



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

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Monday, November 3.

The big day. President stayed at Camp David until 1:00. Arrived at White House and went right to EOB office for the whole afternoon. Called many times. Wanted Riland down, stuff regarding counterattack, changed Florida plans for the weekend, etc. Had me bring over the midday signing. Was intrigued with 20,000 signature telegram from Colorado, wanted to know how they did it. Several shifts in plans regarding makeup, etc. Called and ordered me to take personal responsibility for the Oval Office - keep everyone out, etc. Lot of questions regarding lighting, only one camera, etc.

Did a great job on the air - content superb, delivery very good, with a few fluffs. Commentary after was mixed. Worst were Marvin Kalb and Bill Lawrence. Both seemed to be stunned - apparently really expected a major move. After telecast, stayed very briefly for photos, then shot out and over to Residence.

Then started a long night of phone calls. From 10:15 to 1:15, he was on and off at least fifteen to twenty times. Started wanting to know what we were doing for all out counterattack (while nets were still commenting). Then asked for reactions - what did people around the office think? Then broader reaction. By 10:30, phones were ringing off the wall, all staff taking calls, and making checks around the country, and I reporting every few minutes to President whenever there was a new item. Got a lot of just ordinary people, and some bigshots. Then pressure about what is Klein doing to get reaction. Reports on editors around country. Then orders to get out wires and letters story in morning fast. Then the *New York Times* ad idea again. Then hit network management for biased reports. Then call Rogers and Laird, be sure they know about big reaction, shore them up. Then get reports from West (by now too late to call in East). Then a plea - if only do one thing get a hundred vicious dirty calls to *New York Times* and *Washington Post* about their editorials (even though no idea what they'll be).

We had fun pumping the line onto LA TV in the late hours. And big crisis about getting the telegrams in. Couldn't get the supply line unplugged.