

Dan McKenna - February 3, 1981

I tried to set up an interview with Arlen, but it didn't work out. I talked briefly with Dan McKenna. "Arlen is keeping a very low profile. He's attending all the Committee meetings and working hard. He likes it. As far as the media is concerned, he'll respond if they come to him. But we are doing nothing to seek out or generate media attention. (Why) I think some of the old hands told him the first impression you make here is very important and that you want to get known as a worker and not a publicity hound. People tell us that Heinz goes after publicity all the time, that he's in such a rush to get wherever he's going. I'm an old newspaper man. There's nothing worse than to hold press conferences when you've got absolutely nothing to say. A reporter friend of mine from the Bulletin (I used to work for the Bulletin) said to me once "When Arlen was DA his weekly press conferences were terrible, because he didn't say a darn thing." (Did you tell Arlen that? "I believe I did.") When we went to orientation, the one thing every speaker emphasized was the importance of answering your mail. Stay on top of your mail. If you ever get behind on that, they told us, you'll never catch up."

He said they took 3 legislative assistants from Javits' office, Sylvia Lieberman, the scheduler, is also from Javits' office. So the role model is there. I also saw Gordon Woodrow, Mary Gregory, Elizabeth Montgomery, Dodie _____ and some freckled young woman who remembered me--all from the campaign.

Ties in with what he newspaper interview 1970

Sheilah Garvey (Farbes)