



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

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Wednesday, October 25.

The *Post* story on me broke this morning and was the major stir for today. We had gotten into it yesterday evening, since they had inquired about it, and we knew that the story would probably break, and it did. Today's the day McGovern does his big speech on corruption, so they obviously used that as the buildup. There was a lot of discussion during the day about the effect and what should be done.

Ziegler did a strong counterattack on the *Post* at his briefing this morning, and that will ride as the main answer, with a good strong denial. Also Hugh Sloan and others have handled the denials. The President didn't seem overly worried about it, although he did raise it some. And let's see what develops from there.

The President got into some questions on speech schedules, he wants to get going on the foreign policy speech now and also the defense policy one, using the material from his San Francisco speech, but building up the point of massive retaliation being outdated in discussing the fate of small nations. He went over the timing of the various radio speeches -- he also wants a radio spot on amnesty. He feels that we're not getting enough on that. Felt that Ziegler, or someone, should hit the *Post* on yellow journalism. That we should keep a hard attack going on McGovern on Vietnam, and then in the middle of all that raised the point that he wants a little press facility built up at Camp David for use as a briefing room, and small press lounge set up.

End of October 25.