



H. R. Haldeman Diaries Collection, January 18, 1969 – April 30, 1973

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Monday, August 28.

President hit me this morning on the need for riding herd on Ehrlichman on the O'Brien follow-up, to be sure he gets the name, stays on top of it, gets Chotiner going on it, that we need very tough follow-through. That we have got to catch them in their violations of the law one way or another. He quoted Ziegler's point on scheduling, that the press isn't going to be impressed by anything we do, so we should play every event to the local press, at least 75 percent. That we have to realize the difficult situation we've got, and work around it by seeing the locals, and buttering them up. He wants Ziegler to quit worrying about the specials. Why did he have Sidey and Semple at the celebrity party, for instance? Why didn't he have our friends? He wants to be sure Ziegler sets up the handshake with the locals at all stops.

Got into the speech writing question, wants to revise our staff procedure. He doesn't think Price is adequate, he's no use to the President on the campaign travel staff at least, and he wants to have Dick more for the background on human interest purposes, and then one man, probably Andrews, or maybe Andrews and Blacksheehan, but he doesn't want to change them, keep them both on, and find out which one is best. Then at all stops, he wants to put out a brief Presidential statement on an issue, and then he'll speak extemporaneously, but include in his speech 100 words for the television lead out of the statement that he releases. He also wants to assign a writer to Ehrlichman to handle the statement releases. Wants Buchanan to continue to lob ideas into him, but mainly to run the attack and counterattack. He's still concerned that nobody's doing anything on anecdotes, that nobody's picking out the major themes and lines from the acceptance speech, and figuring out how to get them out, especially promoting the New Majority.

End of August 28.