



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

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Monday, May 18, 1970

Still at Key Biscayne. Things started cranking hot and heavy this morning. Bebe wanted to meet about plans for villa here and some staff problems. Then Ehrlichman and Cole descended on my villa regarding reorganization, while President was constantly on phone with item after item - interspersed with Harlow about the Senate problems, J. Edgar Hoover with his report on Harriman's meeting yesterday (Sullivan did go), Chapin about a great poll in *Newsweek*, etc.

President had me call Rogers to follow up on Sullivan. Bill pretty upset - chewed me out for lecturing him, feels we must keep an open mind, have to be fair, not jump to conclusions. President adamant Sullivan is to have no further access to confidential materials, etc. Rogers will undoubtedly fight this, with me caught in the middle.

Harlow still trying to maneuver a deal in the Senate. Not too much luck so far - but Cooper did at least agree to consider modification. Bryce doing a great job of pulling all the strings, etc. His real forte! President feels we now have to break it with Mansfield since he's really left the reservation on this whole deal.

President pushing hard on getting the poll out. Also had long conversations on phone with Ehrlichman and Kissinger. Trying to stay on top of and in touch with everything, so we didn't really get him away from it very much. But the news is better - the word from around the country is that President's support is strong, the polls are good, and maybe we'll turn all this around soon. It's tough to keep fighting it, and amazing how easily everyone crumbles.

In plane on way back, President had me up alone for the first hour, on plans for coming week and general schedule, then added Ehrlichman about Cabinet agenda for tomorrow. Then added Kissinger, and said the three of us had to take the brunt of the heat these past weeks and we deserved an award like the Purple Heart, so he had devised a new award - The Blue Heart - for those who are true blue. Then gave us each a blue cloth heart (made by Jane Lucke) and said the honor was to be kept very confidential. He was in a good mood, relaxed, confident, optimistic,



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not driving hard, but does want to spend time this week on the economy, turning around Cambodia and getting something going on crime. Also talked about Cabinet changes coming soon, but after November in most cases.

Says Mitchell has to go unless he can solve the Martha problem. Kennedy to go, Hickel. Helms out of CIA and we'll have Rush replace him. Keep Rumsfeld in the wings for HEW.