



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

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Saturday, January 8.

Shultz called this morning, on the F-111 question. The problem being whether to continue it another year; if we shut it down then we'll close out in the fall of '72 just before the election, it will cost \$160 million in fiscal '73, plus \$20 million in '72, to continue it. The Air Force doesn't want the plane and doesn't want to continue it, but Laird says Defense won't make the decision, that this is a White House political matter. I checked it with the President, he, of course, said they should go ahead with it. President went through at several sessions today, including on the plane coming back to Washington, the review of various political questions. He wants to be sure, for example, to keep a heavy surrogate effort going in New Hampshire. He's concerned about getting more younger people out in front, especially in New Hampshire, so that we aren't just appearing to be a campaign of Lane Dwinell and all the old guys. He wants to try and develop some high school support, so that we don't get all negative stories on the whole question of youth, especially in high schools. He obviously is thinking a fair amount, about the whole political area, and hence these questions. Stans called to say that Pete Flanigan had called him, saying that he would like Stans's support for Flanigan's nomination for Secretary of Commerce, and Stans feels we have something of a problem with Pete on this, and that we need to cover that base.

End of January 8.