



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

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Sunday, March 8,

Storm front still here from last night. Lousy cloudy wet windy day. Everyone getting caught up on work. Kissinger left last night for his rendezvous in San Clemente, then on to SAC as a cover tonight.

President had Harlow, Ehrlichman and me up for last part of flight - first regarding general problem of VP's speech clearance - now wants all VP's speeches and all Administration statements on school problem to be cleared first by Harlow. Also VP is never to have a press conference, and should not break new ground.

Then into subject of staff briefings and backgrounders. Said he doesn't want Ehrlichman and Kissinger to do any more. Shift to Cabinet officers plus Harlow, Moynihan, Rumsfeld, Klein. Ehrlichman not too happy - and Kissinger will be even less so. Point is they will be destroyed if they keep this up - creates problems with Cabinet members, staff jealousies and exposure to being chopped up because of neck on block. Also wants Klein built up more. Use Cabinet men for White House briefings and let Klein present them instead of Ziegler - build his credibility as a spokesman and build Cabinet men in their fields. Keep Kissinger, Ehrlichman, Flanigan, et al., in the background - but always there to monitor for Administration line. President especially concerned about Kissinger on this, because he loves the press coverage. Will be hard to turn him off. Also for Ehrlichman, as they and their families, etc., get used to it.