



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

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

Start of special roll on Soviet Trip, May 1972.

Saturday, May 20.

Departure from Washington and flight to Salzburg. President had me up a number of times on the plane to go over various items. He has a plan based on Henry's feeling that he should make a television report to the country--a report to the nation on his return, because we'll need some hard selling on what's been covered. This should be immediately on return, such as Friday night. He wants John Andrews to go to work on it with a 2000 word maximum. Start on it now and have it in the President's hands when we leave Russia. He feels he will not do a Q&A after the trip because of the Vietnam problem. So it would be in lieu of that. I suggested as a follow-up that he consider doing it as an address to Congress, and doing it Thursday night immediately upon return. Henry didn't like that too much, and the President shot it down at first, because of the idea of doing the Congress, which he says he will not do. On later thought, however, he started reopening the question, so it remained somewhat of a possibility.

Got into the Connally trip; wants to add India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, maybe Morocco or Ethiopia, maybe Israel and Jordan, and he told me to work that out with Henry, which I did on the plane, and getting that underway. Also discussed the problem that Henry doesn't see the depth of the hawk situation that we're going to have after SALT and that we have to recognize who our friends are.

He got into some points on trip follow-up: he wants to be sure that Buchanan helps us with the hawks on SALT; Henry and his briefing, developed the right line which they discussed -- this would be not follow-up actually-- but tomorrow in Salzburg. I reviewed some of the plans we have for follow-up on individual items at home.

Got into speech problem, saying he needs just one moving anecdote in the TV address. Maybe using the story he told at the press thing about the Russian story about the guy and how long his step was. He had me in at a little after midnight when we got to the castle at Salzburg, to report



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that he had talked to Rose and she was upset about her accommodations and the general situation, which is the usual thing on the first night on a trip.

Got into some discussion on how to handle Rogers. Said I should handle him tomorrow, that the President will see him on the plane on the way to Moscow, and we should tell him about the announcements and how we're spacing them through the week. He and Henry and I worked this out on the plane coming in to Salzburg. Going to have Rogers do the first ones on environment and health, to get him on a good basis to start with. We got into some discussion of the demonstrators, that were here in Salzburg. He was a little disturbed by it, but the news play doesn't seem to be too bad.

End of May 20.