



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

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Friday, March 2.

The President had his press conference today. Did a good job, took twenty questions in a little over half an hour, less than half of them on Vietnam, quite a few on Watergate, and Pat Gray.

[End of tape reel AC-31(A)]

[Begin tape reel AC-31(B)]

The President had me in on miscellaneous personnel items. Was concerned in the farewell group that he had that some Assistant Secretary of the Navy got in and said that he was fired. And that he had been told by Richardson and Warner that he was staying, and the White House staff had him fired. Claimed that he was the guy that got Ash and Whitman into trouble, and that Ash had probably gotten him. The President was concerned about how he got in.

On Ambassadors, he said to go ahead on Keating to Israel, send Jim Reynolds to Columbia or some place like that, Bob Hill to Mexico or Pakistan. We need a Nixon man in both places. Wants me to call John Olin and tell him we've worked out Phil Crow to Denmark. Wants to give Villarreal the Navy job which he wants. Apparently he mentioned it in the farewell thing. Wants Harlow to get going on Operation Crossover.

We talked some about the probable Connally switch. The President feels that we should be getting our ducks in a row to take advantage of it and that we're not doing that. Which is right. Also, that our guys in Congress just don't have the steam to do anything to take advantage of this, and that we've got to try to compensate for that.

End of March 2.