



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

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Thursday, March 1.

The President was pretty well tied up during the day, and I spent most of the time on getting my things cleaned up. I had a call from Billy Graham, mainly about Marvin Watson. He thinks that if Connally switches to the Republicans, Watson would do the same. He's a man of equal ability, decisiveness, brains, as Connally that he could be brought into the government and is interested in the Post Office. And even though he is considered the heir to Armand Hammer at Occidental, Billy suspects that he would be open to any top position. He's smart, has guts, religion and total loyalty. The reason that he didn't come into Democrats for Nixon, was that Lyndon Johnson told him that he could run for Governor of Texas, but he'd destroy his chances if he did that, and that stopped him. He wants to be considered on Nixon's team, has deep concern regarding what's happening in the Post Office. He's extremely pro-Nixon, so Billy wanted us to consider that.

I did my *Newsweek* interview, and it went reasonably well. They asked nothing about the Watergate, or any of that sort of thing. They claim they're doing a straight cover story on me, so maybe it won't be as bad as we had been afraid it would. Mitchell called and said that Hal Bruno at *Newsweek* had talked to him, and he thinks it's going to be a favorable speech too-- piece, too. But they do keep coming back to the Barbara Walters interview and other things and try and make me out as a super-conservative type.

The POW problem was solved today, as the Communists folded and agreed to release the men within the next 48 hours, so the President hanging tight on that paid off. They've now gone back to the Paris conferences. The Golda Meir visit is going without any major incident apparently. The President had a long session with her this morning, and then dinner tonight. The big problem today was the Indian uprising. They have laid siege to some area, are holding hostages and all that sort of thing. The President was only mildly interested in it.

End of March 1.