Write the President
the secy of war
secy of state
secy of Navy
Mr. Stephen T. Early (Dear Steve

I understand that some friends of John Golden have suggested that he be given a citation, The Medal for Merit, for all he did during the war.

I am writing to you because I have seen so much of Mr. Golden's work, and its effectiveness, I should be very happy to see him receive this award if it is possible to bestow it.
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

General Phillipson and I have had application filed for the Award of the Medal for Merit to John Golden. We hope this honor will be conferred upon him on May 26th, when he will be the guest of honor of the various Theatrical Guilds. I am enclosing the proposed Citation which has been filed, which contains an all too brief statement of John's magnificent efforts.

The decision to grant the Medal for Merit rests with the President of the United States, who is assisted by a Board composed of the Secretary of State, Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy. Under the Regulations, any person having knowledge concerning the applicant may write to the Board or to the President, recommending the Award.

Knowing of your high regard for John, and that you share the feeling of many of his distinguished friends that he is deserving of the honor, I take the liberty of inquiring whether you will be so very good as to add your voice and pen to the recommendation, by communicating directly with the President or any member of the Board.
(I have heard that Stephen Early is associated with the General who reviews the applications).

John is unaware that I am writing you. I suspect he might consider it an imposition on a friend, but we are anxious to make his May 26th dinner a great tribute, climaxed by this Award.

Sincerely,

Louis Nizer
CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE MEDAL OF MERIT
TO
JOHN GOLDEN

John Golden, for his outstanding contribution to the
welfare and morale of enlisted men of the Army of the United
States and their dependents during World War II. Mr. Golden
generously gave of his time, his talent, and his resources to
initiate and consummate a contest in the writing of one-act
plays open to enlisted men of the Army and for their amusement.
Five scripts adjudged best were reviewed, produced and presented
by Mr. Golden under the title "The Army, Play by Play," the
proceeds of the first night going to the Soldiers and Sailors Club
of New York City and later proceeds to Army Emergency Relief.
A quarter of a million dollars was earned for these two Army
morale activities through the efforts and patriotic devotion of
Mr. Golden. As Chairman of the Defense Recreation Committee
Mr. Golden distributed to enlisted men of the Army and Navy in
New York City more than ten million free tickets to places of
amusement. By his exceptional devotion and meritorious service to
his country and its enlisted defenders, he has distinguished him-
sself far beyond the customary call of patriotic duty and has won
for himself the lasting admiration and gratitude of the men of
the Armed Forces for his enduring attention to their welfare and
their interests.
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
29 Washington Square West  
New York City

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I sent the original of this letter to Hyde Park; and not having heard from you, I am sending you a copy to your New York address.

Sincerely,

Louis Nizer

In et enclosure
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt  
Hyde Park, New York

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

In et
May 27th, 1946

Never - while I live will I be able to repay you, - dearest First Lady - for what you did last night.

I swear you've made a better man of me - for I'm going to try - with all the got - to live up to - somewhere near what you said -

Affectionately - Gratefully,
Yours forever,

John