

Pursuant to a teletype to the Director and Richmond Office dated January 25, 1949, advising that unless advised to the contrary, agents of this office would interview CLAUDIE CATLETT at Winchester, Virginia, on January 26, 1949, Special Agents ROBERT O. CHICHESTER and DONALD WALTER proceeded to Winchester, Virginia on January 26, 1949. There they interviewed CLAUDIE CATLETT who presently resides at 542 N. Kent Street, Winchester, Virginia and took from her a signed statement. The contents of this signed statement are not being set out verbatim herein inasmuch as a further complete signed statement setting forth detailed information as presently recalled by CLAUDIE CATLETT was obtained at the conclusion of interviews with her and that statement will be set out verbatim hereinafter.

In substance, Mrs. CATLETT, at the time of this interview, advised that she worked for ALGER HISS and DONALD HISS for a period of about ten years starting with ALGER HISS while he was residing at 2905 P Street and doing laundry work for them. She continued in the ALGER HISSES' employ at 1245 30th Street, N. W. and 3415 Volta Place, N. W. She procured this employment through the recommendation to Mrs. ALGER HISS from Mrs. DONALD HISS who had known her as the wife of the janitor of the apartment house in which the DONALD HISSES were then living. She advised that the only other maid who ever worked for the HISSES whose identity she knows is one named DRUCILLA, last name unknown. When she was shown photographs of Mrs. and Mrs. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, on this occasion, she advised that she did not recognize the persons shown in the photograph. She advised that she does not recall anyone staying in the HISSES' home whose name was CARL.

Mrs. CATLETT did recall that the HISSES had a typewriter which they never used. She last saw this typewriter while the HISSES were residing at 3210 P Street, N. W. (The HISSES resided at this address from September 28, 1943 to October of 1947). She stated that she never heard the name WHITTAKER CHAMBERS until reading it in the newspapers. She recalled that ALGER HISS had an old black car with a front seat, a rumble seat and a canvas top. She did not know the make of the car and advised that they got rid of it while living at 2905 P Street, N. W. She stated she had no recollection of a JULIA RANKIN and that she never received any mail from the HISSES either typed or handwritten. She recalled that DRUCILLA had told her that she had been hired by the HISSES through the Ladies' Exchange operating in Washington, D. C. near the Mayflower Hotel.

Mrs. CATLETT stated that she had never been contacted by any member of the HISS family or any representative of theirs since the controversy concerning ALGER HISS' alleged participation in an espionage ring in Washington, D. C. broke out. The original of the