



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

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Monday, May 19.

Has decided to announce Thieu meeting tomorrow at 10:00 - after some debate about coordinating with Thieu. Discussion about procedures, especially regarding notifying Ohio State, etc. Strange turn of events. Now the big news will be the important meeting, when actually the whole thing came about as an idea for a way to get out of Ohio State because of planned disorders. Will go to Hawaii Saturday, June 7, Midway for meeting June 8, and back to Hawaii. Return to DC nonstop on Monday.

Also has decided on Chief Justice and will announce on Thursday (assuming he'll accept). Even Ehrlichman was caught by surprise. I figure it will be Warren Burger. Ehrlichman agrees.

Lots more talk regarding schedule and staff and the Rogers problem. Ehrlichman and I discussed reason behind this new obsession, both feel he senses end of the easy going and is getting ready to deal with adversities - both internal and external - plus bad press coming up. Is really pushing staff reassessment. And more thorough planning of his time.

Had an ABM meeting with Senator Anderson and won him. Looks pretty good now.

Had to meet Prime Minister of Sierra Leone - hates wasting time and effort on the insignificant African countries. Especially opposed to USIA wasting effort filming it.

Some discussion of plans for trip - staff to go, etc. Decided no women, including Rose. Wants me to take Juanich. Ideas about hotel in Hawaii, etc.

I think we're in a new phase, or just closing out the first phase. Have really finished the shakedown cruise, now ready to tighten up and handle the big stuff. This seems to be his feeling, and the reason for the intra-analysis. Will probably be some pulling and tugging in the staff. We have a lot of people we could do without. Need to re-evaluate the real role of the White House staff. Now try to do too much instead of catalyzing, prodding, inspiring, checking others.



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Big flap with Arthur Burns on AID - this time versus Kissinger. Resulted in necessity to postpone bill to Congress until fully staffed. Burns completely end-runs the system, but this time Kissinger was the reason. His staff system is in bad shape, just not getting the work out. But President doesn't know it - still thinks they're superb.