



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

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Friday, April 3.

Pretty busy schedule up to departure time for Camp David - so not too much chitchat today. Continuing briefings and promotion on strike agreement. President anxious to get the line set on basis of a major Administration victory - not let opposition get their line set. Carswell battle moving ahead a little better - vote on Monday.

Quite a discussion with President regarding problems of press coverage at social events. He really resents the intrusion and feels the reporters ruin the feel of a party. Basically he's right. But we're finally getting credit for the outstanding shows we're putting on. Also a basic difference between Nixon and Pat Nixon on this - she wants to let reporters run free, and that's partly why we're getting the good stories. Got President to agree to a little freer approach than he really wants - on a trial basis.

Planning for next week and following. Will be making a new troop announcement, and then a press conference. Probably Thursday and Monday - or Monday and following Thursday.

Wants to consider letting Hoffa out of jail. I'm to have Mitchell talk to Shultz and work out a plan.

Called me from Camp David, still on subject of postal deal. Wants more action on setting the tone. Especially keep Congressional people on it. Try to get our people on Sunday TV. Also worried about who's throwing the first baseball. Wants to have David do it.

Still didn't tell him about the Gallup. I've done an analysis, and we are just not getting any Presidential exposure - and haven't for some months. This is undoubtedly the direct cause. Maybe troop announcement and press conference will crank it back up. Sure looks as if what the people really want is to see President on TV so they know he's in charge of things - even if he doesn't do it the way they want.