



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

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Saturday, December 13.

President at Camp David, but came down at 2:00, so I went into White House. Good thing. He had a budget meeting with Mayo and Schlesinger, and wanted me to sit in since Ehrlichman was out of town. Was supposed to be one hour, but lasted for two. Covered OEO, Interior and the independent Agencies plus wrapping up HEW.

President wants a big meeting with Rumsfeld, Finch, Shultz plus Ehrlichman, Moynihan, Burns, Mayo and Nathan about whole area of overlap of OEO, fight it out and decide where and how to locate all the overlapping programs. A number of items today put over to that meeting. Feels all Agencies proliferate too much, and should have one department in total charge of each program so everything clears through one place and there is some degree of control.

President took, as usual, very tough line on cutting - especially in personnel. Particularly zeroed in on PR people. Also moved hard on cutting the OEO programs he doesn't like, i.e., Legal Services, Head Start, etc.

Got into VP setup - President wants us to persuade him to cut back on extraneous activities, but said "whatever he asks for I have to give him," so you have to get him to cut back voluntarily.

Left right after meeting. President called me at home really cranked up about letting *Look* photographers into his office, and regarding the David Frost show - wants both blacklisted, and action from Garment on Frost.