



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

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Tuesday, March 21.

Staff meeting this morning, we discussed the problem of how to deal with a labor walkout from the Pay Board. First, what to do, and second, how to do it. Point being that we need a basic strategy that in some way enables us to blast labor for the fault of everything that's wrong, and we need to keep it tied to the longshore strike and not let them get away with walking out on the basis of the failure of the price board to keep the prices down. Shultz met with Connally and Stein, Rumsfeld and so on, and then went in to talk with the President to suggest that he call Meany and say that he'd like Shultz to come over and talk to him. President felt strongly that he should not call Meany, but that Shultz should just go on over, saying that the President had told him to come, and that's what they did. I'm not sure how that came out. Point would be to try to keep Meany from walking out but not plead with him in any way.

President also got into the drug follow-up question. He's thinking of doing a 15-minute TV thing on drugs to ask for national support for the effort. He's very distressed with the drug group's pamphlet with the quote from the President because of how it's said that the problem must be dealt with in a variety of ways, which he thinks is very weak. He wants to use hard, zinging words on this. He also thought maybe we ought to get a small poll done on the question of how strongly people feel about penalties for traffickers, such as life imprisonment without parole or death penalty, tied to the idea of the Lindbergh law, so on.

President had a super loaded schedule today, with the Turkish State visit plus a bunch of meetings and appointments. So kept him pretty well occupied.

No action on the ITT thing because they're holding up the hearings until they get the testimony from Dita Beard, so overall things were pretty slow.

End of March 21.