



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

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Tuesday, June 2, 1970

Back in DC. Caldera arrival and State Dinner are the only scheduled activities. President spent all afternoon at EOB working on speech.

Called me at 2:00 for report, discussed a few schedule possibilities. Anxious to pile some things on for latter part of week. But won't do Ehrlichman's proposed visit to Columbia, MD with Cabinet UAC.

Had me over for two hours at 5:00, general chat while he was waiting for Buchanan to finish latest draft this afternoon. I told him market only off .75 on big day, strong at end. He was delighted, since this makes a week with overall gain of 79 points, a record. President called Bunny Lasker to gloat a bit.

Also told him about Gallup poll for Sunday which has him up another 2 points. Absolutely remarkable since it was taken two weeks ago when media had us at the absolute bottom. Shows people have some sense in spite of all they see, hear, and read. President is at 59 approval, which is darn good in normal time - unbelievable now. In spite of Cambodia, the economy, the students and the press.

All this good news got him cranking a bit - and I did it on purpose to get him up for tomorrow night. I really don't think things are nearly as bad as our press "friends" are trying to make it appear.

Ehrlichman, Rumsfeld and I had long meeting, mainly regarding Congressional relations and need for new basic approach. Figured one out, and I discussed later with President. Makes sense. Based on separation of two branches - carry our case to people and through them to Congress, instead of direct. And stop catering and dealing. Will downgrade White House Liaison Office - and handle each bill on a pragmatic ad hoc basis with our, or the Departmental, guy as the project manager for the whole deal, including Congress and PR. A much better way to do it. President really pleased with the idea.



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Also considerable discussion of OMB problem - need to get control and our successor to Mayo named, before he takes it over and molds it completely his way.