

O'REILLY GENERAL HOSPITAL
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

25 October 1945

Brigadier General Fred W. Rankin, U.S.A.,
Chief Consultant in Surgery,
Office of The Surgeon General,
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Fred:

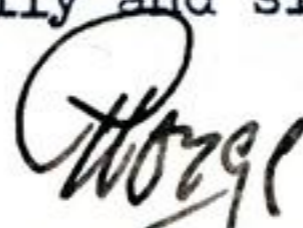
Thank you for your letter of 26 September giving me official information as to the probable closing date for us here at O'Reilly.

It was with mixed feelings that I learned of your imminent departure from The Surgeon General's office -- glad that you were able to realize your ambition to return to civil life, but with a distinct feeling of regret that the Medical Department was to lose your fine services. It was indeed a privilege to have known you, and I am deeply grateful for all the aid that you gave me on many occasions in effecting some of the skulduggery that I did. I shall always cherish our friendship, and I share your hope that it may be continued from here on indefinitely.

I do not know, of course, what The Surgeon General plans for me in future, but in the event that I am to be put up on the shelf or thrown into the ash can with many others of the Old Men, I may call upon you to exercise your good offices in getting the Old Man a job in civil life.

Good luck and God bless you. With warmest personal regard,

Cordially and sincerely,



GEO. B. FOSTER, JR.,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.