



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

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Monday, September 27.

Not much sleep last night because of the time change between Washington and Alaska, and then a long plane ride to Washington. The President took a nap on part of it, spent some time with Rogers, some time with Kissinger, a little with Ehrlichman, and managed to cover the ground pretty well on the flight. He reported more on the Hickel conversation. Hickel wants to work the blacks, the young, and the Jews, and thinks he can be very effective in all of those areas. He had some talk with me on the Finch problem. He feels that we should have Bob make a Latin American trip, go down and listen and then report back to Rogers. That we need to get him off on something like this for about a month to let him simmer down. So he later talked with Rogers about that on the plane and we'll get that set up.

When we got back into Washington, we had to go to the Mamie Eisenhower birthday party, and that was another disaster, with Ray Bolger going on and on. Finally, the Marine Band leader had to just interrupt him with "Ruffles and Flourishes", in order to get the President in. And the President had to take over at the close, after the "Happy Birthday" singing and the cake cutting, to bring the program to an end by giving his little remarks, which Bolger had forgotten to call on him for, and then just leaving. It came out as a good plus for the President, but certainly no thanks to Bolger and the group that was putting it on.

End of September 27.