



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

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Thursday, January 30.

Busy day, the two prayer breakfasts first. (Finch said President was best he had ever seen him. I told the President later - and he laughed it off - said he had just given them some church stuff). Then the astronauts for a picture and announcement of Frank Borman's good will tour. Then a CIA-State meeting. Then appointments - Kissinger, Max Fisher (wants to be head Jew and handle that whole area), LaRue and Sears (below); DuBridge with heads of National Science Foundation (first time they'd ever had an appointment with the President. They were ecstatic afterward and especially impressed with President's understanding and genuine interest); visit to Justice Department. Long meeting with me. Then dinner with the astronauts and saw their movie.

Finally got Alex in for several sessions. President pretty awkward with stranger there, but tried to cover it up. He's not very good at that.

Meeting with LaRue and Sears got President back to thinking about politics - and reopened the Bliss problem - which has to be solved. President very impressed with LaRue's ideas about maintaining and building political base.

President really handles new people well, i.e. the NSF group. Knows just how to lead them on and establish rapport. Build their interest.

Round and round on the Folger problem - dumped on me to resolve. President too kind-hearted and loyal to let it drop. Have to give Cliff something.

Discussed Europe trip plans - decided I should go on advance (later changed). Feels he must have someone in complete control. Can't let State make the decisions.