

27 MAY 1949

Mr. Hemenan

DeBock

Colonel D

Potter

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Mexico, D. F.
May 20, 1949

My dear friend:

May I tell you that it was with very mixed feelings that I read in the press yesterday that you have accepted the appointment as High Commissioner of our government in Germany. My sincere congratulations that you have been selected for this post which I consider to be one of the most important in our government.

As I had the opportunity to say to you on several occasions recently, I know of no one in our Country who is in a better position as to capacity and understanding and the many other qualifications necessary for this post, to carry through its great responsibilities, and I am sure that this designation has been received with very great satisfaction by our people at home who have any knowledge of the real problems and responsibilities involved. May I say too that I think our government is to be congratulated that you have been willing to accept this position.

I know how carefully you have considered this decision to assume these responsibilities and your acceptance of them is a further indication of that unusual spirit of devotion to the interests of our Country, which you have so consistently shown. I am sure I need not tell you that the very best wishes of my wife and myself will accompany you continuously in your great task.

I cannot let this opportunity pass to say to you how much so many of us at home and abroad will regret your leaving the International Bank to which

572

you have brought a new life and a new spirit, and brought understanding of its opportunities and its responsibilities.

It is possible that I may be able to leave here for a few days at the end of the month on a brief and what seems to be now necessary business trip and I am hoping that I may have the opportunity of seeing you in Washington.

Again with very sincere congratulations and with very good wishes to you and Mrs. McCloy from my wife and myself, believe me,

Cordially and faithfully yours,

The Honorable John McCloy,
President,
International Bank for Reconstruction
and Development
Washington 25, D. C.

GSa:jhw