



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

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Monday, September 8.

Back to work. A busy day, early take off for Del Rio, Texas, and joint bridge dedication with President of Mexico. Hot as Hades - all went well. Will never forget the Mexican band's rendition of their national anthem - unbelievably horrible! Luncheon after - with sensational entertainment. Mariachis, dancers, rope spinners, etc. Then on to fly over Louisiana and Mississippi flood and hurricane damage. Landed at Gulfport, great crowd. President really fired up - great enthusiasm, about forty thousand, waited for hours, only one road in.

Several sessions on the plane en route. Urged us to make the tough staff moves now. Doing some thinking about the Dirksen eulogy - which reminded him to worry about the relationship with Ogilvie.

Arrived at DC - went to White House to see the new office designs, late at night. President's office is really bright blue and yellow. Most dislike it immensely. I kind of like it for what it is - with the exception of some of the furnishings. Too bad, though, that we lost out on the Williamsburg deal because it could have been really great -it is at least colorful and controversial now and certainly can't be called dull. My office is great, but still a lot to do. Desk turned out very well.

So the San Clemente era closes for the year. It was a good idea and worked out well. Did all of us good to have the changes, especially the President. And now it's back to the DC operation - but with my family here. The house looks great, and I do think we'll all greatly enjoy it. The kids are enthusiastic and so is Jo.

We have a lot of re-vamping to do now, and I hope the HEHK operation will work out. It should be our best approach.