

I would have preferred to say farewell personally to the staff of the Office of the Historian, but I was denied that opportunity. Tom Zeiler has graciously agreed to do this for me.

I simply wanted to say thank you to the professional historians of this office, especially for the kind assistance and generous hospitality you have always shown me. My experience on the Historical Advisory Committee has given me an enormous respect and admiration for the job you do in producing the FRUS volumes as well as the myriad other tasks of this office. This office has had an exceptional array of talented people – but what is truly tragic is that management of this office confuses bootlicking loyalty with professional ability, uses concerns about security as a bludgeon to impose fear and conformity, and drives out some of its most gifted and impressive scholars. I hope that those of you still remaining here will try to do the best job possible under these difficult circumstances.