



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

National Archives and Records Administration, Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 7787364

Tuesday, December 9.

Busy day, post press conference. About forty Senators and Congressmen to present petitions, letter, etc. (350,000), about support on Vietnam from constituents; the black lawyer's group; D. Rockefeller and a group of oil men regarding the Middle East; Jack Horner to present a portrait for the *Star*; an intern to shake hands; Lowell Thomas to report on his latest trip. Left at 4:45 for New York for the Football Hall of Fame dinner.

In between - several staff sessions, and I finally caught him alone for a quick batch of schedule decisions that had piled up. Got into another discussion of Congressional liaison man - he won't buy Harlow's choice, Macomber, but will consider Chuck Colson in a coordinator role, with Bryce as the strategist. Have to settle this.

He still wants to maintain cold attitude toward "bad guy" Senators, with whom Harlow has us having lunch tomorrow.

Told the Congressmen this morning he'd have a new review of Vietnam policy when announces troop withdrawals - then, with Kissinger and me this afternoon decided not to go on TV, but just issue a statement on Tuesday. Trouble is the Congressmen blabbed and it's all over the news.

Some discussion of idea of doing a live TV interview with three network newsmen, as year-end wrap. President inclined not to do it - mainly because of work involved. I think it would be enormously effective and do 90 percent of the job of getting over the accomplishments of the first year and the hopes for the future. Need this as counterpoise to the hard reviews and fast pace of the press conference.

Talked quite a bit today about the very hard work of preparing for press conference. Feels he should not do them more frequently, but is not sure this is right and is trying to figure it out.