



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

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

Monday, July 20.

Again the day kept clear for the press conference. Only this time he actually had it. Spent the day at EOB working on briefing books. Had me over in morning for brief meeting ended by Kissinger's arrival. Called at noon and asked Ziegler to prepare list of ten most likely questions. No other interruption until he came over at 4:00 - had conference in Oval Office, complete surprise to press.

In morning gave me David Eisenhower's analysis of Heard report and our young staff's report regarding students. Wants it circulated anonymously - thinks it's most perceptive analysis he's seen, takes on idea of treating youth as a special subculture to be dealt with directly.

Some more talk regarding question of office press conference versus TV at news time. Feels TV has more effect on bureaucracy - which is his real objective this time. Probably right, but seems silly to do TV for limited audience.

Is leaning to reversed view on FAP. Plan was to appear to push it hard but privately make sure it folds. Now feels maybe better to let it pass. Later in day talked to Ehrlichman and came up with compromise approach. Make it effective in '73 with test until then.

Press conference went well - took 24 questions in 35 minutes. Just as fast as TV. Said staff didn't have him isolated, in fact he has staff isolated. Hedged on FAP. Saved Kissinger on his "evict" blooper in backgrounder.

Afterwards got back onto subject of doing them on TV at news time - with prime time about six times a year. Rogers in to discuss Under Secretary, and Ambassadors. Got into TV time with him and Bill pushed for only four prime times per year - rest at news time, plus occasional in office.

Rogers having hard time deciding on Under Secretary. President tried Flanigan again, but Bill feels he can't be confirmed. They pretty much agreed on John Irwin as best bet. But both feel he's



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

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

really not strong enough. Too bad - Pete would really be darn good, and he'd love it. President somewhat reluctant to let him out of White House.