



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

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Friday, June 4.

The President had a pretty busy schedule. Did have me in several times on a lot of miscellaneous notes, follow-up from the Congressional thing last night, which was inevitable --a lot of people wanting to get at him for various odds and ends. His analysis of the energy message today was that nobody will understand it, and that it wasn't a big enough deal for him to step up to; but he did it anyway. Then he got into the radio talks, and had reviewed what Ray had prepared and doesn't want to use them. He feels that we need some upbeat things, not a speech about veterans which just recalls the war, but rather a series with a theme. He's not satisfied with what we've got there, and he wants Moore and Price, Safire and Scali to sit down and develop some stronger positions, try and get a better feel to this.

He got into some schedule items. He wants to, or he agreed to drop the FBI deal on Monday, which we recommended that he drop. Thinks we're underestimating the value of bringing people to the White House, such as the state parties he wants to give for the Nixon supporters, and so on. He thinks we do too much nice therapy that has no ripple effect: too many meetings with Establishment people who have come in all the time, rather than groups who don't normally get to the White House, and therefore really appreciate it.

He got into the problem on the economy, that we need more consideration of economic policy not operations in pragmatic political terms. So he wants Ehrlichman, Connally and Shultz (perhaps one or two others: Peterson, Flanigan, or McCracken) to get together and make sure that, when we consider the various economic news items, that we look at it on the basis of how it will affect us politically. We need to get more of a feel of confidence and buoyancy in everything, not just the economy, but certainly, particularly in the economy.

Later in the afternoon he met with the Vice President at the Veep's request, and it turned out he wanted to make a pitch for his going to Red China while he's on his trip to the Inauguration in Korea. It was almost unbelievable, because he raised it in a way that made it awkward for the President to have to tell him that he couldn't go, and then once told, he didn't give up. He kept



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coming back to how nice it would be if he could do that, that he, of course, should go to Taiwan because he always has on his other trips, and if he went to Taiwan, it wouldn't be a good idea to just do that and not go to Peking. The President could hardly believe that he was really putting it that way, but he did.

Friday evening was the diplomatic reception for Tricia and Ed, which the President attended.

End of June 4.