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CONFIDENTIAL

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FEB 29 1952

*card*

Lieutenant General L. H. Edwards  
Commanding General, Air University  
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

Dear Idwal:

I have deliberately delayed my reply to your cordial letter of 6 February 1952 in the hope that I would be able to arrange my schedule so as to accept your invitation to lecture at the Air War College on 7 April. For some time however, I have been planning to take a little leave if the pressure of work permitted, and I now find that I can get away the last of March and the first of April. You will understand why I must decline your invitation.

I would like to recommend however, [Redacted] one of the Senior Intelligence Officers of this Agency, to take my place. [Redacted] has been in close touch with the Soviet problem since 1941 when, as a Marine officer, he commanded [Redacted]. He joined CIA in 1946 and has been in top positions in our work on the USSR since that time, except for a period of eight months in 1949 when he went to [Redacted]. Most recently he drafted and coordinated our latest National Intelligence Estimate on Soviet intentions.

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[Redacted] is an experienced and lively speaker with an excellent personality and has lectured frequently on the subject of Soviet intentions.

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Again I regret that I will be unable to make this presentation myself but I am sure you will understand my reasons for suggesting a substitute.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Walter B. Smith  
Director

ILLEGIB

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Activities and Methods