



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

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Tuesday, June 24.

President took a chopper ride at 7 30 this morning to see the DC traffic jam s (which failed to materialize). Still mad about last night's boat problem - and this was compounded by Ziegler's failure to remove the *Washington Post* man from the chopper this morning. Developed into a pretty good day after we got past that. General run of appointments, etc. Leadership meeting. Learned late in afternoon that House had postponed surtax vote - a bit of a blow. Went with the political group on the Sequoia for dinner, VP. Morton, Mitchell, Finch, Harlow, Dent, Ehrlichman, and me. Good meeting - concerned with RNC progress, Morton's plans and ideas, patronage problems - finally starting to get solved, then on to poor Finch and the HEW medical appointment. Dirksen, Ford, and Tower had made clear it could not be Knowles - Finch still pushing - sat quietly hoping to wait it out, so I picked up the battle for the President. Tough. Ended up with President suggesting he go to General Heaton. Might work.

Then on to the Charleston hospital problem - potential real disaster - we agreed we would stay out. Agnew made point this was ideal situation, all our enemies fighting each other, Democratic government, blacks, unions. We can't lose - and can't win by getting into it. Then some discussion of guideline statement, still being reworked. All in all, very cordial and productive. All stayed at table for prolonged discussion after we got to the dock. Mitchell told me about Drew Pearson story - via J. Edgar Hoover - when we got back to hotel.