



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

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Tuesday, November 4.

Reaction day, and a spectacular one! Wires pouring in all day as fast as machines could process them. Piled them all on President's desk. He greatly enjoyed going through them all through the day as the pile steadily grew. Showed his favorites to all comers. Almost all favorable - and about forty-three referred to "silent majority". Bill Hopkins says biggest telegram response to a President speech.

Favorites included one from family whose son was killed, one regarding Harriman on TV, several regarding Agnew and one, "damn the Fulbright, full steam ahead." Had a star ceremony for Al Haig, and President read a few wires. Had several appointments - and wallowed in the wires all day. Bounced out on the porch to talk to "Today" TV crew doing filming with Tricia and had the TV gal in for a chat. Had photographers in twice to see the stacks. Added an appointment with McNamara, and thoroughly enjoyed showing him the wires. Lot of good phone calls. Great spirit.

Called my crew in for long general chat in the morning - really cranked them up.

We announced the staff reorganization to the press today, no big problems.

President especially pleased at the reaction from the speech because he succeeded in moving people to action without demagoging. His view is that you fire people up with a tough, loud speech, but you win them over and change their minds only by calm reasoning.

Had Harlow and Moynihan in to talk about the new counselors. Good relaxed session.

Then the Prince Philip dinner, and the election returns. I came home and rode herd by phone. Great evening! Both Cahill and Holton - hard to believe.

President called several times after I'd gone to sleep - regarding inviting Holton and Cahill to lunch tomorrow - and some ideas regarding follow-up on election results. Said rather thoughtfully and wistfully, "There probably has never been a day like this - here was the press



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last week that we were in the dumps, lack of ideas, etc., but now look at things." Started each call with "it's been quite a day," and it sure has!