



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

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Thursday, October 7.

President spent the day holed up at the EOB getting ready for the TV speech tonight. We had considerable discussion on the phone, and I was over there several times. First of all, on the problem of the appointments to the Wage Price-- Wage and Price Boards. A number of our people who we had suggested have turned it down. He agreed to go with Scranton as Chairman of the General Board, even though he was concerned that his public image may be too flabby for this. He agreed to consider Levy as chair of the Pay Board and agreed that Rumsfeld should take it on as the Director of the Cost of Living Council, which wonder of wonders, Rumsfeld later in the day agreed to accept.

The big concern during the day was the upcoming Senate vote on the federal pay raise and the fear that we might well lose it. As it turned out, we won it quite handily, and our crew did a superb lobbying job on it. That, plus the wholesale price index that came out this morning with the first drop in six years in industrial prices, set the framework very well for the speech tonight.

President called Moynihan on the phone during the day to talk with him about the Herrnstein article from *Atlantic Monthly* that Moynihan had sent in to him. It discusses IQ and racial relationships, and the President made the point that it was important for him to know these things and then do everything possible to deny them--that is, the genetical-- genetic-racial problem. And he commented on Muskie's point, that he was right, if you look cynically at the polls, that a black would hurt; but no leader must say that, or say it regarding a Jew or a Catholic or anyone else, or else you'll encourage latent prejudice. It's clear that not everybody is equal, but we must insure that anybody might go to the top. Moynihan recommended Bunche for the Medal of Freedom to the President, and he sort of finessed that. He told Pat to give a kick to the Education and HEW people on the first five years program and the need to get going on connecting school with work, at the high school level, with vocational education.

We got into some discussion of the *LA Times* instigating the Immigration Service investigation of Ramona Foods in order to screw up Mrs. Banuelos' confirmation, and the President called the



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Attorney General and ordered him to hit the *LA Times* for their racial violations and to fire Rosenberg, the District Director. He shook Mitchell up a bit, because this is the first time he's really pounced on him directly with one of those very firm instant orders.

Colson was in later in the day with some reports on shifts in the Harris Poll, showing the President ten points ahead of Muskie in the current trial heat, versus two points only a week ago-- a couple of weeks ago. The speech tonight went very well and got good reaction from our phone call people, although many felt that it wasn't specific enough to handle all the problems; that, we expected, and should do no long-range harm. Connally will handle that in his press conference tomorrow when he follows up on the details.

End of October 7.