



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

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Tuesday, February 10.

Morning was set aside for preparation and filing of a brief summary of the big environment message, which went to the Hill today. Worked out well, as President used a lot of the time productively, had makeup and did an unrushed TV shot for the networks in the Oval Office, and it was good.

Is worried about Kissinger's State of the World message, because it has no zing, and wants Keogh's people to work on it. Also back on DuBridge thing - still wants to abolish the post. And a discussion with Ehrlichman regarding school problem - with the result of at least considering a Presidential statement directly taking on the courts for ruining the school system in their zeal for full integration. A dangerous step, but maybe not as dangerous in the long haul as doing nothing. Late in the day, Harlow came in with call from Charlie Jonas regarding mass rally tonight in Charleston to try to block busing decision. Shaping up into real crisis. And President will ultimately probably act on his own personal conviction that forced integration is wrong.

Wants a lot of planning and thought given to question of how and when to use TV. Back now to idea of more frequent press conferences, etc., but also wants us to recommend other possible ways to get on.

Gave me a little lecture to cover with key staff. Wants us always to approach a tough problem with great confidence - and only tell the President once that it's a hard battle. Don't keep on telling him over and over that it's a real problem. Obviously a reaction to Kissinger's incessant hand-wringing, and Harlow's over-dramatic statements that "This means real big trouble." He says he knows the problems are hard, but wants us to worry about how to solve them, not about how bad they are.

Romney in with a blast at White House staff, based mainly on Wilkinson problem, but he used the opening to dig as deeply as he could. President not too concerned because he considers the source. George left him an article on the failings of trying to run the executive branch out of the



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White House. Looks interesting. We've got to solve some of these or it's going to build up, especially in Ehrlichman's area. Harlow thinks the press is already zeroing in on him.