



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

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Monday, April 3.

Had to get at the Catholic speech first thing today, although we never did end up making a decision on it finally. Question is whether Ehrlichman could get a proper speech developed. He decided by noon that he had an outline that would work, but by the end of the day we still didn't have a speech, which we're supposed to have by first thing tomorrow morning. I think in any event we'll end up going ahead with the appearance.

Vietnam creates a major problem. The President as a result of the action there doesn't feel like he wants to hypo Vietnam this week, and therefore should not give the 101st Airborn return in Kentucky. We're having Agnew do it instead, which worked out okay. On Vietnam propaganda, I made the point to him early this morning that Kissinger was back on top of this and not the best person to be in that position. So the President made the point that we should be sure Scali is in on it, and force Kissinger to meet daily with Scali, Ziegler, and me, get the line developed. Got to push Kissinger hard.

We had some discussion about the political setup. The President is concerned that Mitchell is not getting a good top man to run California, particularly, and also the other key states. Thought we should be working on that, and he wanted to meet with Mitchell this afternoon, but John doesn't get back from Florida until tonight so the President will probably meet with him tomorrow to move ahead on that.

He originally called off his trip to Florida for the weekend, but as he talked with Henry during the day he got to thinking maybe it was okay for him to go if Henry went along too, which I'm sure Kissinger promoted, so that's the tentative plan as of now.

End of April 3.