



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

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Friday, March 13.

A last minute decision first thing this morning to go out and visit Washington Technical Institute, all black vocational college. Lot of risk as building bombing threats continue and all DC schools suspend classes. But all went well - a few anti demonstrators, most of students friendly. President pleased he had done it - now we've gone to a college, and a black one, and at a time of tension. Lots of points.

Full schedule after he got back. Then off to Camp David in late afternoon.

Kissinger thinks he's working out a deal on Middle East. He is fascinated by complexity of President's mind and approach. They are playing Russia versus Egypt versus Israel to a real fare-thee-well. As a result think we can get a cease-fire from each side with all parties thinking we brought it about. Kissinger loves this kind of maneuver as does President - and Kissinger is amazed by President's ability at it

Kissinger also still hopeful of a deal in Paris. He goes back again tomorrow - thinks if the North Vietnamese have anything positive this time, we'll be on the way to a settlement, this year. A real coup if it works out. Problem is to maintain balance in United States - and this is getting tougher as Senate critics fire up again, especially regarding Laos. Also we have a Gallup that shows President down 11 points on handling Vietnam. May not put it out, but if they do, Kissinger feels it will quite possibly sink his chances in Paris because they are still counting on adverse United States opinion as their final card.

President especially pleased with college visit this morning because he likes a "daring run like this" and like New York Pompidou trip. Should always try to do the unexpected.

Lot of concern growing regarding terrorism and left-wing plans for violence. Many in staff feel it is a real and major threat and that it extends to the President and top officials - assassination or kidnapping. Feel we are not taking adequate preventive measures and that we have totally inadequate intelligence.



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Long meeting this afternoon with Congressional Campaign group. President gave them all kinds of assurances of his desire to participate, personally and financially (indirectly). He was tough and specific on need for them to get really good candidates - and to concentrate efforts on winnable new seats, not waste time and money on sure-thing incumbents, as usual.