



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

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Wednesday, September 16.

Trip day. To Kansas State for Landon lecture. Huge success - beyond all fondest hopes! Mainly because the speech was excellent - on student violence, etc. - and there was a small group of about 25 bad guys in the audience of 15,000, and their shouts, etc., played right into President's speech. Was really great! Bulk of students really enthusiastic and anti's whipped them up even more. Another coup!

Then on to Chicago for Midwest briefing and press reception. President folded early after a hard day.

Kissinger came in to talk in Chicago after the briefing September 16. Deeply concerned that we are pissing away all we've gained in 18 months, both with Russia and North Vietnam - and getting nothing for it. Rogers' moves have been very inept - has no plan just shoots from hip, and backs down. Kissinger says Sisco completely agrees with him (Kissinger). There's no strategy, just hacking away. As a result, the Russians are now kicking us where they were pleading in June. Maybe the reason why no reply from summit offer and for Dobrynin's insolence in reply regarding Egypt invitations.

Feels President must have a personal advisor on Middle East, not State, and recognizes it probably can't be Kissinger. But someone has to catch all the nuances.

Worried that if King falls in Jordan, Israelis will move and there will be a radical government in Jordan and peace offensive will be totally blown.

Kissinger emphasizes he agrees 100 percent with President statements at briefing today - there's no difference on policy, just on letting Rogers run loose. Kissinger feels sure President can't take Rogers seriously on foreign policy.

In Middle East everything is stirred up, with no concept of what to do or where to go.