

**RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA**

**RCA BUILDING  
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.**



August 24, 1950

**DAVID SARNOFF  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Noted by CG

Lt. Gen. W. B. Smith  
Hq. First Army  
Governors Island, N.Y. 4, N. Y.

Dear Bedell:



I read in the press about your having been selected by the President to head the Central Intelligence Agency and I send you my warm congratulations because of the further evidence this gives of the great confidence which the President and the Nation have in you and your capacity; a confidence fully shared by those who, like myself, have the privilege of knowing you intimately.

While I am glad to see you receive this additional evidence and the new honors which go with it, I am not unmindful of the great burdens and responsibilities which this vital job will impose upon you. Above all, take care of your health and do not overstrain it. You have been through quite a siege in the last decade and though you are still young, the knowledge of that fact sometimes leads men to drive the engine at a faster speed than they would do if they did not feel so young.

If I can be of any service to you at any time and in any way, please do not hesitate to call on me.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*David*

*acknowledged  
Dear David*

31 August 1950

Brigadier General David Sarnoff  
Radio Corporation of America  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York 20, New York



Dear David:

Thanks sincerely for your kind letter of the 24th. I have no illusions about this new appointment. This is going to be a very difficult one and I do not look forward to it with any pleasure. However, with the situation as it exists at present, I did not feel that I could dodge what was presented to me as a duty. Expressions of confidence like yours are encouraging and helpful to the morale.

I appreciate your caution with regard to watching my health and I assure you that I will follow your advice. Fortunately, as the result of the splendid work of the surgeons at Walter Reed, I am feeling better now than I have for years. I am confident that my new streamlined stomach will stand up admirably even under the heavy pressures to which it may soon be subjected.

With warmest personal regards,

Faithfully,

IS/Bedell