



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

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Sunday, July 13.

White House Church service - Lutheran from Minnesota. Not very good, but President and Pat Nixon liked him.

Had me upstairs after, to resume yesterday's Camp David discussion. I had covered with Ehrlichman, and he with Harlow, Burns, etc. Took me into his bedroom to talk because family in hall with Bebe.

Has fully decided Ehrlichman should take over the domestic role - and should not go on trip. President will tell him, which he did in late afternoon meeting.

Came to office about 3:30 and had Ehrlichman come in but he didn't arrive until 5:00. Meanwhile discussed schedule some more, and domestic plan, and plan for Apollo activities. Wants to go to Florida this weekend, to rest up for trip, and then to Houston to talk to men on moon on TV.

Lot of talk regarding staff, and whole problem of Presidential leadership, as blasted in papers today, after *Newsweek* lead last week.

Then Ehrlichman came in - and President reviewed his thinking on domestic area. Ehrlichman outlined his plan and of course the two coincided. Good staff work for once. Ehrlichman very disappointed about not going on trip, but otherwise seems anxious to move ahead. President wants him to function as a spokesman as well as coordinator. And to really get control of this area - and I agree, but only if he really moves into it on an all-out basis. Can take over while we're gone, if he'll do it.

Papers today loaded with the "lack of leadership" theme which is obviously the new establishment line. Only answer is the route we're already on for next programs, plus a quantum rise in quality of our PR. President feels we really fail to get story over adequately, and he's right. The record is a lot better than we get credit for.