

28march74

HW:

Your various memos on Baker find no disagreement here. We watched and taped this same edition of Face the Nation and got the same things from it you did: very smooth performance laying the groundwork for a rescue of the GOP this fall leading to better times in 1976. We guess that he will try it at the expense of the CIA but will keep his options open to assign the cost elsewhere, depending on how things turn out. We don't yet visualize his planning to go along with GL in any strenuous stuff the latter may try or be driven to try, but that option may be in the process of being kept open also. At this point we'd say that Baker figures GL eventually will have to leave the scene but that much can be wrung from an appearance of loyalty for some time yet. In the meantime he sees clearly your fundamental assumption that no Republican can hope to advance today except by using WG rather than seeming to avoid it.

jdw28mar74

HW:

referred to in

You say you have the contents of Gray's covering letter to Haldeman date 19June72. Naturally we're interested. How much of a job to let us see it, how much copying to be done etc? We'll take care of any costs, naturally. pls advise, tnx.

jdw28mar74