



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

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Saturday, November 6.

President had me over at the house this morning for about two and a half hours. Was in a pretty good, relaxed mood, wearing his swimming trunks and sitting in the study. He didn't seem to have anything specific on his mind, went through a few odds and ends, got back into some discussion of the trip plans again, then did get into the troop announcement plan. His idea now is to do an in-office press conference on Friday the 12th and announce-- make the troop announcement at that time. He might also do a TV clip of the statement after the press conference. He feels that would be better than waiting until the 15th, and I strongly agree, because it'll cut the speculation ahead of time. We reviewed the Secretary of Agriculture question, and he said to go ahead on Butz and to do it right away, having Ehrlichman handle the initial contact with him, so he can get the upper hand. Also, he wants to really pour into the Farm Bill on our initiatives to China and Russia, which are really farm policy-oriented and also get credit for our corn agreement with the Russians.

He told me to have Shultz get very quickly and hard with Kissinger regarding dealing with the Europeans, because he feels that Arthur Burns has gotten to Henry and has Henry upset, saying we have to move to avoid hostility from our European friends and move on the money policy. Connally is violently opposed to moving quickly, and Shultz, for different reasons, also is. He suggests that Shultz maybe even should come down to Florida and talk to Henry, to get Henry aboard on the Connally, Shultz, Nixon line and turn him off of Arthur's line. He also made the point that Shultz has got to be conciliatory on the discretionary quota authority. He should get Connally's view, and he must go along with Connally. We can't have Connally think the White House staff is fighting him. Shultz should say the President will take whatever Connally recommends, but he should get in his Shultz input, because the President agrees with the Shultz position if he can sell it to Connally.

End of November 6.