



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

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Thursday, February 13.

Each morning Kissinger and I start with breakfast to rework schedule and plans for trip. Quite a project. Poor Ehrlichman calls us at breakfast, in the Mess, and we louse up his whole day's work.

President told me to have Ellsworth seated next to Rogers at dinner so Bob could make some hay about NATO. Plan is to appoint him Ambassador. I talked Rogers into it yesterday, but he's not really sold on it.

Big concern this morning was plan for swearing in Mayor Washington and announcing new City Council. President upset by plan to do this in East Room with band, etc. - feels we've already over-promoted Washington. I agree.

I spent another day haranguing Cabinet officers regarding firing people. Went pretty well. Also got most of backlog cleaned up. Have started evening staff meetings with my crew - soon as the President leaves for his swim. Should help. Will try to set routine - and then get President to let me use the pool, massage, sauna and sun lamp.

President met with National Science Board - scheduled for a half hour, stayed one hour and ten minutes. Was fascinated, and impressed by caliber of Board, especially large number of college presidents. Roger Heyns was there, but I didn't know it.

Some discussion of routine and procedures. President very impressed with Kissinger staff work - and rightly so. If we can get everything working that way we'll really have an operation. Hard to do. I had long talk with Burns on this subject - he drives me nuts with his persistence - maybe we'll eventually get him to do it right.