



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

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

Friday, March 17.

The President had an NSC meeting this morning, kept him occupied until noon. At noon we had to tell him that Jack Drown was arriving this afternoon for the weekend, and that threw him into a state of panic, and said he has to do something tomorrow to escape. Especially for dinner, and wanted to work out some kind of excuse so he could get away for the weekend. He will do Pat's birthday party tonight and that's it.

He and Henry discussed the NSC meeting. Apparently the President really put the fear of God into Jerry Smith on the line he's going to take. He took a much stronger position than he intends to, to get Smith shook up a little. He called Ehrlichman in and told him to be more aggressive in the briefings on the busing thing that he was afraid they weren't really making the sale. There was a leadership meeting this morning before the NSC, and that didn't come over very strongly, because Shultz handled the briefing.

On the ITT question, Colson reports that we've gotten a bad break and that the Senators aren't going to go to Denver because of the possibility of a vote in the Senate, so I pushed hard for his trying to get a sworn statement from her and trying to get that out, which he said he would do. Their plan had been, after getting the Senators to get their testimony from Dita Beard on Monday, that on Tuesday the ITT lawyers would have a press conference and first present the deposition of Dita's secretary, saying this isn't the memo she typed. And then put before the press Mrs. Titell, the typewriter expert, saying that the memo was not typed in June, the ribbon didn't exist until November, and it's the same as one used on January 25, therefore this blows the memo. Then Hruska will go on the Senate floor, with th-- saying this is the great outrage of the century, a hoax, the Senate's been used. Then on Wednesday the Committee resumes, Republicans say they won't go any further, this is a fraud, Kleindienst isn't confirmed-- should be confirmed, we should investigate Anderson. Later in the day it turned out that the Dita Beard statement was taken and released and that made some news tonight, so we got a little mileage out of that, and that's thrown some doubt into the whole thing.



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

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

On the ITT thing, he wanted Buchanan and Colson to get their people going on some good solid editorial columns regarding the double standard regarding Congressional hearings. Press saying that during the Nixon era and then the McCarthy era, when they were investigating Communists, the committee was constantly attacked regarding their failure to follow the rules of court and taking evidence. That where are those attacks now? That when the President of the United States is slandered, or the Attorney General, or a business leader, no one raises his voice, but when a Communist spy does it, they all scream. Thinks we can really work something up on that.

They had the Pat Nixon birthday party tonight with the Drowns and Roger Johnsons as the guests. President apparently stayed for an hour and then went over to the EOB and hid until they went to the movie and then came back and went to his room.

End of March 17.