

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY RESOURCES BOARD
WASHINGTON

August 22, 1950

Lt. General Walter Bedell Smith
Commanding General
First Army
Governors Island, New York

Dear General Smith:

It was a pleasure to learn that you have accepted the position as Director of the Counter Intelligence Agency. I offer congratulations.

All persons with whom I have come in contact since the announcement of your appointment look forward to the success that you will achieve in your new endeavor. Such confidence being based on the record of your past successes in difficult assignments.

Please extend my best personal regards to Mrs. Smith. I will always remember her kind hospitality extended to me during my stay in Moscow.

Sincerely yours,


Paul S. Cooper
Security Officer

24 August 1950

Mr Paul S Cooper, Security Officer
National Security Resources Board
Washington, DC



Dear Mr Cooper:

Thanks for your thoughtful note of August 22 congratulating me on my appointment to head the Central Intelligence Agency. It is going to be a rough job and, frankly, I am not entirely delighted with the prospects. There is some comfort in the knowledge, however, that I am taking over at a time when the nation is very much aware of the necessity for an effective intelligence organization and that I can confidently expect to receive wholehearted support from every quarter.

Mrs Smith joins me in sending our best wishes.

Sincerely,

W. E. SMITH