

13 January 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Resignation

1. After most serious consideration I have determined to make my resignation from CIA effective as of 20 January 1953. A copy of this memorandum is being sent to the Assistant Director, Personnel to effect this end. As my commitment to the Agency was from the beginning understood to be one which would not extend beyond the tenure of General Smith as Director, I feel morally free now to consult only my own convenience in this matter.

2. It is of particular concern to me that my resignation from the Agency not be interpreted in any way as an indication of lack of confidence in the new Director, whoever he may be. Particularly is this true with relation to Mr. Dulles who will, I hope, succeed to the Directorship. I am extremely fond of him and only by making my tenure terminate with that of General Smith in accordance with the understanding which all the Senior Officers of the Agency knew existed when I came aboard, can the above implication be completely avoided.

3. I have already expressed to General Smith personally my deep appreciation of the opportunity he has given me of serving with him and of the support he has never failed to provide.

STUART HELDEN
Inspector General

IO/SH:jek (12 January 1953)

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