

# Haldeman Writes About Kissinger

Mission, Kan.

Former White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman says Henry Kissinger was never considered as secretary of state during the time Haldeman served as Richard Nixon's chief aide.

Haldeman, in the last of a five-part series of syndicated newspaper articles, said the White House staff reorganization plan set up after Mr. Nixon's 1972 re-election called for a replacement for William Rogers as secretary of state.

"Kissinger knew who the new secretary was going to be. And he knew it was not Henry Kissinger," Haldeman wrote. "I was very surprised, therefore, to learn that Kissinger was appointed to replace Rogers. I think it all had something to do with the weakening of the administration after the Watergate crisis."

Haldeman said Kissinger's influence "can be seriously overrated in assessing the earlier years of the Nixon administration" and said it was a myth that Kissinger expected to be named secretary of state.

"While I was chief of staff there was no thought at all that Henry would ever inherit the post," Haldeman said, "or any indication that he ever wanted the position."

Haldeman also said he was convinced Kissinger knew of the wiretaps placed on national security staff employees and reporters in 1969 in an effort to trace leaks.

"There is no question in my mind that Kissinger was fully aware that the national security taps were being put on by the FBI on (Attorney General John) Mitchell's authorization, and with the President's full knowledge and probable direction," he wrote.

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