

C42

PAUL MICHEL

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Summary. "He's hemmed in by the administration, by his party, by the committees he's on, by the subcommittee of the one committee that can help and by the chairman of his committee. There's a wall in front of him and there's no crack in that wall that he can move through. If I were Arlen I'd be so frustrated at the end of each day I'd ask myself what good it is being a Senator. What's the use if you can't pass laws that interest you? If all you can do is introduce bills and make short speeches on the subject, that's the bottom of the barrel. All you are is a gadfly. Arlen takes a longer view of things. He says it's not a one year job, that if you lay some good foundations, you can accomplish things later."

He spoke right off of being "trapped" and used the phrase often. Dems have adopted hard positions on crime and AS is more in agreement with them than Republicans. Admin is "weak, hesitant and slow." Nothing has come out of there. "It's incredible that the President should make a major speech on crime in September and yet not one piece of legislation has come out of the administration on crime." He sees Admin people as pursuing ideas they have been "stuck on" for years"--like the exclusion of any rule. Pres. speech was vague. They went to see Fred Fielding before speech was drafted and presented him with their ideas. He agreed, but no inclusion of them in Pres. speech. "Powers that be are uncomfortable with these ideas and have backed off."

Had experience with <sup>protest</sup> of President bill where "a warm general endorsement turned into objection." Secret Service lobbied vs. AS bill. So they had hearings in which admin was neutral "which in the context meant that the bill would go nowhere." And hearings were delayed too, till too long after RR was shot.

why he started with admin in a cc

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So this <sup>time</sup> ~~line~~ they want to strike while interest is up. There is no public interest, he feels, because government has no credibility in area of public safety. People have no faith that government can or will do anything. They are taking individual action--burglar alarms, etc. We must show

So - "The only answer is hearings, they are the only bridge from where we are to where we want to go."

Talked about timing difficulty. He's going away for one week recess and then to NATO parliament conference. Best thing can hope for is late Nov., early Dec.--if he talks to Mathias.

"We are dead in the water. We have launched a sailboat, but there is no wind."

"The jurisdiction of Arlen's subcommittee, taking the broadest view, is extremely narrow. The bill will not go there. And that's the only subcommittee over which he has any control. So he has no tool, no forum, no platform for his ideas. You can't do anything without a platform." (he said this several times.)

Thurmond and Mathias don't get along. If he goes to Thurmond and Thurmond asks Mathias to hold hearings, Mathias could care less. So what can Arlen do? See Mathias. He can, he should, he says he will. But time is short. Plus Mathias subcommittee has a big backlog. And neither Mathias nor his staff have the slightest interest in crime."

Re admin "There's no one to talk to. It's like playing tennis, hitting the ball and having nothing come back. We've talked with ABCD and they'll make generally favorable noises. But they don't decided anything or criticize anything. We sent our proposal to the Justice Department 6 weeks ago and not one word has come back. The attorney general doesn't know as much about crime as my wife and cares less." Great frustration with bureaucrats.

"I'm here because I thought the best way to launch Arlen's Senate career was in the area of crime. It was the one area where his expertise was unequalled. In the Republican Party, there isn't anyone in the same ball park. I also thought it was the area in which he had great credibility. I still believe that it's the best place where Arlen can make his mark here--the only place in the hot sun. But there are more obstacles than I ever imagined."

Said press turnout was what they expected and that things went as well as could be expected. They got a good turnout he said because the press (1) knew AS was serious (2) it was area of his expertise and he had credibility here.

Said if AS talks his program, he's "out of line" with Admin emphasis on Budget cuts.

Might get admin to put heat on Thurmond to get hearings.

NW in Thurmond's interest to have Arlen have lots of hearings.

"I could think of 20 more bills in the crime area that are novel and doable--but Arlen could introduce--bills that would be counterproductive. If he introduces 20 bills and none of them even gets a hearing, that will look worse than anything. We're trapped."

"I had the number 5 job in the Justice Department and I liked what I was doing." But he came to help Arlen and get things done.