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INDEXED
22 SEPT 93

In Memoriam
General Walter Bedell Smith
5 October 1895 - 9 August 1961

In Memoriam



The President of the United States takes pride in presenting the National Security Medal to

General WALTER BEDELL SMITH

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

As Director of Central Intelligence, he made an outstanding contribution to the national security of the United States. Through his firmness and tact, perceptiveness and judgment, and withal, through his brilliant leadership in a position of highest responsibility, he assured the realization of that ideal of a coordinated intelligence effort which was set forth by the Congress in 1947, and brought to a new height of effectiveness the intelligence machinery of the United States Government. Through his well-grounded and clearly-defined concept of intelligence, reinforced by his recognized integrity and high personal prestige, he won acceptance of the principle that policy decisions must be based upon sound intelligence.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

February 21, 1953

In Memoriam

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 16, 1953

Dear Bedell:

As you know, I consider the establishment of the Central Intelligence Agency one of the most important steps which I have taken, as President, in the interests of our national security. An effective intelligence service, which this country now possesses, is a vital element in our efforts for a just and lasting peace.

As Director of Central Intelligence since 1950, following your superior service as Ambassador to Moscow, you have successfully and faithfully accomplished your mission of developing the Central Intelligence Agency into an efficient and permanent arm of the Government's national security structure. During this critical period the far-reaching improvements and strengthening which you have introduced in the intelligence field have been of immeasurable value to me and the other members of the National Security Council in dealing with the difficult problems facing us.

I am firmly convinced that no President ever had such a wealth of vital information made available to him in such a useful manner as I have received through CIA. I want you to know how deeply I appreciate and admire the conscientious and loyal way in which you have accomplished your mission. I am equally sure that future Presidents will benefit substantially from the outstanding work which you have done in developing the Central Intelligence Agency.

As I prepare to leave the Presidency, I want to say thank you to a true friend, a real patriot, and a public administrator of the highest calibre.

Very sincerely yours,



General Walter Bedell Smith, U.S.A.,
Director of Central Intelligence,
Washington, D. C.

**GENERAL SMITH'S DECORATIONS
AND SERVICE MEDALS**

Decorations

Distinguished Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters
Distinguished Service Medal (Navy)
Legion of Merit
Bronze Star Medal

Service Medals

World War I Victory Medal with three battle clasps
American Defense Service Medal
American Campaign Medal
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with
seven bronze service stars for participation in the Algeria-
French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Northern France, Ar-
denne-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe cam-
paigns
World War II Victory Medal
Army of Occupation Medal with Germany clasp

Foreign Decorations

Belgium : Grand Croix de l'Ordre de la Couronne,
with Palm; Croix de Guerre 1940, with
Palm
Brazil : Order of Military Merit, degree of Grand
Officer
Chile : Medal of Military Merit of the Army,
First Class
Czechoslovakia: Order of the White Lion for Victory, Star
II Class; War Cross, 1939
France : Cross of the Legion of Honor (Grand
Officer); Croix de Guerre, with Star
(WW I); Croix de Guerre, with Palm
(WW II)
Great Britain : Knight Commander of the Most Hon-
ourable Order of the Bath; Knight
Commander of the Most Excellent
Order of the British Empire
Luxembourg : Ordre National de la Couronne de Chêne,
Grade de la Grand Croix

In Memoriam

Morocco	:	Grand Officer, Order of Ouissane Alaouite
Netherlands	:	Lion of the Netherlands Grand Cross
Poland	:	Comanders Cross with Star of the Order of Polonia Restituta (II Class); Silver Cross of the Order of Virtuti Militari; Grunwald Cross, 2d Class
Tunis	:	Order of Nishan Iftikhar
USSR	:	Cavalier of the Order of Kutuzov, 1st Class



MOMENT OF TRIUMPH: Rheims, 7 May 1945. General Smith as SHAEF Chief of Staff presiding at the formal German surrender which ended the war in Europe. Opposite General Smith is the German Chief of Staff, General Jodl, with Admiral von Friedeburg on his left and Major Oxenius on his right. Seated at General Smith's right are Admiral Burrough, Commander of the Allied Naval Forces; General Sevez, representing the French Chief of Staff, General Juin; and General Smith's deputy, General Morgan. At the table on his left are Soviet General Susloparov; General Spaatz, commanding the U.S. Strategic Air Forces; Air Marshal Robb, SHAEF's Chief of Air Staff; and the SHAEF G-3, General Bull.

on the party and for a six
of us sat around the kitchen
table making sandwiches
drinking beer and talking
^{intensely} about politics till almost
daylight. Our view through
they were to lead the N.F.Z.H.
to get the thing was fully
under an illusion regarding
the aggressive designs of the
Communists in their attempts
to convert the federation into
an instrument of Soviet
policy abroad. This design
they were determined to
stick within the framework
of the N.F.Z.H. and its
Communist ^{policy} ~~and~~ ~~dictatorial~~.
Through them I met
— Kuznetsov, the head of
the Soviet Trade unions,
whom we entertained at

Page from original manuscript of *My Three Years in Moscow* done
by General Smith in pencil.

WRITINGS OF WALTER BEDELL SMITH

Books

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Mina tre år i Moskva, tr. by Einar Thermaenius and Nils Holmberg. Stockholm, A. Bonnier, 1950. 290p.

Mis tres años en Moscú. Barcelona, Editorial Mateu, 1950. 267p.

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Introduction to Edmund Stevens' *This Is Russia—Uncensored*. (New York, Didier, 1950.)

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