LETTER BY ACHESON ENTERS ALIEN CASE

State Department Aide Asked to Name 'Authorities' Opposed to the von Kleczkowskis

Dr. Karl von Kleczkowski, former German espionage agent, and his wife, Stella, were interned here as dangerous enemy aliens after they had failed to convince "authorities" of the value of their services.

This explanation was made by Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State, in a letter to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, it was asserted yesterday by Louis Waldman, attorney for the aliens.

The von Kleczkowskis, now on Ellis Island, have been ordered deported either to Turkey or their native Austria. They are fighting the deportation order in Federal court on the ground that they were promised a haven here in return for services to the Allies after desertion of the German cause in 1943. A trial on all issues in the case has been fixed for Feb. 10.

Mr. Acheson wrote to Mrs. Roosevelt in reply to a query:

"They [the von Kleczkowskis] were employed as German agents in Turkey when they indicated that they might be of value to the Allied cause. They were subsequently afforded a somewhat unusual opportunity to prove the value of their possible services but failed to convince the authorities concerned and were consequently interned in this country as dangerous enemy aliens."

In view of this statement, Mr. Waldman wrote to the Assistant Secretary yesterday for informa-

[illegible] vince."

The only American official mentioned in the case so far has been former Gov. George H. Earl of Pennsylvania, former Presidential envoy at Istanbul, and George W. H. Britt, former head of the Office of War Information in Turkey. Both officials, Mr. Waldman wrote to Mr. Acheson, have testified that "among Dr. von Kleczkowski's services to the Allied cause was one which produced great and valuable results beyond any questions."

The attorney referred to an affidavit by Mr. Earle that an exodus from the Abwehr, German counter - espionage organization was brought about by Dr. von Kleczkowski and produced "a catastrophic effect on the German intelligence organization in the Middle East."

Mr. Waldman asked that if the "authorities" referred to by Mr. Acheson were other than Mr. Earl and Mr. Britt that they be disclosed in the interest of "simple justice." The lawyer wrote that if others were involved he intended to subpoena them for the trial next month.

"We are determined to break the jam and solve the mystery of why and what is behind the drive to send the unhappy von Kleczkowskis to their doom," Mr. Waldman said.

He declared that in the light of the known facts the statement of Mr. Acheson to Mrs. Roosevelt was a little "short of amazing."

"If necessary," he added, "we will subpoena Dean Acheson and his files."

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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
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