



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

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Sunday, January 2.

I talked to the President a couple of times on the phone today, mainly on minor details regarding the TV for tonight and some schedule items for Monday. He was concerned about a report in Buchanan's news summary that said-- that told about the Daniel Schorr story last night saying that Connally and the President were having a falling out. The President said he wanted to see Connally for dinner Wednesday evening in California and suggested I give Connally a call to make sure everything is okay there. I did so, and Connally couldn't have been more cheerful: said that he had called the President yesterday to wish him a happy New Year, but hadn't been able to get through, said the general outlook was very good as far as the country's attitude is concerned, that the President should be confident on both domestic and international fronts but not over optimistic. He feels there's a tide of confidence building in the country and much less anger and less frustration in people than there has been in years. That we're making progress on the international front, the domestic situation looks good, the stock market is going up, so on. I asked him if he thought we had suffered from the North Vietnam bombing this last week, and he said not at all, that the story only lasted a couple of days and in ten days from now no one will remember we did it. He did suggest that the President, on the international thing, not say that we've solved all our problems with our trading partners. He should sound like he's looking after American interest, because that's what all Americans want at any level. I checked-- reported this back to the President, he felt better about it: said that he agreed that on the bombing thing we have no problem, that it's just that the press have to find some negative story to run with, and so this is what they're using. He also raised the point that on the plane going out tomorrow he wants me to spend some time with Bill Rogers getting his advice on schedule and so forth politically, the press conference, speech, use of TV and all his PR judgment, and then he, the President, will meet with Rogers and me on the subject.

End of January 2.