



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

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Thursday, September 17.

Kissinger woke me at 2:00 this morning with call that war had started in Jordan - King taking on Fedayeen. Possibility Israel will go in, especially if Iraq or Syria does. Afraid Rogers may panic - so Kissinger needs authority to keep things from breaking, tighten alerts, etc. Haig wants United States full alert but Kissinger feels no. Kissinger wants to take position he notified President tonight and act on basis of President's orders. We agreed no need to call President - no decisions needed because all actions are preparatory and imperative and nonvisible. Kissinger then called Rogers, Moorer, Packard, Sisco, told them he'd talked to Chicago, implied President - all OK. Rogers scared enough not to go off. Has taken all emergency measures, etc. Question of bringing President back to DC in morning - Kissinger feels may be necessary (I disagreed). Later called after WSAG meeting - all under control, no need to come back.

President had good day in Chicago -- appointments, newspaper editorial board interviews. Great reception for new citizens at noon.

Some talk during breaks regarding politics - wants to give some cash to key candidates, get them locked in. Concerned about IRS and Thrower investigating Republicans. Wants better control in Wisconsin. Wants plan for very intensive campaign spurts for President.

On Air Force One talked about value of more days of offbeat stuff. Especially pleased with encounter on street this morning with group of hardhats, and with crowd at Marshall Field when he went in to buy ties. Wants more such chances.