



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

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Monday, August 4.

Back to the White House. President came in early about 7:00. I didn't get in until 9:00, had no clothes. President had long meeting with bipartisan leaders to report on trip. Then had Ted Kennedy into his office. Told him he understood how tough it was, etc. Said he was surprised to see how hard the press had been on him, especially because they like him - but have to realize they are your enemy at heart even if they do like you - because their prime motivation is the story.

Spent the rest of the day talking to the troops one by one. Harlow in to recap legislative situation. Basically a victory on surtax. Bad erosion of Dirksen's leadership in the process, because he opposed Administration position. Agnew led fight against, which will create some future problems.

Moynihan for one more go-around on the welfare program. He's still sold on it. Pat is great because he provides the up-beat shot in the arm that the rest of the staff lacks. Was really fired up about Bucharest, and the rest of the trip. Ziegler in to get the Thailand question cleared up, some confusion regarding President's statement in leaders meeting. Klein came in with him, and is the exact opposite of Moynihan, no juice at all. President had a haircut, a nap, and some more talk, on the phone. Then McCracken in regarding steel price problems.

Then off to Camp David. Had me over for dinner, with Bebe. Planned a movie after, just before it started President went to his room, said he'd be back in a while - went to bed. Bebe and I sat through the whole movie waiting for him.