



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

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Friday, January-- February 9.

The President was in fairly early, spent quite a little time by himself in the office, then had me in at 9:30 for about three hours. We reviewed the news summary with him, and he was very pleased with Rogers' blast at the anti-war people, etcetera, when he appeared before the House committee yesterday, so he had me call Rogers. In fact, he picked up the phone and placed the call, to tell him that the President had been in early, read the news summary and thought his thing was an extremely good thing and infinitely more effective than Kissinger's briefing on substance, in terms of getting across our points. Rogers was extremely pleased, and it was well worth doing.

He got into a number of schedule items. He's interested in trying to do the legislatures that passed resolutions supporting the President in Vietnam on the way back, doing two or three of them, maybe Texas, Mississippi and so on, on the way back from California. And he gave me quite a few other odds and ends for general schedule guidance. For instance, he wants the Dole mission to be at a trade fair, and any travel that he does he should plan to do it from California or Florida, so he doesn't have to take Congressmen or Senators with him. He wants to evaluate what to do on meetings that are in New York like the Heart Association and so forth. Generally wants to avoid them unless he has something very definitely to say to them. He feels he should avoid them because they don't get any TV. The same with State Arrival ceremonies and that sort of thing. He said no arrivals now for anyone who's already had one. He won't do minority job deals in Washington, and that kind of thing. He wants to keep looking for the human events on the touch-the-fence theory. He wants to shut off Aspen completely for use of other people at Camp David, will do no more embassy luncheons and no Camp David visits with other State visitors, and in summary, he wants to put everything against the criterion of what helps to do the job, and only weigh it on that basis.

The book of Presidential papers from 1970 was left on his desk here at the Western White House, as it was on all of ours, and he apparently spent quite a little time looking through it this morning, and was intrigued with a lot of the things he found, like on the news conferences. He



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noted that in January, after his State of the Union on quality of life and all the stir about that there was not one question on the subject, which proves that no one cares about it. So we should always talk about our issues, such as he goes back to that the Chicago sewer trip didn't help us at all we didn't get any mileage out of it. The energy crisis is not a people issue. It's totally negative and the trade issue is the same, and we should keep that in mind.

He wants to be sure Ehrlichman reads the Fairley book, because he feels the Kennedy approach was right regarding strategy, and that you've got to talk about an issue that people are interested in, or create one. He feels that Price's introduction to the book is excellent but that it should be edited and revised so that wherever the President spoke extemporaneously it says so, that he spoke without text or notes. He also wants to get this to Safire for his book and wants Safire to also review some of the really good pieces, such as the Wyeth toast, the 1970 prayer breakfast remarks, and the remarks on the occasion of McCormick's ceremony in the Caucus room. He feels that his better efforts are the non-written efforts. In that regard, he thinks that in writing they should go back and look at the HEW veto, which he thinks is far better than anything we've done in that area since. There are some priceless lines. It's in simple, understandable terms. The President worked on it, and we should use those lines. He also wants Safire to do a section in his book on the extemporaneous speeches especially the point that the President never read any of the toasts at the White House, and none outside, except when he had to by agreement in other countries. Also, he's never read an arrival statement. He told me to read the April 20 and April 30 TV appearances before and after Cambodia to see the consistency of his lines there. He wants Safire to make the point of Kissinger looking back after the Cambodia deal and the point that he was worried after the decision was made and the President told him never to look back and to remember Lot's wife.

He got into Watergate strategy. He wants to get our people to put out that foreign or Communist money came in, in support of the demonstrations in the campaign tie all the '72 demonstrations to McGovern and thus the Democrats as part of the peace movement. Broaden the investigation to include the peace movement and its leaders, McGovern and Teddy Kennedy, to what extent they



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were responsible for the demonstrations that led to the violence and disruption. The question of whether we should let out the Fort Wayne story now. How we ran a clean campaign compared to their campaign of libel and slander, such as against Rebozo, etcetera. Maybe let Evans and Novak put it out and then we'll be asked about it. Then say that we knew that the President ordered that it not be used under any circumstances. He thinks we should play a hard game on this whole thing regarding the Ervin investigation. Get our investigators going, and so on. Also he wants to be sure we order Gray to move on the FBI investigation. Investigating those in the Bureau who tapped Nixon and Agnew. And that we should itemize all the disruptions such as the Continental-- Century Plaza in San Francisco, the headquarters burnings, the Statue of Liberty, etcetera.

He wants me to get King out to his original breeder and have him bred after we get back. He told me to have Shultz call Connally and fill him in on the phone on the international economic thing on the general plan, since he was the architect of the Smithsonian agreement.

After he left the office, he called me and had me come over to join him with Julie and David at the pool to discuss David's Navy problem. David was concerned about getting out early. And the thing that still worried him was the question of why Bupers went back through their command route to verify his letter instead of handling it routinely, and also what the circumstances are of the 38 that are getting out on March 31. Are they on the request list or are they hardship or disability or undesirable cases? I determined from Campbell that they were routine types. And I think it was pretty much was left on that basis that David would go ahead with the March 31 early out, which is obviously what Julie and the President were trying to push him to do.

End of February 9.