



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

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Sunday, March 30.

The first Eisenhower funeral day. Dawned bright and sunny at Camp David. Chapin and I took long walk after breakfast around whole camp perimeter. Brisk, cold, a little snow left from last night. Lots of exercise (bowled four lines yesterday afternoon with Chapin and Chuck Larson and the Camp Commander). Then Chapin and I had a long talk regarding operations, people, etc.

President slept fairly late, then worked with Ray. Feeling better but still obviously under the weather. Chopper back at 1:00. Brief spell in office.

Left in Presidential motorcade at 2:45 for National Cathedral - streets cleared, light snow, dreary. People all along way. Impressive ceremony to bring casket out of Cathedral into hearse. I rode in the second car behind President, with Tkach and Ziegler. Ahead of President were fifteen Eisenhower family cars. Motorcade back to Washington Monument - stopped there to change to caisson. Lots of people on all the streets. No great sadness, mainly appeared to be curious. Lots of cameras. Impressed by many who saluted Presidential car as it passed (flags on bumpers - with black streamers above). Constitution was jammed for cortege route.

Someone really screwed up on schedule - ended up one and a half hours late. Allowed no time for getting into and out of cars - and motorcade was a mile long - all the heads of state, Cabinet, etc. Arrived at Capitol for another impressive ceremony as casket carried up steps. Great hymn, 21 gun salute, poor bearers had tough job on steps.

President very good on eulogy in Rotunda. Read it (had called me this morning to be sure he had lighted podium). Hughes said he broke down in hall after leaving Rotunda. The whole thing has been pretty tough on him, topped by not feeling well.

Also talked to him several times on phone at Camp David regarding funeral arrangements. And again after we got back to White House after Capitol ceremony. The reception tomorrow night is really going to be a dilly. Added the Cabinet, Joint Chiefs of Staff, etc. A real mob scene. Hope



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we can handle it. Kissinger really swamped trying to figure out private meeting schedule, and develop briefing papers.