



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

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Monday, April 28.

Uneventful day overall. In and out of President's office quite a bit, but nothing significant.

Dickering with Mrs. Doyle about decorating the Oval Office and the Florida houses. Harangue about ABM plans, carryover from yesterday.

Got into a deep discussion of welfare - trying to think out the Family Security decision - with Ehrlichman and me. President emphasized that you have to face the fact that the whole problem is really the blacks. The key is to devise a system that recognizes this while not appearing to. Problem with overall welfare plan is that it forces poor whites into same position as blacks. Feels we have to get rid of the veil of hypocrisy and guilt and face reality. Pointed out that there has never in history been an adequate black nation - and they are the only race of which this is true. Says Africa is hopeless -and the worst there is Liberia, which we built.

No overt reaction to de Gaulle disaster yesterday although President mentioned it in passing a couple of times.

Rose in bad mood – blasted President regarding things all screwed up. He's concerned and discussed it with me at some length. Is perfectly ready to let her go if necessary – or so he says. Wanted me to have it out with her – then changed his mind. Whole problem arose because Rose added to the great list for the Duke Ellington dinner.

Also uncovered (inadvertently) huge problem with Bryce - who had concluded that because he was left on plane at Abilene, President was trying to give him message to resign. Strange.

President had session with DuBridge and the head scientist, trying to make amends about the Long mess. Offered him the post, but he turned it down.