



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

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

Tuesday, October 31.

The President got into the question of the PR analysis of the campaign, and thinks that MacGregor and I should get Kevin Phillips in and some of the others in who have hit the point that the President hasn't been helping Congressional candidates. And make the issue that the President has done more than anyone -- maybe has ever done -- to help candidates, in the number of pictures, TV spots, radio tapes, personal letters of endorsement, key state visits, and channeling of contributions, etcetera, to give them much more help, on top of maintaining his own position way above the Party. He's concerned that the record not stand the way it is, and that we should move out in any way we can to do this.

He got into some schedule decisions, the question of what he should do, whether to go ahead with Chicago again, and the possibility of adding Oklahoma and Rhode Island, Tennessee, not Tennessee, North Carolina and New Mexico. He finally decided to do all of them, then worked out a schedule for doing them-- that he'd do three a day on Friday and Saturday. So he'll have had a pretty good campaign run.

Henry was concerned today about Hanoi blasting us, for failing to sign today at the deadline, and how we should handle it, but it worked out pretty well. Henry analyzed their thing and feels that it looks okay, and that he should go out and do a briefing on Friday to cover all of that. I talked to Connally, and he was highly complimentary of the success that I had in getting the Chicago trip canceled, felt that I had gone a little bit far with the huge train wreck, but at least it worked. He said initially that he thought that the President should sit tight and do nothing, except what's already planned. Make the point that he needs to be in the White House every minute that he can, getting the work done. Do some more phone calls around the country, and things like that. But then, as I outlined North Carolina, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, he thought they were good ideas, but shouldn't do just the South, so he bought the idea of going up to Rhode Island --and got to thinking maybe he ought to do Chicago. He felt still, though, that the President's better off to do nothing, as far as the election is concerned. But it would help in the interpretation and so on



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

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

to aid some of the candidates, and he can do that without any substantial danger, so he probably should. It would be good for the statistics and stories, although it's not needed to win the election because minds are already made up -- and people are just waiting for the election now -- in other words it gives very little downside and a hell of a potential plus. And it's good for the people to see him out working.

End of October 31.