



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

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Thursday, June 4.

Busy day of appointments - Caldera farewell (which President wants to be the last farewell meeting on State visits); Presidential scholars (a high school grad group who announced their opposition to President's policy before the White House meeting); a signing of Crime Executive Order; greeting group of Iowa businessmen; a boys choir from Pennsylvania; the Prime Minister of Morocco; F. Murphy. In between, a couple of vital staff sessions about saving the Penn Central Railroad, and a meeting with Cap Weinberger about his taking on top budget job.

Some discussion this morning regarding strategy on Byrd amendment to Church-Cooper. Agreed to support it via letter to Scott. President talked to Hoover and Mitchell after crime meeting and they told him his TV picture was bad last night. Very helpful! Talked about plans for July 4 - President very pleased as it shapes up.

Talked with Ehrlichman and me at noon regarding staffing. Agreed to try for Weinberger for budget, Shultz for OMB. Had Ehrlichman and me meet with Shultz to open it with him, which we did - with no answer as yet.

Flanigan meeting about Penn Central very interesting. Have to force Defense to back up a massive loan to avoid their going into receivership - and possibly collapsing the economy on domino theory. Laird is opposed. Pete wanted President to move on this by executive order or White House meeting with Congressional leaders. Can't do that because Penn Central is client of Guthrie at Nixon firm - so Mitchell and President involved, plus Stans and Kalmbach who put together Maceo deal. No merit to problem but appearance would be bad and has to be avoided. So agreed to have Volpe take over the whole project.

President moving in good constructive fashion on a range of matters. Good change from intense concentration on Vietnam and Cambodia. Last night sort of lifted a load from his shoulders - and you could see it.



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President had Weinberger in to pitch him on the budget job - Ehrlichman and I sat in. Cap a little startled, feels he hasn't finished his work at FTC - and was obviously reluctant to give up all his perquisites, but President gave him very little choice - and made it clear budget was much more important. Cap had just come back from Paris and wanted time to think it over.