

12/9

HALDEMAN VIEWS RISE OF KISSINGER

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Doubted He Would Become
the Secretary of State
NYTimes

MISSION, Kan., June 23 (UPI) — H. R. Haldeman, former White House chief of staff, says Henry A. Kissinger was never considered as Secretary of State when Mr. Haldeman served as President Nixon's chief aide.

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

"Kissinger knew who the new Secretary was going to be," Mr. Haldeman wrote. "And he knew it was not Henry Kissinger. 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."

Mr. Haldeman resigned April 30, 1973, as a result of the furor over the Watergate case. Mr. Kissinger was sworn in as Secretary of State on Sept. 22, 1973.

The article, written in con-

junction with Joseph Scott, a California columnist, was distributed by the Universal Press Syndicate for Thursday newspapers.

Influence 'Overated'

Haldeman said Mr. Kissinger's influence "can be seriously overrated in assessing the earlier years of the Nixon Administration" and that it was a myth that Mr. 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," Mr. Haldeman said, "or any indication that he even wanted the position."

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

"There is no question in my mind that Kissinger was fully aware that the national security taps were being put on by the F.B.I. on [Attorney General John N.] Mitchell's authorization, and with the President's full knowledge and probable direction," he wrote. "All three — Kissinger, Mitchell and Nixon — were fully involved and in concurrence about placing the taps. Nothing that I ever saw led me to believe that there was any reluctance on Kissinger's part to having the tap plan carried out."

On Kissinger, see SFC 23 Jun 76,

"Haldeman's Musings," last paragraph.