



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

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Monday, November 23.

Results of President's weekend became evident - several tapes full of miscellaneous memos, and five full tapes of a long (25 pages, single spaced) memo to me. I had produced six tapes myself. So the typists were busy today. All of this primarily to analyze, summarize and act upon the staff memos regarding election results and plans for future.

Lot of reaction evident from President, i.e., he canceled Florida for Thanksgiving and California for Christmas because some criticized excess travel. He had Ziegler announce December 10 press conference today because all said he should do more press conferences.

Lot of reaction to North Vietnam bombing - will leave all explanations to Defense. Launched a push (PR) regarding the effort to spring POW's. Decided it was good counter-story to the bombings even though it failed. President had the colonel who led the raid brought in and was really impressed. Went on for a half hour after about how great these guys were - told Ziegler to try to get someone in press to recognize it. Told Ziegler to treat any skeptics with utter contempt. He was as cranked up as I've ever seen him.

Very pleased by final Gallup figure of 57 percent - only down two in spite of all the adverse press regarding the campaign and election results. I expected at least a seven point drop, President thought about four.

Added Pakistan Ambassador today - to dramatize our efforts there. Hard to do very much because they won't let us in. Lot of internal dissension – so they just let people die.

Called at home regarding progress on Cabinet changes. Wants to move on Hickel without waiting for pipeline problems to be solved. Wants to wait until after TV, then do it, not as reaction but message will get through. Hickel is on Mike Wallace tomorrow night, and will say he'll have to be fired if we want him to leave.



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Harlow says he'll take RNC - so President now wants both Bush and MacGregor in White House. Then move Flanigan to Treasury. I covered all this with Mitchell and Ehrlichman, and later with Flanigan. Pete not anxious to take Under Secretary, but will do it I'm sure.