



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

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Friday, February 23.

Pat Hitt problem still bubbling. The President has decided to give action to Balzano, and Ehrlichman has tried to ease Hitt out of it and into the State Department job, but she won't take that. She's convinced that isn't the right place for her, and is apparently going to try and hold out for the other one, or line up something else. Finch confirmed that her real interest is getting back to California to run for office, and so she's playing all these for whatever she thinks is going to work best in that regard.

The President got into some other schedule things this afternoon. Wants to go ahead on Alexander for IRS, that's Colson's and Connally's man, but everybody else seems to agree that he's good too. He's concerned still about ethnic appointments. Wants to be sure that we're programming him on calls to Cabinet officers to keep in touch. Was concerned about the bowling alley cost. Wants to put a Pole into the Vatican job that Lodge has. This was Volpe's suggestion. Apparently Volpe came in for his meeting with his usual bag of a jillion things. Oates of the veterans group, Job for Veterans, suggested an "Honor our Veterans Week", beginning the day the POW's are all back, honoring all those who served, featuring jobs and all that sort of thing. He wants to be sure there are letters to the state legislators who endorsed the Vietnam policy, also City Councils and so on, and got into the need for our plan for the year again on the schedule.

He met with the Energy group this morning, and then left right afterwards with Ehrlichman for Camp David. He took John with him because he wanted to discuss the Watergate in some detail. He's concerned about what's coming up there and feels that since John is not involved he can consult with him on it. I think he's particularly concerned about the possibility of my getting hauled in. Dean is also concerned, so we've got everybody worrying at this point.

End of February 23.