



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

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February 26th. The President called me in at 7:30 this morning to do some general talking. He had awakened at 5:00 and called Henry to see how the communiqué was going, and Henry had apparently wrapped it up at about 3:00 this morning, with nothing left now but word changes, and Henry feels they've come out with a good communiqué.

The President got into discussion of the Rogers problem, and the point that on the plans for the Moscow trip, he's not going to let this happen. And also he's decided that on any sightseeing on that and other trips, only he goes, not the rest of the official party, but that separate tours should be laid out for them; this is a reaction to the Forbidden City tour yesterday. He also has decided he's not going to be available to the press from now on, and he's going to get away from the crap and maintain his world leader position in the way that Eisenhower did; and that we should develop our plans along this line.

At that point, Kissinger came in and we discussed plans for the announcement of the communiqué, and Henry and the President reviewed some of the sections of it. It was agreed that the President would see Rogers at Hangzhou and go into details with him there, so that he will know that it's an accomplished fact, and that it's up to him to go along with it and support it. He brooded considerably over the Rogers problem. It really bothers him, and he's really annoyed that Rogers is taking the position that he is, but there's not much he can do about it.

We went through the farewell operations, and on the China pla--, Chinese plane to Hangzhou, the President left the compartment where he was seated with the Prime Minister and came into the forward cabin, cleared a couple seats and had me sit down with him for about two hours. We talked about the press problem, he wants Scali to talk to John Chancellor and get him straightened out on the basis that Kissinger had told him that we were not going to be able to put



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out information because it would destroy the talks, and that we had an understanding that nothing would be disclosed on the agenda or the substance until we issued the communiqué, and as a professional newsman you owe that much to wait and see the communiqué first.

He got back into the Rogers problem on the plane in considerable detail and is really disturbed with Bill's attitude on all of this.

Hangzhou arrival and the lake tour went okay. One funny incident was as the motorcade arrived at the park to get on the boat to go out on the lake, Chou En-lai, who was supposed to be there, hadn't, couldn't be found. It turned out he had arrived and gone for a little walk, or something, so we had to wait for about five minutes while they located him. He finally popped up out of the bushes somewhere, and they then started on the tour.

After that little journey, the President had Henry and me in again. We talked about the whole Rogers problem. He's still brooding over it, as he was at 11:00 tonight when he called me in again before he went to bed, and went over the whole thing one more time. Henry agreed to go talk to Rogers, who had called me in the afternoon to say that he thought we had some real problems with the communiqué. And Henry told me this evening that Rogers had said, or the President told me this evening that Rogers had said to Henry that he wanted all of his changes incorporated or he had to take the matter up with the President. The President wanted to talk to Henry tonight, but he's off somewhere, and we can't find him. He's working with his staff, I guess over at the hotel, so we have a problem getting that sorted out. The President finally, after waiting up for an hour and a half went to bed, said to have Henry wake him up whenever he wanted to. That we had to get the communiqué settled tonight.



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He's changed his plan on going to Florida and wants to go to Camp David instead, so I guess we have a new plan for after arrival.

I finally got a hold of Henry and told him the President had gone to bed, and had left instructions to be called if Henry wanted him for anything, because we have to have a communiqué. He wants to be available to be sure we get one.

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Henry said that we now have a massive problem, because he took Rogers's alterations in and the PRC really blew up, because they had had a meeting at the Politburo today, and it approved the agreed upon communiqué, and they don't want to go back now to re-raise the question. So, poor Henry's had to struggle with that whole situation now. He sounded pretty tired, but said he was going to work it out somehow.

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End of February 25th or 26th.