIJENOORT pointed out that in light of the present knowledge that ETIENNE (MARK ZBOROWSKI), ROMAN WELL (ROBERT SOBLE) and SENIN (JACK SOBLE) were then agents of the G.P.U., the following items in the Archives folder relating to RUDOLF KLEMENT appear to be significant.

l. JEAN ROUS, Paris attorney and TROTSKY associate, gave information to the French police in 1938. ROUS mentioned as a known fact that ROMAN WELL was "shortly before that time" doing G.P.U. work commuting between Paris and Barcelona. VAN HEIJENOORT noted that WELL is mentioned in KLEMENT'S letter and the KLEMENT'S letter was mailed to LEON TROTSKY from Perpignan, France, a town near the French-Spanish border and on the route to Barcelona. VAN HEIJENOORT said he did not know the basis for ROUS' allegation re ROMAN WELL.

In this connection it is recalled that JACK SOBLE has stated that the difficulty he encountered in France in the late 1940's in legalizing his stay was due to the police record of a SOBOLEVICIUS who visited France in 1938. JACK SOBLE claimed that this French police record pertained to ROBERT SOBLE. It will also be recalled that records furnished to the Legat, Paris, by French sources show that ROBERT was in Paris during 1938.

2. A letter from "NATIE" (VAN HEIJENOORT stated he does not know the true identity of "NATIE") to JAMES P. CANNON, American Trotskyite leader, dated July 19, 1938, states:

"To the best of our knowledge KLEMENT was in Paris at about noon on Wd. (Wednesday?), July 13... He picked up his mail at the Librarie. He also picked up the mail belonging to ETIENNE. ETIENNE reports that it was customary for KLEMENT to pick up ETIENNE's mail if the two had an appointment for a later hour in the day. This was the case at this particular time since, as reported above, KLEMENT had an appointment with ETIENNE for 6 P.M. that same evening which appointment KLEMENT missed".

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