



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

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Thursday, July 10.

Cabinet meeting. President said on phone last night to be sure they stick to agenda, and don't get into surtax question. He was late to meeting because of session with former Secretary of the Treasury Fowler. When he came in, he brought up the surtax. Gave an overall appraisal of the situation, and a great argument for immediate passage, for Secretaries to use in speeches, etc. Is going to have a bipartisan Senate group meeting Monday evening, with three former Secretaries of the Treasury to put the heat on.

Pat Nixon called me over to discuss social operations problems. She wants Ruwe pulled out, and Lucy in charge. So be it.

President met with Senator Russell and Senator Long regarding ABM and surtax. Tomorrow breakfasts with Mansfield. Also saw Smathers this morning regarding his influence on Long and Russell. Bryce really pushing for all-out fight - and discouraged because President won't take it on totally. I think he (President) feels it can be won without total involvement on his part - and he wants to save as much equity as he can. Bryce doesn't agree. Real problem is lack of adequate action by others. All rely on President to carry the main load. He'd be more willing to do so if he felt all other stops had been pulled out first. Trouble is, they always start with his part, then add the others instead of vice versa. Bryce's point is that President ends up having to get in anyway, and that the same effort is far more effective early than late.

President went bowling at EOB this evening with Julie and David. Julie upset because her trip to Chicago not well enough planned for TV and interviews, etc. Now President wants me to supervise all these activities. Rough!