

15 Sept 1950

Los Gatos, California
8 September 1950

Lieut. General Walter B. Smith, USA,
Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith,-

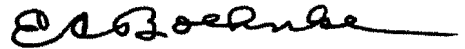
I don't want to take the time off an extremely busy man - but I do want you to know that when I saw the other day that you had been assigned to take over the Central Intelligence Agency, the news gave me a great big lift. In all seriousness I say that the American people are very, very lucky indeed to to have you in that important position.

My sincerest congratulations on this fine assignment, General. And the very best of luck.

Gen. Davis and I keep pretty much in touch with each other, as is the case with several others of the good old SHAEF gang. It was a pretty wonderful group. And comes the Dawn - should it be necessary - no doubt even some of we decrepits could still deliver a punch or two toward defeating an enemy.

All best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



E. C. Boehnke

*Acknowledged
Major Bell*



19 September 1950

File
HMY

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of September 8. Your congratulations and kind remarks on my new appointment are sincerely appreciated.

This promises to be as difficult as anything I have yet undertaken and I do not look forward to it with any pleasure. However, I am confident that I will again, as in the past, have the assistance of some first-rate people and that together we will make a go of it.

Please give my best regards to General Davis and to any of the old SHAEF group with whom you are still in contact.

Sincerely,

W B

by [unclear]

Colonel E. C. Boehnke, Ret.
Post Office Box 778
Los Gatos, California

DME