

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

WJC

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

Run to
NTDO to
Run to
Destroy weapons file
Sarajvo

① anyone
- streamlined model
- basic targets

② ~~Presidential~~ lion
% the silver.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Mr. President:

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

4/19/94

It seems to me we've
tracked things thru — Hopefully
responding to most of your questions
and points.

Believe we should move to conclude
this meeting.

I'm not satisfied we've reached
a ^{an} consensus ~~and~~ decision. But given
Tony's counsel, perhaps you should
conclude the meeting and reflect on
real alternatives and options. — Perhaps with
much smaller group w/ V-President and one
or 2 others.

Bottom line, you don't need to let
this meeting drag on and get in a mine today.

Mr. President

THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN

Mr. President:

You have a full domestic
agenda as you know and immense
and serious foreign policy responsibilities
That's the job of President as
you know. Geo. Bush did one well
and not the other. Unfortunately you
must and you can do BOTH.

To do BOTH requires better use of
your time (more efficient). You need
to break now (You're Behind Schedule in Briefings)
= & get ready for MTV
interview or crime - Important - T.V.
news tonight & Crime Bill This week.

I think you should summarize and
conclude on let V-Pres conclude for meeting and outline
next step. Wed

(Mr. President)

William H. Bowen

To: The President
From: Mack

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

April 4, 1994

MARKING INITIALS: M DATE: 2/5/10PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

4/15/94

Mr. Mack McLarty
Chief of Staff
Mr. Mark Middleton
Assistant to Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Re: Response to media trashing of Arkansas

Dear Mack and Mark:

At your invitation, I invited some of the central Arkansas leadership to convene to discuss the media trashing of Arkansas. On March 31 at noon Drake Keith, Chairman of the Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, convened selective leadership at the Little Rock Club for a working lunch. In attendance were:

1. Drake Keith and his secretary
2. Paul Harvel, President, Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce
3. Ron Russell, manager of Arkansas State Chamber/AIA
4. JoAnn Green, President, Arkansas State Symphony
5. Woodson Walker, Attorney
6. Curt Bradbury, CEO of Worthen National Bank
7. Jim Keet, State Representative
8. Jim Pledger, Chief of Staff, Governor Jim Guy Tucker; Director, Department of Finance and Administration
9. Rabbi Gene Levy
10. The undersigned

Keith convened the meeting and announced its purpose was to address the flood of media attacks on Arkansas. He noted the Brummett newspaper piece suggesting such a meeting and called upon me for comment. From a Political Animals breakfast meeting that morning addressed by Senator David Pryor, I shared Pryor's counsel that Whitewater will pass and this reason for media assaults will subside. There was an inference in this counsel that we should keep in mind the first admonition of the Hippocratic Oath: "First, do no harm to the patient." Then I invited Ron Russell to share findings next related.

He referred to the infamous L. J. Davis who had trashed Arkansas big time in the April 4, 1994 New Republic piece "The Name of Rose." In general we were labeled "the Bubba Belt" and given to countenancing thugs who hit decent people in the head and left them in such places as the Legacy Lounge in downtown Little Rock.

Next, he referred to a visit with the lessee/operator of the lounge who was a fellow student at Arkansas Tech in years past. The operator reported that the evening Davis says he was assaulted and left unconscious that his bar tab reflected 6 martinis, I repeat 6 martinis, and a single hamburger. Moreover, it was confirmed that he had not reported any assault to management, and per Jim Pledger and the State Police, neither had he reported it to the local or state police.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Mr. Mack McLarty
Mr. Mark Middleton
April 4, 1994
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Thus, the conclusion is clear that Davis was drunk, passed out and hit his head on even a harder object than his head en route to the floor. Upon my motion, it was agreed that Russell and I pursue revelation of this record through the Legacy operator (leaving us out of it, of course) and we expect to meet him at noon April 4 to encourage him to go public with the record and at the same time consider a libel suit not only against Davis, but the New Republic and, if feasible, the Wall Street Journal, Rush Limbaugh, et al for repeating it.

Funding of the litigation may be a problem which we have not yet confronted.

Other matters at the meeting included a report by Curt Bradbury that he has hired an impressive high powered public relations firm to help him deal with the Wall Street Journal/New York Times/New Republic charge that Stephens, the Worthen Bank, and BCCI are in cahoots, to go on tour to defend them against these charges and to consider select litigation as is appropriate.

Shelby Woods pointed to about a \$5 million budget in place for an ongoing public relations campaign in support of parks and tourism. Woodson Walker alluded to Tyson and others who had been assaulted (Tyson's claimed tie to USDA, for example), and argued that a crescendo of responses, e.g. Stephens, Worthen, Tyson, et al, would be a positive and good result.

Pledger observed that he did not anticipate public action by Jim Guy Tucker, among other reasons because of charges made relative to the David Hale loan issue.

It is expected this kind of meeting will be repeated and continued from time to time by this or expanded leadership for the continuing purpose of staying on top of the issue. At your invitation I consulted Alice Walton for her interest, and she indicated she was willing to participate but could not on short notice. Drake Keith and I have reported the results of the meeting to her and expect her continued involvement. Will keep you advised.

Cordially,



William H. Bowen

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