



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

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Monday, February 17.

Finch is the big issue today. First he's blamed for appointing a Mexican-American woman who was an ardent Humphrey supporter. (Turns out she was already appointed when we came in, but Finch gets blamed). Then there's a big problem regarding his Assistant Secretary for Health. He wants a guy who is ardently opposed by the AMA. Can't take this on top of the heat regarding his Education guy, who is known as "Mr. Busing" in the South. President spends a lot of time lining up tactics for Finch to get AMA support - via Deluccia and Mac Todd.

Wants Mitchell to rein Finch in, wants Pat Gray to read the riot act, use his influence on Bob to get the left wingers off his staff. Wants Bob to hit a Northern school district regarding integration - instead of always the South. Wants him to appoint someone from Midwest, has a load of Californian's plus Farmer and Allen from New York.

President feels HEW can't go down the line all the way with people who were against us.

Ehrlichman moving on trip plans - plus having to get back in on a few domestic things, i.e., Bliss. Harlow is now to handle letter exchange to lock up his departure

President still pushing for DC crime action - Harlow resisting letters to Chairman Mahon - feels it's using 16 inch gun to shoot a sparrow.

Lot of talk about demonstrations on the trip. President wants Ehrlichman to hold backgrounder - and explain we expect them - but are determined not to let a few dissidents get in the way of the imperative need to communicate. Debate regarding use of bullet-proof cars. John argues for, Preident feels image is terrible. Settled on using our cars because of communication facilities - but not the bullet-proof jobs. Secret Service will be very unhappy.

I flew to LA in the evening. Henry Loomis rode out to airport to discuss Roy Ash project. He's opposed, because it cuts into bureaucratic prerogatives. Will be a problem to work out.

George Allen, Rams' coach, on plane, was in to see President earlier in day, great booster!



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In LA for anniversary - WSAAA (Western States Advertising Agency Association) Award, and site inspection of summer White House possibility - through Thursday.