



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

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Saturday, December 26.

The President at Camp David all day. Called in the morning to review a couple of things. He had come up yesterday with the idea of sending a letter to the POW wives, recounting all of the efforts we've made to try to release POW's and wanted some follow-up on that.

He got back on the Alsop question again. Still thinks it's a very good idea and wants to try it. He's back trying to figure out some ways of telling Herb, so that we don't make that any worse than we have to.

He's still back thinking on public relations. Says he's writing a memo with some general conclusions as to what the PR thrust should be. Wants to know what my recommendations are on that and was asking about the PR analysis we were supposed to be getting from Moore and Safire, which turns out we don't have in yet. He feels the main thing we need to really work on is the personal characteristics: courage, standing alone, and so forth, that we missed in Cambodia.

He said he called most of the Cabinet and the-- some of the key Governors, Reagan, etcetera, yesterday. That the calls all had reflected great positive response to the Moynihan eulogy, or valedictory. Also says he told Ehrlichman to have each Cabinet officer do a 3,000 word report on his-- the stewardship of his Department for the first two years. And he got onto the need for Moore, etcetera, to give some thought to how Julie and Tricia can be better used with the press. Apparently, Julie drove down from Camp David to Thurmont to give Helen Thomas a year-end interview.

He seemed to be in good spirits and hadn't done much paper reading. Was planning to watch the ball game later in the day.

End of December 26.