



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

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Monday, November 16.

Welcome to the new senators. President hit them all except Tunney and Stevenson. Surprise was addition of Humphrey. That came about during Pearl Bailey appointment, when she mentioned to President that Hubert was in town. So President called him and asked him to drop by - which he did. Good move. Apparently all the other meetings went fine. President quite impressed by both Buckley and Bentsen.

President pretty much getting back into gear. Hardly any talk today of campaign or results. One flap regarding Colson and the ads - and a *Time* story regarding President supposedly saying Ted Kennedy would be 1972 opponent. Both will blow over. Set up a busy week, and also next. President originally decided to have a press conference next week, but I talked him out of it, in favor of waiting until after Thanksgiving.

President impressed by a long Moynihan memo - gist of which is the lack of real intellectuals in the Administration. President agrees, and wants Ehrlichman, et al., to recruit in this direction. As of now have no real ferment of new ideas and no real tough intellectual challenge of present ideas or programs. Main problem is most intellectuals are not on our side. Also Moynihan makes point we've failed to get our story across about what we have done. The old PR complaint.

Haig in today - to reopen the Rogers problem. He feels it is more serious and threatening now than ever before. This time regarding Cuba sub base. Problem is Rogers originally denied it was there, then publicly downplayed our accomplishment in removing it - mainly because he wanted White House dealing with Russians without State. Now he's calling reporters in and undercutting Administration line - which is the truth - all to protect and build his position. Trouble is this completely destroys President's credibility, and Haig fears it will result in a whole new period of Soviets testing us. So many more confrontations, or near ones. Haig can't stomach idea of Cabinet officer operating for his own personal glory, contrary to President's interests, and in many cases, President's orders. Nothing we can do right now, but Al wanted me to be aware of



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this. He feels Kissinger again on verge of quitting, especially because he's not getting Nixon's ear - which is true, but no one has, except about politics. Trust that will change this week.