



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

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Tuesday, November 25.

CBW day, with bipartisan breakfast first for briefings. Several miscellaneous appointments with Senators. Another budget session this afternoon and a social hour with the pro-Haynsworth GOP Senators.

Had a surprise session this morning when a free half hour came up and President had VP over for a chat. Mainly regarding his forthcoming trip. President wants him to go on around the world since he'll be halfway at Afghanistan. VP already has itinerary set and very reluctant to change. President told him he should now stop talking about the media except for some light quips - and said the VP could now talk about all those things he had been talking about before but no one was listening, and now they'll listen because he's become a national figure. Sort of a back-handed compliment, not intended that way. Main point was to get the VP back on to constructive ground and stop him from riding the media issue to death. He got the point.

Question of astronauts going to Vietnam came up and President was furious because NASA said they shouldn't go because of political consequences or relations with Russia. President ordered that anyone expressing this view be fired immediately. He is sending Borman over in early December, and wants Armstrong to go for Christmas with Bob Hope.

Some discussion of the atrocities case. President now realizing harm this can do in public opinion toward the war. Feels we have to make the point that this was totally contrary to national policy, and that it happened under the other administration at a time the war was escalating.

President called tonight - wants me to call a staff meeting tomorrow, to have Kissinger explain significance of recent accomplishments, make point that Johnson couldn't have gotten NPT, CBW, Okinawa and draft, because didn't have the confidence of the people or the world leaders. Thinks this gives our House liberals something to think about.



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Interesting maneuver by Rumsfeld who, after refusing to support Crane's candidacy as his successor, called President to report on election returns - things look good - before anyone else - including Dent who did all the work, had called.