



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

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

Tuesday, May 26.

Suharto arrival, meeting and dinner. Kept President busy most of the morning. Also a meeting with the New York hardhats that marched for President last week. And a reception on Hill for Speaker this afternoon.

Only a few items.

He talked to Mitchell last night regarding economy and had him call Arthur and tell him to shape up fast. President feels lack of confidence in Flanigan - that he's not big enough or knowledgeable enough to really be the key man on economy - so will get Mitchell more into it - especially to work on Arthur, who is the whole key at the moment. Actually all the people feel things not too bad except for the stock market, and it's a disaster. Just keeps going down at a rapid rate.

Ehrlichman pushing for a speech on the economy, but President won't do it until after Cambodia speech. All feel the Cambodia one may do the economy more good than the other one. Probably will because the problem is primarily one of confidence.

President really pretty optimistic on overall outlook. Feels this is a good time to take our lumps and with any luck at all could be in darn good shape by fall elections - and with some good ammunition since Democrats have declared war and hit us so hard now. With economy moving up a little and market almost sure to be gaining in fall, and Cambodia a success and completed and good chance of negotiations back on track ,and a SALT deal and a Summit conference, we would have a lot going.

Kissinger pleased because they called Walters in Paris, and said their man would be gone two weeks - Kissinger thought they'd call off deal, but they're keeping it open - sign of real weakness.

Kissinger very disturbed about his staff problems - several leaving due to Cambodia.