



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

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Tuesday, July 11.

Considerable phone discussion back and forth in Washington about the whole Connally plan, and Colson and MacGregor are very anxious to get going on the Democrat organization. And I had to hold them off on doing anything until Connally gets on top of it, which has Colson chomping at the bit.

Billy Graham called to give me the names of all his Christian youth types. He's very enthusiastic and thinks we've got a very good group to work with us on organizing that. He also feels we have a good chance on the blacks by splitting them and getting the religious blacks who are scared of the criminal elements and so on to come over to our side. He thinks we're in good shape with the Jews. Rabbi Tanenbaum in New York who the American Jewish committee wants to campaign all out for us, etcetera. So he's very enthusiastic.

Later this evening, the President called asking about some details on the Convention. How we are handling ours, and so on. He says that we have the candidate we want now as our opponent, but if they take Teddy as the VP then we'll have to change our tactics a little. He talked with Connally and wants to have dinner with Connally and me on Thursday night and then meet with Kissinger the following morning and then back to politics after the Kissinger meeting. Thinks that we should make the decision that Connally should be given full authority to handle all of the Democratic operations and that our people should just defer to him, let him run it. And then, quite a little rambling thought about Teddy. He asked me to do some checking to see whether anybody agreed with the possibility that Teddy was going to take the VP, but all our people, all our analysis, is that he will not. The President felt we should still put out a prediction that he was going to, so that we could shoot it down as a cynical move if he does do it. We decided not to do this because there doesn't seem to be any possibility really of his taking it.

End of July 11.