



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

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Friday, February 20.

Cleaned up some odds and ends, with fairly light schedule. As most of the week, I spent long hours in with President while he rambled over various areas, primarily the school problem.

Kissinger left this morning on his secret mission - obviously all cranked up, going in Air Force One - elaborate cover, etc. He really thinks it may mean something. In typical Kissinger fashion, with all the secrecy - he then leaves by chopper from the Ellipse.

Change of view regarding the Agnew speech, based on memo from Garment and Price. Now decided President must make the speech - and that it needs a lot more work. President very impressed with column in *Post* by William Raspberry (black) regarding school problem, and idea that forced integration won't work.

President worked hard on me on follow-through and staff action. Says have to keep pounding - "Everybody reflects the heat he gets."

Not at all pleased regarding the board Fisher has put together for volunteer program; dinner with them tonight.

Concerned about getting a range of speeches for Agnew - on crime, inflation, etc., so he doesn't get locked as a one-issue man.

Two hour afternoon session with the Keogh group. President said before it he didn't want to get into the school problem - but it came up inevitably and took up well over an hour. President did excellent job of laying out the dilemma and his basic philosophy - regarding in favor of Brown decision but not the later ones forcing integration.

Met with group of Catholic educators which got him really going on support for private schools. Had Colson in and gave him orders to break the china and get things done.



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Told writers this is a very historic crisis, and the country must not move in the wrong direction. We must hit it effectively in a way that will affect the court. Says there's only mileage in this for demagogues. Fine for a man who wants to be Governor but not for a man who has to be president. Must mobilize the decent opinion, but not throw down gauntlet to Court.

Volunteer dinner tonight.