

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 19, 1950

Dear Beedle:

So the news is out! I send you my hearty congratulations on your new job. The taxpayers of this country are entitled to even warmer congratulations at having a man of your experience and capacity take on that difficult job.

Now as an old friend and an honest man, I must add an appropriate measure of condolence. I know what you are getting into; but I am sure that if anybody can do anything with that job, it is you. Watch yourself, don't worry too much, and be assured that you have the cooperative support of your friends, including me.

My affectionate regards to Norrie and you.

Yours, as ever,


John B. Hickerson

Lieutenant General W. B. Smith,
Commanding General, First Army,
New York, New York.

23 August 1950

Mr. John D. Hickerson
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.



Dear Jack:

As a taxpayer I accept your congratulations to that body, but I decline anything but sympathy in connection with this new assignment. The condolences, however, are in order. I don't know in detail what I am getting into but I expect the worst and I am sure that I won't be disappointed. However, there is comfort in knowing that I can depend on people like yourself and a lot of other friends in the Department and you can bet that you are going to be leaned on heavily.

My joins me in affectionate good wishes.

Faithfully, your friend,

15/Bedell

WBS/cw