

COLGATE UNIVERSITY
HAMILTON, NEW YORK

THE PRESIDENT'S ROOM

28 August 1950

My dear General Smith:

It was with great satisfaction that I read of your recent appointment by the President as Director of Central Intelligence. If I may say so, this is one of the few reassuring facts in an increasingly disturbed and disturbing world.

During my tour of duty at the State Department last fall I had occasion to understand the great importance of the service which Central Intelligence renders and can render. When one thinks of the reliance which must increasingly be placed upon that service in the making of diplomatic as well as military decisions, it is a comfort to know that its direction is to be in your wise and experienced hands. Whether you are to be congratulated on assuming so demanding and difficult a task may be open to question, but there can be no doubt that the President and the country are to be congratulated most warmly. In saying this, I know that I speak not only for myself, but for all of us who had the privilege of hearing you and meeting you during your recent visit to Colgate.

Faithfully yours,


Everett Case

Lt. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Director
Central Intelligence System
Washington, D. C.

6 September 1950

Dr. Everett Case
Colgate University
Hamilton, New York

Dear Doctor Case:

Your thoughtful letter and very generous comments with regard to my qualifications for the new assignment are deeply appreciated. I am in need of encouragement at the moment and your kind words have given my morale a much needed boost.

Although this promises to be as difficult as anything I have yet undertaken, there is some comfort in the knowledge that I am taking over at a time when the nation is keenly aware of the need for an effective intelligence organization, and I can confidently expect support and assistance from every quarter.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

HJM/cws