

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

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Monday, September 22.

Busy day. President spent all Sunday afternoon and evening dictating memos. Had five tapes, wanted Elmer to handle. Took him all day to do first three. Also had four for Rose. Loaded with follow-up items and stacks of new projects, mostly PR.

Lot of appointments - Laxalt regarding his entering Senate race; Romanian and American Davis Cup teams, with minor flap about whether to do picture on the tennis court (decision was no, it's a mess); film clips for football 100th anniversary, and the NAB; Dick Berlin; then a real mess in setting up emergency meeting with Secretary Kennedy regarding oil depletion (no staffing and all was really screwed up, but got it untangled); then in the afternoon a drop-by from Len Hall; a session with VP and John Love and then a group of Governors regarding inflation and construction; a private session with Moynihan that kicked off a lot of ideas about cutting the staff, cleaning out the mess, etc.; Volpe regarding a bunch of his problems, and pre-planning for SST announcement tomorrow, then Kissinger for the evening wrap-up.

Got me into a long thing regarding staff reduction and reassignment – also converting the pool to press quarters. He's determined to go ahead and even wants action started tomorrow morning. He doesn't really believe we're going ahead with in – and there will really be some potent opposition and criticism.

Then got going on the mess – and ordered that Navy provide some facilities and service in EOB – so White House can be truly an executive mess. Will be another source of super criticism.