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August 24, 1950

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Dear General Smith:

As an ex-intelligence officer from World War II, I want to tell you that your appointment to head C.I.A., with as broad-shouldered and public-spirited a man as Bill Jackson for Deputy, is very reassuring news indeed.

Sincerely yours,

Reynold McCormack

General Walter Bedell Smith,
Governors Island,
New York.

3OR

28 August 1950

Mr. Alfred McCormack
Cravath, Swaine and Moore
15 Broad Street
New York 5, N.Y.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

Thanks sincerely for your kind message congratulating me on my appointment to head the Central Intelligence Agency.

It's going to be a rough job and, frankly, I am not too delighted with the prospects. There is some comfort, however, in the knowledge that I am taking over at a time when the administration and the general public are very much aware of the need for an effective intelligence organization and I can confidently expect to receive wholehearted support and assistance from every quarter. I am, of course, delighted that Bill Jackson is going to be with me. He is my first choice and I have every confidence in his ability.

Sincerely,

DMB

DMB/cw