



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

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Tuesday, May 13.

Another supposedly clear day. Started with GOP leaders - mainly regarding draft message sent up today (should do some good with students); then UAC had Ralph Abernathy. Pretty ridiculous. He brought 6 to 8 of his cohorts and read a long list of demands. Tried to trap President into meeting with the rest of his group - or ordering Cabinet officers to do so. No luck. President handled beautifully. Abernathy went out and stabbed us on TV. Proved again there's no use dealing honestly with these people. They obviously want confrontation, not solutions.

Rest of day pretty clear. Very relaxed at 5:30. Called Ehrlichman and me in, then added Flanigan about appointments, schedule, etc. Great humor, quips, etc. Think he feels this is a good week, with some strong news stories - especially Vietnam peace plan for tomorrow. He'll read the speech. Lot of discussion about network time, we wanted 10:00, they wanted to give 8:30. We won. President feels we should take best possible. Haven't asked up to now. I agree.

Pretty fed up with blacks and their hopeless attitude.