



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

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Tuesday, September 15.

Got started again this morning on basic political approach. Wants to review the list of critical votes on which we'll base the radical labeling; wants action regarding the main issue. Upset to read in news summary that Schweiker has a bill regarding making any attack on a law officer a Federal offense, Taft has one regarding student rioters, and Kennedy hit as hard at the students as Agnew has. All added up to a recognition by everyone else of the real issue and a failure on our part to take the lead on it. Really upset that the Domestic Council has come up with nothing, not even his plan to withhold Defense funds.

Kissinger in and out all through the day juggling the trip schedule around. Really funny as he tried to maneuver in a stop in Paris, and President called his bluff - and he couldn't deliver, so it was on and off and on and finally off. All seems pretty well worked out now, but Kissinger still fussing.

President very unimpressed with PSAC - from meeting yesterday. Thinks they're an ineffectual collection - and not much confidence in Dr. David as the new head.

Back to the big issue - "softness on students." Wants a tough statement, and outlandish bill if necessary to get attention. Anxious to build quote record - regarding the left type issues - Cambodia, students, dope, repression, moratorium, etc., and hang the opponents.

Meeting with Bill Buckley and Mitchell, regarding Jim Buckley's New York campaign. President hit hard on his support of Buckley, and contempt for Goodell. Problem seems to be badly organized campaign and little fundraising skill, but darn good poll standing. He can win, but will take work and money. President offered all kinds of back room help, and a lot of advice.

President got to brooding about Ehrlichman and Shultz trip to Orient - decided it was terrible time for them to go (it is) but didn't push it, though I did raise with Ehrlichman, per his request.



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Had Colson in for general chat - really just to get a reading on him. Rumsfeld thinks he's a real asset, especially in political area.

Haig disturbed regarding new problem – Soviet missile sub base in Cuba. Feels very serious.