



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

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Tuesday, November 10.

De Gaulle died last night, and President immediately decided to go to memorial service in Paris - thus ending the question of Key Biscayne stay. First instructions were - no Secret Service sitting with him at service and he goes down aisle alone.

A beautiful day - and he made me come over for about four hours and sit inside going over all sorts of details - especially election results and analysis, a subject he can't escape from. Plus a lot of odds and ends - he's really been storing up: Mitchell to Key Biscayne for Christmas; fire Ambassador McBride (Mexico); get Moynihan UN deal settled with Rogers on trip; shift Mexican luncheon; worry about costume for Paris service; cleaning house in Administration, purge list, appoint loyalists; charge up WH staff - get some "holler guys", dump all incompetents but keep the enthusiasts; deal with Nelson Rockefeller, appoint him Secretary of State late next year - Rogers should resign after Summit - thus get Malcolm Wilson as Governor in New York, a complete loyalist; have to start on health issue - called Richardson, set up meeting tomorrow before departure; plans for social - church, "Evenings", etc. - use wholly for our political purposes; discussed Convention - in a state we need to win, late as possible, make it good TV; man-to-man operation on Democratic candidates; need to develop key publishers and editors for '72 endorsements; press conference in next couple of weeks; move now on Nixon organization in South; plus plans for all key states.

Then back at it again on the plane to DC, for two more hours (and no dinner). Basically more of the same. Turned out he had an incredible stack of little white note sheets with amazing array of trivia. Mostly political; new finance chairman; counteract Ripon Society propaganda; set up political advisory group on economy; appointments for New York Conservatives; get Colson away from working on TV executives and start on the "animals"; go ahead with Price as Editor-in-Chief to replace Keogh; find better ways of using Garment; analyze campaigns, PR men, managers, etc.; Finch take responsibility for liberal Senators, especially Percy; analyze campaign schedules and question of value of dog and pony show; Helen Hill wants to buy some radio and



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TV stations; no dough to new Democratic Governors - put squeeze on them; look for ways to break new ground on presidential activity. Then on and on regarding analysis of campaign, just can't get off the subject.

Called at home, very late, to discuss French restaurants, hotels, etc., then Shriver, then on to a new analysis of election for about a half hour. Horrible!