



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

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Thursday, November 20.

Day starts deep in the Agnew problem, as we try to decide what position to take. Finally Ehrlichman, Harlow and I agreed the original speech would be harmful, to a substantial degree. So we told President about it (since Blair had made it clear to me that nothing short of President would cause VP to make any change). President agreed, after I skimmed through the objectionable area, then said only way to handle was through whoever had written it. I didn't know. President looked at first page and said obviously it was Buchanan. He was right. I spent a long time with Pat, but as the final version came out it didn't do very much good. It still hits very hard, especially at the *New York Times*. I did get out the highly personal and defensive segments.

The Haynsworth battle is in the final round - and there's still a remote chance of winning, although Cooper pulled away, after a President phone call - and we now have to get 2 out of 3: Packwood, Saxbe and Hatfield. Got Fulbright and Randolph. Bryce really cranking away.

Back to Agnew, President made point that he must be cool and calm and never defend against attacks from a lower level.

President had another Sato session - Kissinger busy tying his deal back up - it fell apart a bit when State told Japanese we'd give more than Sato had already settled for (without State's knowledge). Long afternoon with DuBridge, Environment Council, Oil Import group. Then he shot right out for home. Good new habit.

Just learned VP is again on national networks. President called, not very concerned about speech, although I told him we had only been mildly successful in getting it cooled off.

President really convinced we have something going with the Silent Majority, and wants to continue to capitalize on it.

Life a little simpler with Ehrlichman back to take up some of the slack.



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President called after VP speech - felt it had gone well. Wished he had left out reference to Hubert switch or fight. Only concern really was that he hadn't mentioned the Silent Majority.