



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

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Monday, March 12th. The President had Henry and me in this morning to talk about ambassadors. He decided he wants a non-career man to Taiwan, Hill, Bob Hill to Pakistan, Farlan to Mexico, send Reynolds to Columbia or Venezuela. Raised the question of Brazil and Argentina; said to do Keating to Israel and Vail to Germany; told Henry to call him rather than my doing it. He said that Pappas didn't insist on Tosca going to Greece and so wanted me to call Mitchell and tell him we want Tosca here as Assistant Secretary for Africa, and said that we ought to work it out to let them keep Newsom in the Africa desk, and send Sisco to Russia as another alternative. He wanted to know the Jimmy Roosevelt status on his roving Ambassador assignment. Also got into the State Visit business, he wanted to try to move the Shah and Willy Brandt up to May visits, and then the African in the fall, or as a reserve, if either the Shah or Brandt can't come in May. Also, a Latin American, in the late spring or in the fall. Then he wants to plan a Latin American trip with three countries this fall, Brazil, and then something on the way back, probably also Venezuela.

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The question of whether they would have an uprising; you have to check Caracas out carefully.

He also wants a ten day trip to Africa; three countries, Nigeria, Congo and Ethiopia. Henry recommended considering adding the Sudan also; probably will hold that until spring of next year, although he might want to do it earlier.



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Later in the day he said to consider the possibility of doing Latin America this spring, right after Easter, a one week total trip with one day stops, no return dinners, just lunches. He still wants to do Europe in the fall, early fall, as a state visit, grand tour type of approach. He got into the news analysis sheet that Buchanan and Mort Allen had whipped up, and was concerned, because it's practically all bad news, except for the POW's which we had no control over, that was the one good thing. He thinks that they should point out the positives, too. That this is dwelling too much on problems instead of opportunities, and ruins the team spirit setup, and he questions whether Ehrlichman's value isn't greater at thinking and creating rather than doing, and whether we don't need him working in this area. Also he felt Ehrlichman should be editing the President's speeches, such as the one on the cities. He should have, should not have said the crisis was over. It was a bad way to put it, and John should have caught that. Price should edit the President's speeches after the original drafts are done.

He raised the point that he wanted me to have Dent get a candidate fielded and going against Sam Ervin, to give him some trouble in his district, to slow him down a little on his Watergate activities.

End of March 12th.