



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

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

Saturday, April 26.

At Camp David. President slept late. Called Mitchell and me over about 11:30. We sat in living room waiting for him for a half hour, then discovered he was out on the terrace in the sun, engrossed in reading Patton.

He wanted to review a number of general things, including concern regarding last night's talk about anti-Nixon people in department, especially State; the overall PR problem, especially Klein. Feels (and Mitchell and I agree) that key to PR problem in Departments - and same thing is there with Congressional Representatives - is that Klein and Harlow are fine as personal operators, but lousy at directing the work of others; the Sears problem and how to keep him under control; and the need for a top-level political group, with Mitchell, Finch, Blount and Morton, plus John and me.

Chopper to Virginia Airport, then on Air Force One to Norfolk for the Azalea Festival. Pat Nixon dropped out, says she has bad cold. Hard on President.

Called me up on both plane flights - some ideas regarding handling the Duke Ellington dinner Tuesday night; discussion again of the Agnew problem and how to handle; wants Mitchell added to NSC; more worry about Pat Nixon and Tricia Nixon's schedules; weakness of 5:00 Group - never any forward thinking - i.e., the key gut issue now is student crisis and they have not made one suggestion on this since President released the Moynihan statement; some ideas for the writer group to work on.

He liked the public response at the Azalea Festival. Very enthusiastic good solid middle-type people. President jumped over the wall and surged into the crowd before leaving. Now feels he should try to do some public thing of this type every week or so.

Went right into the Residence when we got back - at 4:30 - and stayed rest of the evening. Chapin and I had our regular evening swim and sauna and I had a massage. Sat a while on the



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

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

terrace in the Rose Garden - absolutely beautiful, on a sensational spring evening. Then went to Safeway and got a lot of stuff. Cooked a TV dinner at the hotel. Great life - Hah!