

Chronology1950

- May President Truman personally selects Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith to be DCI, vice Admiral Hillenkoetter. Smith begs off on grounds of ill health. (He was facing a serious operation for a stomach ulcer. If he recovered well from that, he intended to retire from the Army and to seek a remunerative position in industry or the presidency of a university.)
- Jun Admiral Hillenkoetter asks to be reassigned to duty at sea.
- 25 Jun North Korean forces invade South Korea.
- 27 Jun President Truman commits US naval and air forces in defense of South Korea.
- 30 Jun President Truman commits US ground forces in South Korea.
- Aug Smith recovers well from operation. President Truman induces him to accept appointment as DCI in a time of national peril.
- Aug Smith persuades William Harding Jackson to accept appointment as DDCI.
- 18 Aug The White House announces Smith's appointment to be DCI. Smith announces that Jackson will be DDCI.
- 28 Aug The Senate confirms Smith's appointment to be DCI.
- 29 Aug At Smith's request (23 August), Lawrence Houston, CIA General Counsel, provides him with a comprehensive review of the problems confronting CIA.

SECRET