



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

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Monday, February 9.

A bad day schedule-wise. Seems we didn't really have much worked out, nothing for the afternoon - but we got an adequate day put together finally. Odds and ends in the morning, pretty loose in the afternoon after a 3:00 session with Ehrlichman group and before 5:00 meeting with another Ehrlichman group, then a stag dinner with key staff types.

Had me in for a very long afternoon chat - plus couple of others during the day. Pushing on Kissinger and me getting DuBridge straightened out about ABM - then wants to eliminate the Science Advisor post. Has a whole new approach to scheduling meetings. Wants to drop UAC, RAC, CCEP and EQC. Instead have weekly full Cabinet meetings, with emphasis on one of these groups each time. Really a good idea, much better use of his time and darn good Cabinet therapy and good PR.

More talk about speech writer needs. Says though, he realizes he has to do bulk of major writing for speeches. Really pleased with his "three R's" from Illinois remarks to school kids: Reform, Restoration and Renewal. Reform the institutions of government; restore the environment; renew the spirit. Pretty good overall slogan.

New tack on press conferences - after saying last week no more than three or four per year - now wants to go on monthly basis, or every two weeks even, if it is to our advantage and will keep horses in line.

Three tough sessions today. 1) Garment and Bud Wilkinson. Bud sent in his resignation - mainly because he feels no one at White House cares about his Volunteer Action Program. Basically true because he's failed to get anything going. Childish ideas about need for EOB office and White House car. Not much progress, but stalled it anyway. 2) Elliot Richardson with Ehrlichman and Harlow about State Department personnel problems. They keep promoting the bad guys. Richardson makes it pretty clear he agrees with us, but problem is the Secretary. 3) DuBridge and Kissinger. Kissinger gave him book, chapter and verse on his ABM transgressions



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- failed to make much of an impression. He's just basically left and soft, and wants to please his cohorts instead of holding firm for the President's position. No real hope except by elimination.