

August 7, 1992

One of the problems is that Jim Baker wants to bring over about four senior people -- Tutwiler, Zoellick, Ross and Mullins -- and then some secretarial help; so that means we're going to have to move people out, and we're going to have to do it. Everybody should look at it that nobody will have a job is we don't win the campaign.

September 2, 1992

Jim Baker is back in the White House and everyone detects a much more efficient and wonderfully organized operation. Tutwiler comes on like gangbusters and there will be some conflict, but she does a great job. She's totally 100% dedicated to Jim Baker. She thinks he hangs the moon, and indeed, as far as she's concerned and her career is concerned, he does. He's brought out the very best in her, and she, in return, has done a very good job.

Dennis Ross, I haven't seen since he's been over here, or Janet Mullins; but Jim has great confidence in them and has moved out a lot of staff to make room for them. I'm sure they'll do a first class job.

September 29, 1992

I am deeply offended by what Clinton did on the draft, but I'm told Janet Mullins and others of our experts think that the draft isn't the issue -- truth is, a lot of people opposed the war, fine; but I do not approve of demonstrating against your own country in another country. I didn't like what Gore did, as these notes will tell you down in Rio, and even worse, I can't stand what Clinton did in London and allegedly in

Sweden. It's a terrible thing to go to some other land and join the opposition of your own country's policies. Well anyway, it may be old fashioned, but I think the American people will understand that.

October 5, 1992

Now there are stories that Clinton may have been in Sweden and may have gone to Moscow as guests of the KGB, but who knows how that will play. According to the press, the debate on the draft, the lying and all of that have no bearing on the character issue.

October 8, 1992

We can not get this smoking gun on Clinton and his demonstrations, demonstrating against his country. There are all these rumors of him carrying a coffin. There are rumors that there was something in his State Department file that now apparently has been tampered with. All kinds of rumors as to who his hosts were in Russia, something he can't remember anything at all about. He hasn't come forward with his draft records and the press doesn't hone in on it. The press let up and they're not focusing on it but I just can't help believe that the American people don't care about this.

October 26, 1992

I'm very high on Mary Matlin -- loyal, tough, strong campaigner, never wavers -- and in a wonderful way gives me extraordinary confidence, much more so than any of the core group. But I haven't been with them, the core group of Zoellick, Tutwiler, Ross and Mullins.

November 10, 1992

There's this ugly little incident at State where they've looked into Ross Perot's file. I told Larry Eagleburger we had to get rid of the person that did it.

November 16, 1992

The Tamposi passport deal is ragging -- who ordered the search of Clinton's passport files. It was a terrible thing. Eagleburger promptly moved to fire Tamposi who is fighting back. She is fighting back through her lawyer and saying the White House encouraged her to do it. I talked to Jim Baker from Florida and he said, I don't want to talk to you about this at all; and then when I got home last night, he said he wanted an hour to discuss it. I said, why in the world, and he made some illusion of what the role even of you and me in this; so I am not quite clear what all that meant. Then I read in the paper today there is some discussion that Janet Mullins and Tutwiler have had about this. I don't understand it and I can't imagine they would do anything wrong, but clearly it was the wrong thing to do, and in my view, it was the right thing to do to fire Tamposi. Larry Eagleburger moved promptly on that, as he should have, and I encouraged him to do. Tamposi is fighting back -- she didn't want to be fired. But it's a bizarre case and one that needs to be squashed.

November 17, 1992

Indeed the whole discussion yesterday was dominated by this silly little incident regarding Betty Tamposi and the passport file. Walter Pincus is on the war path and Jim

Baker is very, very worried. They are trying to stick the White House into this and the people that are involved peripherally, Janet Mullins and Tutwiler, are all very, very close to him. He's worried that it's going to end up on his door step and he's worried about them. He's done absolutely nothing wrong. Teeter apparently did try to get people to do more about this passport incident and the Moscow trip, and indeed, Ed Derwinski has a story about it in the paper. But it's all tick tock -- there's no real substance.

November 18, 1992

Today the State Department Inspector General's report comes out on the Betty Tamposi matter and on who ordered the search of the passport files. This is a tawdry performance, and of course, the cartoonists get on me about it. The media is very interested on that one and showing no interest whatsoever about the one on Broznahan and the Weinberger tape.

