



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

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Sunday, November 26th. Henry mercifully delayed his wakeup call today until about 10:30, but that's because he's back in New York now. He called in, said that things in Paris are in pretty good shape.

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Audio Cassette 27, Side B, Withdrawn Item Number 12 [AC-27(B) Sel 11-1]
Duration: 25 seconds

The problem has been that the South Vietnamese are brutally intransigent and he's afraid, was afraid, that if we'd gone to the conclusion yesterday that he came to the conclusion yesterday that he couldn't follow the President's instructions because Saigon would blow up publicly and blow us out of the water.

The problem with North Vietnam is that all the journalists in Paris have convinced them that the President has to settle now, so the North Vietnamese gave Kissinger an ultimatum on Wednesday. Kissinger hit them back on Friday then broke off talks after their leak to the *Post*. They were terrified re: that we're going break off. Henry says the main thing now is to keep the President pumped up to sound tough with the South Vietnamese until we get over that hurdle. He thinks this could be worked out; that we brutalize them now, rather than while he was there, and then we've made the record as trying to work with them and force them to take the settlement. Says we have two problems: first, an ultimatum to South Vietnam, so that they're aboard, that Henry, the President must be brutal to Duc, the emissary, he can't talk gently to him; secondly, an ultimatum to the North Vietnam that this is it, period. He thinks we can put it in motion, get it all set for a Presidential speech to the nation by the 20th of December.



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The problem still is that he's dealing with two maniacs and the...

...real problem is what the press has done in Paris to the North Vietnamese. Henry says he really had Le Duc Tho shaking yesterday, when he tried to block it out.

Henry then got into the, his concern about reorganization. He wants to meet with me at Camp David tomorrow to go over that. He thinks, I think, that we're doing it all wrong.

He says the Soviets have accepted a summit visit for the end of May or early June in Washington, and they've invited Ed and Tricia to the Soviet Union for a visit. There'll be no delegation for the anniversary, though.

China's invited Julie and David to come any time they want, but suggested that the best time to come is in the spring.

End of November 26th.