



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

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Sunday, July 27.

Manila to Djakarta. Woke up during the night to discover we were in the middle of a typhoon. Very heavy winds and rain really pouring down. This canceled helicopter plans for this morning - and created problems as streets flooded and the river rose. I went over to palace to be sure to get out. Mrs. Marcos had the key staff in and presented each of us with a whole array of gifts. Then motorcade to airport and fairly standard departure - inside because of the rain.

Long flight to Djakarta, and President had me in for a while on routine odds and ends. In a good mood - as he has been all along - but had some ideas on minor operational improvements. And he doesn't like the gifts we're giving - feels they look inadequate.

Again standard arrival - but with smaller crowds and even more military control. Fairly short motorcade with damn good crowds - but police in complete control, and wouldn't let us stop or even slow down. No great enthusiasm, but friendly.

All staying at palace guest house. Very nice set-up. After brief call on Suharto, President went to Indonesian Fair. Big crowds, quite enthusiastic. Presidents were mobbed - more by photographers than people. We have to figure out how to handle that. Then back to guest house to prepare for State Dinner.

Dinner was in a pavilion at the palace. We walked across the grounds to it. White jacket. Building was not air conditioned and the heat was almost unbearable. Everyone dripping wet. Most of the Indonesians - men and women - had fans and spent all evening fanning themselves. Dinner was pretty good - French style - main course filet of beef. Suharto's toast in Indonesian, we had English text. Here and in Manila they play the national anthems after each toast. Nice. Entertainment after dinner in adjoining hall - also very hot - was superb. The Siamese type dances - with 27 man gamelan - with opening ceremony including strewing flower petals - and serving seeds and cold drinks. Didn't end until nearly midnight.