November 19, 1992

Stephenopoulos, a smooth talking 31-year-old kid, was on with this awful Mary Tillotson on CNN, and he handled the questions pretty well. He was asked about the passport matter and he jumped all over that. A Washington Post editorial says that they are determined to carry this further and that Congress should. It's funny -- they make no mention at all of the Broznahan-Walsh leakage. None at all. The damn Post is hostile to a core -- nasty to the core. They don't quite mesh the rhetoric of The New Republic quote "good riddance" when speaking about me.

What difference does it make if Tamposi fouled up the passport system on Bill Clinton -- it's nothing, it's immaterial when you think of Mother, love, faith, life and death.

November 20, 1992

Jim Baker came in here this morning about 10:30 deeply disturbed and read to me a long letter of resignation all because of this stupid passport situation. It's absolutely outrageous and they are trying to make a mountain out of a mole hill. There was a Newsweek story talking about the passport files, and of course, people hear and inquire about it, and wondering what was happening. But the operation with Janet Mullins, whose name has cropped up, says that she didn't tell Berry over there and thus tell Tamposi to do anything about it. The White House's only question may have been about expediting, but who knows. The main thing is that even then I have no evidence of that; but trying to link Jim Baker, the most honorable guy to having done something wrong, I think is absolutely absurd and I told him I wasn't willing to accept his resignation.

November 25, 1992

Jim Baker remains despondent all over this crazy passport incident although it seems to have lost some of its legs. Larry Eagleburger came in and I congratulated him on the way he handled it, but he's been really down. He told me nothing had gotten to him more than this, all this damn Washington Post and their mean little approach and their investigations.

December 9, 1992

Jim Baker is still all uptight about the passport mess and there is nothing else that he can think of. It's that and giving citizen medals to various people. For some reason, they're high on his mind, but we'll see how all of that works out.

December 15, 1992

Jim Baker has lost all interest in what's going on at the White House. There isn't much for him to do and he's worried about this passport deal still. He's got a lawyer, and the lawyer tells him that they can't find anything that he could even be charged with and that it's most unlikely a special prosecutor will be appointed. He seems somewhat relieved but still totally preoccupied. We're working on a speech for Texas A&M today and we're working on a speech for NAFTA, but his heart isn't in any of that. It's just gone. He wanted to leave but doesn't feel he can as long as this passport is beeping along out there.

December 17, 1992

Jim Baker comes in distraught. They've just named a special council on the passport incident. Boyden is precluded from getting into it because he's talking to Lloyd Cutler and Cutler is representing Jim Baker. I call Boyden and he said that the special prosecutor is a good and fair person and that the thing is mainly at the State Department - the handling of the Clinton matter. He said that Barr probably felt that he could not stand up to all the pressures in the career service area, having turned down the special prosecutor on the Iraqgate matter, and even the special prosecutor going after Walsh for coming in with a political message. I talked to him about the pardon of Weinberger and told him I wanted the Attorney General to come over. I

also wanted him to make a recommendation and he said, fine, we'll get that set up. Baker is a nervous wreck about all of this and it's just too bad that they've gone that route now.

December 18, 1992

The Special Prosecutor is out for the passport business and it's ruining Jim Baker's life. Of all the clean honorable decent guys to have his Christmas ruined by this guy, it's too bad. He's totally distraught.

December 22, 1992

It's now the 22nd and the papers are full of Janet Mullins being a target of the special prosecutor, an ugly editorial by Mary McGrory, and it will have Jim Baker climbing the wall. He comes in yesterday and tells me something about the expense of the legal case and somebody has got to help the girls -- he's talking about Tutwiler and Janet Mullins. A problem for that is they don't know people on the outside, and they were not seen as great loyal Bush people. They were part of Jim Baker's team and are loyal Bush people, but they are not seen that way. It's not like Mary Matlin got into a big dispute.

I feel sorry for Jim Baker. Mary McGrory tries to act like he and Barbara and I are opposed to him in some way -- the meanest, nastiest, ugliest column. She has destroyed me over and over again and Jim is so sensitive about his own coverage that he will be really upset. He can think of nothing else other than this probe of the special prosecutor. The jury is unforgiving about the Attorney General, but the Attorney General told me after the prosecutor was named that they had no choice because Janet Mullins, on the

advice of a lawyer, would not cooperate and would not answer any questions at all. I have a lot of confidence in Bill Barr. I think this and then the pardon of Weinberger will put a tarnish, kind of a downer, on our legacy.

December 29, 1992

Having it end up on this note -- is absolutely sickening. I can understand why Jim Baker feels as he does on that awful little passport pimple, but that's the ugliness of it all.