

DETAILS: :

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

RE: IDENTIFICATION OF ALGER AND PRISCILLA HISS  
BY MRS. EDITH MURRAY, FORMER (1934-36)  
BALTIMORE MAID OF THE CHAMBERS

By teletype to the Bureau and the New York Office dated September 29, 1949, the Baltimore Office advised that the CHAMBERS' maid, known previously only as EDITH, had been identified as Mrs. ELWOOD FRANKLIN MURRAY, also known as EDITH GLAND MURRAY. This teletype also set forth the results of the interview with EDITH MURRAY, already reported, and suggested that the New York Office perfect arrangements in NYC for EDITH to personally view ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS for identification purposes prior to such time as she might be called as a witness in this case.

By letter to the Bureau and the Baltimore Office dated October 17, 1949, the New York Office indicated that efforts were being made to perfect the above-mentioned arrangements and requested the Baltimore Office to advise whether EDITH is presently employed or whether she has any personal problems that would preclude her coming to New York for a day or possibly two days in order to observe PRISCILLA HISS. The Baltimore Office was also requested to advise the New York Office when EDITH could come to New York with least inconveniences to her.

By letter to the Bureau and New York Office dated October 21, 1949, the Baltimore Office furnished the necessary information regarding EDITH'S personal situation bearing on the proposed trip by her to New York City.

Through arrangements perfected by the New York Office, Mrs. MURRAY made a trip to New York City on November 17, 1949, for the purpose of viewing ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS in person in an effort to make a positive identification of the HISSSES as individuals who visited the CHAMBERS family in Baltimore, Maryland during the early part of 1936, when the CHAMBERS were residing at 1617 Eutaw Place. By teletype to the Bureau and Baltimore Office, the New York Office advised on November 17, 1949, that Mrs. EDITH MURRAY had on that date made a positive identification of PRISCILLA HISS and a tentative identification of ALGER HISS.

When interviewed regarding the above identification on November 18, 1949, by Special Agents EDWARD G. COUGH and FRANK G. JOHNSTONE, Mrs. MURRAY stated that her identification of both ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS was positive. Accordingly, the following voluntarily signed statement was obtained from her: