



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

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Saturday, August 7.

At Minot Island. Things were quiet until 10:30 this morning, when the President called, asked where I was staying and was surprised to learn I was on the island, and suggested that I mosey up to the house here. So I went up. He was in his little sort of porch at the house with all the windows closed, and the door, although it was a beautiful day outside. He was smoking his pipe and polluting the air royally. We reviewed the reaction to yesterday. He felt that it had been extremely successful, and that led him into thinking about other trip kind of things that we might do. And, also, we got into some general scheduling questions.

And then he launched into a long general chat. He obviously had not had anything specific in mind that he wanted to cover, so he rambled around a bit, got to the end of his rope and said that was about it. We did cover some domestic policy items. He wants to shift more to a conservative stance. For instance, Maury Stans has told him that there's \$5 to \$6 billion of private industry investment that's being held up because of the environmental restrictions we've put on. Ehrlichman says this isn't true, but Stans says it is. President wants an objective look taken at it, because both Connally and Stans say business is holding back on job-producing investments. His point is that we need to look at things from a conservative standpoint, and thinks maybe we ought to get Marty Anderson in in that role, to fight for the system and against welfare, environment, great society, consumerism, and so on, to give the President another point of view, to speak up for Stans' views. He feels this would be useful to the President on substance, someone to vigorously express the conservative view. And that we ought to give Marty a freewheeling operation like Finch and Rumsfeld, then take the Shepherd speech and let him shore that up. Also it would help Ehrlichman to hold the conservative argument. He could develop some plans on re-privatization of business and also serve as a bridge to Arthur Burns.

The President called later on the question of whether the Emergency Unemployment Bill had passed, and I assured him that it had, and he said then that it was imperative that we get moving fast to get the money spent immediately, and that Ehrlichman is to push all of the agencies in the



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Labor Department. He wants a report Monday noon on what we're doing. He wants Cap Weinberger to follow up on this personally and spend every dime as fast as possible, spend it this month. He's afraid it will turn out the same as the California earthquake if we don't. That talk lasted about an hour and a half, and that was the end of it for the day. The President spent the rest of the day just loafing on Minot Island, apparently, and everyone had another lobster dinner tonight.

End of August 7.