



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

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

Friday, May 1.

Reaction day. President in at 7:30. Had me in at 8:00 - gazing out at Rose Garden and musing about how short a time the spring lasts. Then Kissinger and Ziegler in for review of line for today: cold steel, no give, nothing regarding negotiation - Hanoi can now choose between peace and war. Mainly stay strong, whole emphasis on "back the boys," sell courage of President.

Then he took off for Pentagon briefing. Very pleased when he returned by the reception he had received from secretaries, etc. Battle is going well. Meanwhile I had series of staff meetings to get all cranked up and rolling on the offensive.

President back at 11:00, had me in, reviewed progress. Made a lot of phone calls, thanking people. Had Jack Horner in to thank him for support letter - and gave him three years worth of exclusives. Had great letter from Julie about having to do what is right and glad he had courage to do it. Decided to cancel trip plans for next week. Agreed to meet Senate Foreign Relations Committee, but with House included, and after Armed Forces Committees.

Then took off for boat ride lunch with family, then to Camp David. Afternoon was pretty calm, kept the follow up going. President was really beat, but still riding on reaction. Really needs some good rest.

Called couple of times from Camp David regarding specific follow-up. Some lines he wanted to get out - reaction to a bad story in *Baltimore Sun*, etc. Lot of personal speculation regarding the poll, hard to tell what he's done and what the reaction is. Looks a lot better than the predictions.

Thought he'd fold early, but he watched movie and called me again afterwards, at 10:30, just to chat a little and get updated.