



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

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

Tuesday, December 21.

The President had Rogers, Annenberg, Rose Woods, and me for lunch at the guest beach cottage that was available to him. It was mainly therapy for Rogers and Annenberg and worked out pretty well. The Kissinger problem came up again today. Henry raised it, as did the President, on the point that Henry is convinced from a talk he had with Marvin Kalb, that either Rogers or Peterson has put out the anti-Administration line on India-Pakistan from the State Department. Ehrlichman called, said that he and the Attorney General had to meet with the President and me immediately upon our return tonight, which we did. It turned out that, in their investigation of the Jack Anderson leaks, they had uncovered the fact that a yeoman in the NSC shop, assigned to liaison with the Joint Chiefs, was the almost certain source of not only the leaks, but also the absconding of information from Henry's, and Haig's, and other people's briefcases, which were turned over to the JCS [Joint Chiefs of Staff]. The President was quite shocked, naturally, by the whole situation and agreed that very strong action had to be taken, but very carefully, since we don't want to blow up the whole relationship with the JCS [Joint Chiefs of Staff]. Apparently they had set up this system for getting the information to them. The question is, who at the Joint Chiefs was aware of it. Ehrlichman seems to feel Zumwalt was directly involved. In any event, Mitchell is going to proceed on the basis of having Henry tell the Admiral that works for him now that he can go ahead and answer questions. The Admiral has refused to answer some of the key questions, on the grounds that his personal relationship with Kissinger precludes it. So they're going to tell Henry to release that and then let Henry sweat a little on what's really going on here. In the meantime, they've sort of semi-suspended the yeoman and figure that they don't want to prosecute, because that would just accelerate the situation. So it's a tough one to figure out.

The President's day on TV was on tonight and was a pretty good show. Not as good as I thought it was going to be. It'll be interesting to see what reaction we get from it.

End of December 21.