



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

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Monday, April 21.

Rumsfeld announced today. President had him in first thing, before seeing press. Got quite philosophical and retrospective. President left Congress at same age - to run for Senate - so understood Dan's concern about this step. Gave him lot of advice regarding getting on top of his agency first (I had cued him on this, because temptation for Don will be to gravitate to White House and the generalist part of his role as Assistant to President). Must first control OEO. Also explained need for him to function as Administration spokesman - in areas beyond OEO.

Some problem with Moynihan, who had not been told of Rumsfeld's role as Assistant, but I got Ehrlichman to fill him in on background. John tends to overlook this kind of thing - I guess we all do.

President had UAC, and quite a few appointments. Complex day. After Rumsfeld, UAC, Moynihan - he met with the group from Treasury and the Arthur Burns group to fight out the tax reform question. (Signed the bill first thing in the morning). Then a little time for lunch and a session with me on schedule - and plans for a pool at Camp David (won't use White House pool, but wants a bowling alley). Then the VFW officers, a session with Hardin and Harlow regarding farm program, problem arose in UAC when Hardin sneaked in an unstaffed plan. Then DuBridge - who fought for reconsidering the Long appointment and started a whole new flap. Then Arthur Burns, who had President bugged trying to escape.

(During Hardin session he called me into the little office for quite a chat on the DuBridge problem - just trying to get out of the meeting I think.)

Then a session with Mansfield and some Democratic leaders at the Residence. One of Harlow's projects.

Called tonight to push on action regarding statements praising tax message and Korean handling. Also pushing for more action on ABM.