



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

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

Tuesday, September 29.

Sixth Fleet and Naples. Everything resolved itself about last night's problems. Turned out President ordered the planes used today and it was good he did - would have been ridiculous to cancel them. And Tito confirmed entire visit still on, with no changes - he's not going to the funeral. So all the discussion was time wasted.

Fleet review, etc. all went fine. President spent a lot of time shaking hands and chatting with sailors. Then on to Naples.

Staying at President's villa, just President, Kissinger and me, with Hughes, Chapin, Larry and support staff. President again got a great reception driving through a little area of Naples from helipad to Villa. So he decided we should do something in town tomorrow like we did in Rome. But there isn't time, so we'll drop it - also I argued it would cut into Yugoslavian story. Pretty good chance we won't get too big a reception in Yugoslavia because of Nasser, but then that gives us an excuse.

It's clear we would have had huge enthusiastic crowds in Italy if we'd tried. But also some bad demonstrations - so this way is probably best.

President wants me to brief press regarding his decision to do the moves in to meet people - i.e., Rome last night. Make point that he overrules the Secret Service, etc., and goes to the people - doesn't want to let a few violent demonstrators, in United States or abroad - give the great majority of good people a bad name. Hence the unplanned side trips, and the quick stops of the motorcade, etc. Rome was a prime example, Naples stop a smaller one, the walk in New York, shopping in Chicago, time with sailors on Saratoga are all the same kind of thing. Need to try to get a good press story on this - for background when he does others.

President ate alone on his terrace looking out at the sea, after a brief session with me regarding drive and to review the news summaries - and a quick chat with Kissinger and Ziegler regarding



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

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

advice for their press briefing tonight. We ate on the back upstairs terrace and it was great - balmy breeze, great dinner hauled up a flight of stairs by mess stewards.

So far trip working very well. The two big events of yesterday - hostages and motorcade, were not planned or advanced but our crew swung right in and carried them out very well. Best test.