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29 September 1947

Dr. William W. Edel
President
Dickinson College
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Dear Padre:

I am not certain whether "Padre" is still the correct title or not, but it is so much more familiar to me to use than to say "Dear Mr. President" so I hope you will forgive me! Thank you for all the kind thoughts in your letter of 26 September. I hope that I may be able to merit them.

As regards making an address before the student body, I should be very pleased to do so although, frankly, my knees shake each time I get up to try to talk. However, if you think your student body can put up with it, I'll do my best. As far as I can tell now, I would prefer that you selected the date some time after the middle of February and just let me know in advance. In principle, any date you select will be satisfactory to me. If something should come up in the meantime, of course, that may be subject to change, but that is rather remote. And as for honorarium, please forget it; I am not in the public speaking business, and I wouldn't know what to do with anything like that. At any rate, please advise me in advance of the date you select, and I shall do my best to be there.

Janie and I will be delighted to come up and see you and stay with you on the day before the address. ~~Best wishes~~ me in very best wishes to Louise and ~~yourself~~ ~~sent to~~

~~General Records, Oct 22 1947~~

Very sincerely yours,

W. H. Hillenkoetter
R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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