



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

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Thursday, October 2.

Big stir on Haynsworth. Even decided to leave Harlow in DC to work on it over weekend. President feels that our Congressional staff have not handled this adequately - at first had blamed Justice, but meeting today with Rehnquist convinced him they had done their part - but White House had not. This is not completely fair, because Mitchell has blithely relied on his reports that everything was OK, while it was falling apart behind the scenes. Real problem is not the merits of Haynsworth, but a combination of reaction against the Fortas matter, plus a strong anti-Southern move, plus pure partisan politics.

President decided at last minute to add speech writers and Mosbachers to Florida trip, partly for cover and partly for therapy.

Met with Mitchell and group of Congressmen in the morning, and with some of the NSC later. Then a couple of personal friends. Then a batch of diplomatic credentials - which we tried in the Residence in an effort to speed up the process. Did five in less than an hour - not bad.

On the plane he had Ehrlichman, Kissinger and me up for long staff session. Still hammering on Haynsworth. Had some ideas on other follow-through steps. Then a lot of odds and ends - wants General Chapman of Marine Corps used on TV; change Ambassador to Paris; get Buchanan to blast peaceniks regarding Russian and Chinese atom tests; stop use of Harris for departmental polls, get Coyne and Max Taylor out of FIAB; make Rogers and Laird start selling Vietnam policy; need for internal discipline; get Tower and Morton to get Murphy not to run, etc.

He's looking forward to the weekend, in good spirits.