

ROSS A. COLLINS
206 Lamar Building
Meridian, Mississippi

September 18, 1950

General Walter Bedell Smith
First Army Headquarters
Governor's Island, New York

Dear General:

I was in Washington a week ago and tried to contact you but learned you have not yet reported for your new assignment at Central Intelligence. I wanted to tell you how fortunate is the nation to have a man of your caliber and ability at the head of Central Intelligence and to say that I hope you will enjoy your new work. Since I failed to get in touch with you I am sending this note to convey my good wishes and high regard.

It is my hope that I may see you in the not too distant future.

With warmest personal regards, I am,

Your friend,


Ross A. Collins

22 September 1950

Mr. Ross A. Collins
206 Lamar Building
Meridian, Mississippi.



Dear Ross:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of 18 September with your very generous remarks concerning my recent appointment.

Although I am keenly aware of the problems ahead of me, I am at the moment greatly encouraged and heartened by the confidence which the President has seen fit to place in me and the generous support of old friends which has been made manifest by such letters as yours.

I am moving to Washington to take over officially early next month and hope that you will call me again on your next visit.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

IS / Bedell