



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

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Tuesday, August 4.

Back to the routine. President slept late, then in for Mobutu arrival - standard ceremony and private talk all morning and State Dinner tonight.

We had major discussion at staff meeting regarding plans for vetoes upcoming, of whether to veto all over-appropriations - and at once - or to go selectively. Basically political question about tactics for fall campaign. Shultz exercises main leadership on these debates.

I was in with President several times - noon, afternoon, evening - usual minor items. He's having trouble with right eye, called Tkach in. Some schedule planning - regarding Mexico trip, California, etc., and a review of ABM prospects.

Major session with President, VP, Attorney General, Richardson, Kennedy, Ehrlichman, Finch, Harlow, Shultz, Garment, regarding Southern school desegregation. President made it absolutely clear no one is to do more than law requires. No political gain for us. Do what is necessary, low profile, don't kick South around. All appeared to agree and seemed optimistic, except VP, who felt they were glossing over the problem, especially regarding bureaucracy not on our side being over-zealous. Others cited all the good news. VP argued pessimism.

President summed up with orders to do only what law requires, treat South same as North, if a question, don't do it, don't let the eager beavers screw us up, don't play to the galleries, try to get our Southern politicians to help us, don't bend over backwards, serious reservations regarding potential success of integration, very much opposed to spending for interracial experience.