



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

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Thursday, April 24.

The big deal today was the Peace Corps in Micronesia. President found out they were leading move for petitions for independence. All cranked up. Then found there's one Peace Corps man for every 150 people. This gives him a great one to rave about.

Day full of little appointments - and a couple of long sessions with Ehrlichman and me. Main concern is plan for relations with Cabinet and VP. Especially the latter. More discussion about Burns talking to VP to explain facts of life regarding no regular meeting with President, no direct participation in decision-making, need to be all-out advocate of President's position, etc., and need to talk and deal with staff.

Long meeting with big city Mayors - went very well - they full of dire predictions about total disorder and their inability to cope with it. Unfortunately, President left meeting after one and a half hours and Agnew took over. Proceeded to antagonize all the Mayors completely and undo all the good of President's time. Agnew insists on giving them a lecture instead of just listening to them. Moynihan frantic, Ziegler very concerned about the press story (rightfully - Agnew got all the play and it was all negative). So President called Stokes in to try to set things right again, at my suggestion. It helped some.

In discussing Rudy Peterson (Bank of America) for a possible appointment, President said: "He's got no guts, you know how people like that get to the top of a bank."

Seems to feel reasonably happy with the domestic area now that a program is rolling. The birth pains were acute, but now John at least has some specifics coming in.