



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

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Friday, April 25.

NSC this morning, no schedule this afternoon, plan was to go to Camp David at about noon. President changed that to 4:00, and spent the afternoon cleaning up paper, and in a few meetings.

He had a long session with Senator Byrd (VA), and succeeded in getting his private commitment on the ABM.

Serious problem with Thelma. Has gotten much worse in last few weeks apparently – no food, the old trouble, etc. Lucy in to discuss. Very worried. Also President raises it indirectly – i.e. regarding decorator, advance men, speech material, etc. Obviously has him completely stymied – along with all of us. (Tkach report regarding long range plan and Tricia incident before Azalea Festival.)

Had me in for several long ones - mainly rambling. New ideas on entertainment. He was thoroughly fed up with Edie Adams and Ray Bolger last night - she dirty, he long. Some more talk on student problem - this is high in his mind. Now feels he'll make another statement, hitting harder, maybe on TV.

To Camp David at 4:00 - Mitchell, J. Edgar Hoover and Clyde Tolson as guests. All of us at Aspen for dinner and movie. Talk centered around all the bad guys "they" have infiltrated into everywhere, especially State. Hoover full of hair-raising reports about all this, plus terrible problem in the courts, etc. He is a real lobbyist, and never quits. And never hesitates to chop everyone else in the process.

VP called just before dinner and said had to talk to President. He took the call. Later called me into bedroom to report, furious, that all he wanted was some guy to be director of Space Council. May turn out to be the straw that breaks the camel's back. He just has no sensitivity or judgment regarding his relationship with President. After movie we were walking home and President called me back - again to ponder the Agnew problem - and that of general area of Cabinet relationships. He's not really sure how to handle. His instinct is to be very distant and



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unavailable, but people tell him he needs more contact and this bothers him because he thinks he may be handling wrong. Real problem is that none of them except Mitchell really knows how to relate to him.