



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

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Sunday, April 13.

Started slow at Camp David - President slept in until about noon. Rest of us had breakfast, then worked the rest of the morning. No word from President until 12 30 when we heard he was having breakfast. At 2:30 he had Manalo call to say he was ready to go and was standing at the door. No advance warning. The helicopter crew wasn't even in uniform. They all really cranked - we got bags packed, chopper out of shed and loaded - and took off 12 minutes later.

On the flight down President changed all the arrangements for the RNC reception tonight. Another big to-do for the poor social groups.

When we got back to White House, Ray Price was waiting with his final draft of the domestic policy statement for tomorrow. He and President spent a while reworking it. Then he called me in - wanted to have Harlow and Burns give it a final review. Fortunately they were both in their offices so Ray covered with them and I went home to change for reception.

The phone rang - Arthur wanted some changes made and Ray disagreed - so I told him to call President.

Then the President called me, said he wouldn't talk to Arthur about it. So we went back and forth. Ray finally talked to President - and they agreed to one of Burns' changes, but refused to follow his decision to leave out any mention of hunger. President told me to tell Arthur all this.

After reception President called me upstairs to chat including a rehash of above. Ehrlichman came up, and it was agreed he would handle with Arthur. But he failed to get him before he left, so will try to call him at home.

Points up real problem. President won't argue after decision made, and wants staff to understand. But Burns types want to feel they can always reach President with their views. This may lead to a showdown. Will also be complicated by Rumsfeld matter, because we're going to bring him in



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as Counselor to President - parallel to Arthur - with Cabinet status. Will be a tough tangle for Ehrlichman, who I trust will continue to honcho domestic matters.