



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

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Thursday, March 27.

Kind of a strange day. Lot of quick appointments added at last minute because day had originally been kept clear for possible press conference. Then expected DDE death.

Long discussion of problem of press at White House parties. President doesn't want them mingling with the guests, especially when drinks are served. So ordered no press except to observe entrance of President and guest. We'll have to get him to change this.

Wants Harlow to move on getting better representation on Hill from the Departments. A reaction to the last two evenings with the dissidents. Feels the word is not adequately getting through.

Some discussion of DDE funeral arrangements, and approved statement, proclamation and notice to Congress.

Wants Ziegler to avoid any President situation where he's buddy-buddy with the press, i.e., the Mexican restaurant last weekend.

Decided to try to force VA director out (can't fire him because of commitment he was trapped into during transition by a couple of Congressmen) by making him fire everyone under him, and preparing a dossier on his political activity. (Another reaction from Congressional meetings.)

Was impressed by remarks of John Ashbrook last night that President had restored dignity, respect and morality.

Progressively added to astronauts' dinner tonight. First the VP, then wanted a senator. Tried Goldwater and Scoop Jackson. Ended up with Pastore.

Had a long session with Fulbright. Bill Rogers had a big day of hearings on the Hill, on TV.