



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

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Wednesday, October 14.

President now cutting back on campaign schedule, and office schedule as he realizes he has to have something to say.

Back into Kissinger-Rogers flap as Rogers complains after NSC that Kissinger was meeting with Dobrynin regarding Cuba without telling him. He talked to Dobrynin and looked foolish because he didn't know. Asked me to tell President, because Rogers felt Kissinger was doing this under President's orders and wants to know why. So President said to be sure to have Kissinger tell Rogers about the Summit meeting plan before he sees Gromyko. Plan is for President to meet Gromyko the 22nd, then announce Summit for next year on the 29th. Another good maneuver before elections.

President reviewed draft of stump speech and pondered for some time the question of whether he should go on the attack as suggested - or stay basically above the battle. All feel the latter as does he, and I. Considerable discussion also about which writer(s) to take along. Really wants Buchanan but feels he's too hard line, and also VP needs him. So will take Safire and anecdote man (Moore at first, then the new man). In good mood, ready to campaign - but now worried about content and approach. Holed up in EOB to work on it.