

22 Sept 1950

The National City Bank of New York

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CABLE ADDRESS "CITIBANK"

IN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE INITIALS
fgb/af

Lt. General Walter B. Smith,
Commanding General,
Headquarters First Army,
Governor's Island,
New York.



Dear General Bedell Smith:

I am just back from my vacation. I did want to congratulate you on your taking hold of the Central Intelligence Agency. I am sure that it was not easy for you to return to the Government service. However, there is hardly any responsibility more important; certainly there is no one better qualified to meet it than you.

You are to be congratulated also in having Bill Jackson along with you. His work during the war, and particularly in the post-war survey, have placed him in a very special category.

I have been in the habit of stopping by for a visit with Admiral Hillenkoetter every few months. I shall try not to bother you unless I have something special but hope to have the pleasure of a word with you from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

Floyd R. Blair
Vice President.

Thanks

Never cease congratulating myself for having
gotter Bill Jackson. High opinion of
him and more so since I have

25 September 1950

Mr. Floyd E. Blair, Vice President
The National City Bank of New York
55 Wall Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Blair:



Your thoughtful note of congratulations on my appointment and generous comments on my qualifications for the post are deeply appreciated.

I have never ceased congratulating myself that Bill Jackson is to be my deputy. I have the highest regard for his ability, and more so now that I have had an opportunity to become better acquainted with him.

I sincerely hope that you will continue your habit of dropping by the Central Intelligence Agency from time to time. You will always be most welcome.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "W. B. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

W. B. SMITH