

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



August 24, 1950

Dear Bedell:

I don't know whether you feel about your new job as I feel about mine, but I must say in all frankness that despite the fact that it is a tremendous undertaking, and therefore full of headaches, I have heard nothing but high praise for the appointment the President made in naming you to be head of CIA.

I want to tell you how pleased Emily and I are that you are undertaking this important work at this crucial time, not only for the job's sake but that it will bring you and Norie to Washington where we can see more of you.

In my new job I naturally have quite a few things to do with CIA boys, so that in one sense I will have you as my boss again.

All best wishes to you and Norie and love from us both.

Sincerely,



Elbridge Durbrow, Chief
Division of Foreign Service Personnel

Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith,
Director, Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, D. C.

30 August 1950

Mr. Elbridge Durbrow
Chief, Division of Foreign Service Personnel
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Durby:

Thanks for your note. I will tell you how I feel about the new job when I see you. It's going to be a rough one and, as you know, I would like to have avoided it. I will need your help and advice and I am going to lean on you heavily. Will get in touch with you as soon as I get settled in Washington where, as you know, we have bought a house.

Nory joins me in love to you and Emily.

Faithfully,

~~W. D. SMITH~~

15/Bedell