

Peking story (American prisoners in China) - correspondence, letters and ca...

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Dag Hammarström's samml.

Peking story - 1955

20 Sept. - 30 Nov.

Meller, Edwin L. (Lt. Colonel, USAF, Colorado)

- 2 letters to D.H.
- 2 letters from D.H.

HEADQUARTERS
AIR DEFENSE COMMAND
ENT AIR FORCE BASE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

20 September 1955

The Honorable Dag Hammarskjold,
Secretary General of the United Nations
New York 17, New York

Dear Secretary Hammarskjold:

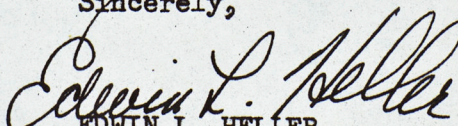
Please accept these belated thanks for your untiring and successful efforts in procuring my release from Communist China. I consider that you, more than any other single man, was most responsible for effecting my release.

Last January is vivid in my memory as being the time when I lay in the Mukden General Hospital, my morale at a low ebb, and read of your visit to Premier Chou-en-Lai in regard to the release of myself and other airmen. My morale was immediately lifted, and for the ensuing months my hope for an early release was held high by the knowledge that you and the United Nations organization were making every effort to attain our release through negotiation.

I had hoped, sir, that I could have thanked you in person by visiting you in New York before this. With your approval and an opportunity to make it possible, I still intend to visit you in the near future.

Again, sir, I wish to extend to you my heartfelt gratitude for your patience and perseverance in my behalf.

Sincerely,



EDWIN L. HELLER
Lt. Colonel, USAF

HEADQUARTERS
AIR DEFENSE COMMAND
91ST AIR FORCE BASE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

10 October 1955

OK Saturday morning

Honorable Dag Hammarskjold
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York 17, New York

Dear Secretary Hammarskjold:

Thank you so much for your reply of 3 October and invitation to visit you at the United Nations.

I am leaving tomorrow for Washington, D.C. for ten days and would be able to come to New York on Saturday, 15 October. I will call your office from Washington on 14 October to establish whether this time is convenient for you.

I sincerely hope I shall have the chance to talk to you and am looking forward to our meeting.

Sincerely,

Edwin L. Heller

EDWIN L. HELLER
Lt Colonel, USAF

PL/gl

3 October 1955

Dear Colonel Heller,

I wish to thank you so much for your very kind letter of 29 September. It would be a real pleasure for me to meet you. May I ask you, therefore, to let me know when you plan to be in New York so that we can arrange for a visit here at the United Nations. I am looking forward to an early opportunity of a talk with you, which will also give me a chance of expressing my appreciation to you personally for your thoughtful letter.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General

Lt. Colonel Edwin L. Heller,
Headquarters, Air Defense Command,
Ent Air Force Base - Box 8,
Colorado Springs, Colorado

PL/gl

30 November 1955

Dear Colonel Heller,

Just a line to thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending me your photograph and for the very kind words you inscribed on it.

It was a real pleasure for me to meet you here, and I am glad that you enjoyed your visit. I am looking forward to seeing you again here at the United Nations where, as you know, you are always most welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld

Lt. Col. Edwin L. Heller
Headquarters, Air Defense Command
ENT Air Force Base
Colorado Springs, Colorado

*Concerning letter kept
by the S/G.*