



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

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Tuesday, May 12.

President in late - finally got a little sleep. As usual had a lot of stuff for follow-up, notes from the dinner last night.

Concerned about Senate strategy for Church-Cooper amendment regarding Cambodia. Wants to be sure that whatever they do is not interpreted as defeat. Problem is they seem to have enough votes to carry it - although there is a pretty good possibility we can get it amended on basis of protecting American troops. Still pushing hard on getting out the Cambodia story.

Wants to try to implement Billy Graham's idea about a big pro-America rally, maybe on 4th of July.

Had a new idea about cutting off all Defense money to universities that closed down, or caved in to demonstrators. Wants to make university administration go on record saying they want the Defense money - so we aren't in an apparent position of forcing it on them.

Got into a flap with Rogers about the group of FSO and other State employees that signed letters protesting the Cambodia action. President wants to have all of them - or at the least the senior organizers - fired. Rogers of course resisting - with various excuses.

Kissinger all disturbed regarding some tap data regarding his staff, so President has decided to instruct Hoover that all this material now should come to me, not Ehrlichman or Kissinger. Then I have to decide who gets what.

Had our first meeting with Chancellor Heard of Vanderbilt who the President let himself get snookered into appointing him as a special advisor regarding campus situation for 60 days. A bad choice, because he's clearly not on our side in any way - but this came out of the meeting last week with college presidents and Kissinger carried it out with no staff discussion, so we're stuck. Meeting included all our former college presidents, DuBridge, Hannah, Hardin, plus Shultz, Finch, Ehrlichman, Garment, etc. Didn't accomplish much. Decided Heard's main contribution



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could be to set up a mechanism for assuring that academia can be heard at the White House. Will also have him involved in the review of Kent State killings, etc. Pure window dressing of a questionable nature, but it did get pretty good publicity. President hit this group with his Defense money idea and really shook them - played it very straight, and had some fun.

President then over to EOB for rest of the afternoon, general review of overall situation, schedule, etc.