



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

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Monday, December 1.

President concentrated on the hunger speech, because he'd decided the Price draft was not right. Then the second try, following his instructions turned out to be worse. Price worked on it all night last night - and he and Moynihan both called today to say it is a disaster, and that President will be booted if he uses it. I passed this on to President who, by midmorning, had Ehrlichman in with him redoing the whole thing. So he had Ehrlichman get the latest version to Pat and Ray, and they worked it into an acceptable, but camel-like, final version. The whole Hunger Conference is a disaster, due mainly to Jean Mayer - who is clearly not on our side.

President did have a brief meeting in late morning with Dr. Arnold Hutschnecker, the psychiatrist he was supposed to have consulted years ago. The Doctor had a plan for world peace - through psychology, or something.

Afternoon ended up pretty loose due to all the cancellations - so he had Rogers, Laird, Mitchell and Kissinger in for a session before Rogers and Laird leave for Europe tomorrow. Mainly regarding Vietnam, and especially My Lai atrocities. Also had a long session with me on schedule - mainly news plan for next two weeks. Pretty well worked out this time.

Wants me to set up a My Lai planning group to figure how best to control the whole problem - which is, as of now, pretty well out of hand.

Worked out a plan to have Haynsworth come up and see President, then announce his plan to stay on the bench. I talked to him several times today on this, he seems a bit slow - has a terrible speech impediment.

Tonight is the Boys Club dinner at White House. I left early (7:00).