March 23, 1953

Dear ...:

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has recommended confirmation of Mr. Charles H. Bohlen as Ambassador to Russia. In view of the opposition which has developed to this nomination since the committee action, I am sure the matter will be roundly debated on the Senate floor before a final vote is taken.

I shall give this careful attention.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
March 31, 1953

...  
...

Dear ...:

I appreciate your communication with reference to the nomination of Charles F. Bohlen to be the U. S. Ambassador to Moscow.

My opposition to his nomination rests on simple but fundamental grounds. Regardless of how little or how great his participation in the conference at Yalta which resulted in the commitments which have proved so disastrous to our own country, I have a conviction that the expression made by the people last November definitely called for a renovation of the State Department and the rejection of all persons who had any emotional or actual identity with the Yalta business.

This involves the confidence of the American people, and while Mr. Bohlen may be a man of considerable ability, the most important attribute of anyone who is sent to Moscow must be the complete confidence of our people. It is quite evident that he does not enjoy that confidence, and hence I felt fully persuaded in the interest of our national well-being that I should oppose his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen