



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

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Monday, September 29.

UAC with youth presentation. President said afterward it was "good for those others to hear that, because they aren't in touch with all this like I am."

Big review of all our PR activity and follow-up on his memos, etc. Said his real concern is that whole staff is not zeroing in on the big issues and really getting things done. Says he really feels frustrated, because he knows people disagree with his orders and just don't carry them out. With others in the office, he several times cracked that "your staff never follows up on anything, so of course this won't be done," etc. Trouble is, he's generally right, and so it's hard to argue. As Harlow says, all presidents go through periods of "nobody is doing anything but me," and I'm sure he really has that feeling to a degree.

Keeps coming back to the October 15 plan, although he says it doesn't concern him. Told me – secretly - he's thinking of doing a one-hour press conference that night at news time, to preempt coverage of the day's activities. Not a bad idea! Also is interested in the Day of Prayer idea - which I discussed today with Billy Graham. Looks feasible if we move quickly. Need to build leadership. Realizes war support is more tenuous every day and knows we have to maintain it somehow. Turned the House hawks loose today, demanding we resume bombing, etc., as a counter on the right to all the pressure on the left to cop out. Kissinger got his Green Beret trial turned off, with Resor dropping the charges because no CIA witnesses.