



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

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Tuesday, April 8.

King Hussein. Formal arrival on South Lawn. Private and group meetings. Stag dinner tonight. President also had NSC this afternoon.

Long staff session with President in morning, mainly about Ehrlichman's domestic stuff.

Problem regarding appointment of Chairman of National Science Foundation. DuBridge wants F. Long and has told him and others he has the job. Turns out Long is way left and a real problem. Flanigan and I had tried to block him earlier, but DuBridge got Teller and Strauss not to object and that clinched it. Now Kissinger says Long would be a disaster - but we can't use his objection because it would damage his academic standing. So I told DuBridge today it wouldn't work. He's very upset, for good reason. President firm that we must keep him out unless he's cleared by Scoop Jackson. All related to the ABM battle at the moment - and similar ones in the future. Too bad - we let it go too far. Will be a mess now either way.

After Hussein meeting President called Ehrlichman and me in - I had gone out with Chapin to look at a house. Got there a half hour later. Was covering domestic plans again. Then went into overall PR stuff - Ehrlichman had to leave for a luncheon - I stayed for another one and a half hours, and got all the pending schedule stuff cleared up, plus reviewing Williamsburg decorating plans. He now wants Pat Nixon's decorator brought into the act regarding the Oval Office. Going to be a real problem.

Resumed again after NSC. Same type of miscellany.

Biggest challenge at the moment is the ABM. Apparently President has decided not to fight all out. Strange. He told me in some detail of the importance of not getting too over-involved in each day-to-day problem. Should not feel each issue is life-or-death matter - need long range perspective. All on staff feel battle is vital - and should not drop to President's idea of letting us lose in Senate and then winning in conference. They feel this is first battle of '72 - versus Teddy Kennedy - and we must win. So I've set up project groups with Alex as coordinator. Main trouble



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at the moment is Bill Rogers' constant public undercutting of Administration position, and unclear line. We'll see what we can do.