



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

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Friday, October 30.

Speech day. President worked most of the day on TV for tonight at Anaheim. Safire wrote a great draft of a new speech on violence. President decided not to try to use it on TV - not enough time to prepare, or to deliver - but will read it tomorrow in Phoenix, with pre-release for Sunday papers and the weeklies. For TV, used the basic speech with modifications - shortened to 18 minutes and adding reference to San Jose. Was a disappointment to all of us and, I think, to him, because he had said he would hit the subject and instead skirted it. Hard to handle with need to cover Murphy and Reagan.

Also Ronald Reagan screwed it up badly by taking way too much time, which cut even more into President. All in all in may have come out for the best - but it wasn't what we had hoped for. Reaction was pretty good, but most wanted a little stronger. Tomorrow will be.

Long evening of phone calls from President afterwards.