



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

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Sunday, August 3.

Romania. More crowds, clapping, cheering - even early Sunday morning - as we went out for brief tour of city. Ceausescu decided at last minute to come along. (Probably aware of crowds). Streets lined even more heavily, and people leaning out of all balconies and windows. Really a show. Visited farmer's market, apartment development, model village. Then back into talks. Then our luncheon at the Guest House - which turned out very well. Little hard to talk through interpreter - especially when the other party is the Minister of Defense - and very close-mouthed.

Left immediately after lunch for the airport, and the departure ceremonies which became quite effusive as the two Presidents ended up with their arms around each other. Remarkable!

President was understandably riding high on the flight to England. Felt Romania had been a truly historic visit, very impressed with Ceausescu and feels we have a real opportunity through him for communication to the Communist world. Still really concerned that we aren't adequately selling the accomplishments - keeps grinding away on this. Got heavily into the need for a PR man again.

Also some discussion regarding domestic program and the plan for this week. Hard for him to shift gears - especially after such a high point.

Arrived at Mildenhall for refueling, and were met by Prime Minister Wilson. Ceremonies, then President and Prime Minister had a one hour talk. President then dropped by press gathering at the Officer's Club - and gave an overly humorous little talk which seemed to score pretty well.

Then off to United States. Everyone pretty well pooped on the long flight home, not much accomplished. Arrival at Andrews with full ceremonies. VP did excellent job in his welcoming speech. Chopper to White House. Julie and Tricia both very enthusiastic about the TV coverage, etc. Helps. Good crowd, even in the rain.