



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

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Wednesday, November 4.

The day after. Fairly rough - since results were at best a mixed blessing. President obviously disappointed not to do better on Senate, although he only predicted two to three - I think he had hoped for at least several more.

Driving hard to get interpretation our way - as major victory in Senate. Big loss of Governors is hard to override, especially since it was a complete surprise. President very upset by stories saying it was an overall defeat. So he went before the TV cameras to set his own line. Did a superb job and should really help.

Then started in on analysis of polls etc. Wants to show this as failure of Party, not Administration. Started developing comparisons with other years, etc.

Wants networks logged - last night and tonight, for bias. There seems to be plenty.

On flight back to DC, he spent a little time with Rogers and Kissinger, a lot with me on follow-up and an hour with Ehrlichman, Shultz and Weinberger, supposedly on budget, but Ehrlichman got out his shopping list and spent the whole time on that.

Pat Nixon blasted me, and President, about West Wing interference in social operations. Feels we override Lucy and slow down decisions, etc. Wants all control in East Wing - so we'll try that. Patterns are well enough set now that it might work. She's obviously down on Connie and building Lucy. All this came after a few with Rose - who probably stirred it up.

President decided definitely Northrop contract must go to California - especially after Texas results. Appears it will anyway, too late to help Murphy.

After we got home, he was on the phone again, as a result of the DC papers. Wants a concerted attack to get our point across. Obvious we're up against a conspiracy in the press. Feels we need an all-out plan for next couple of days, to set the line. Also still worrying about Indiana. Had me call Bulen, but he had no definitive word. Wants line ready for Cabinet tomorrow.