

PAUL MICHEL

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After Gordon and I talked, he introduced me to the guy who is staffing AS crime bills--Paul Michel former Deputy Associate Attorney General--who worked for Arlen when he was DA.

He described the tremendous amount of background work that went into these bills and said situation was now like "putty". (Gordon chimed in and said "It's like carrying jello across a rope bridge." Paul talked about "selling job" that lay ahead. "Not only do you have to sell the idea to 99 other prideful and preoccupied Senators, but you have to sell it to 500 staffers all of whom want to be consulted, not to mention the administration and the executive branch."

He said they were on their "maiden voyage" with these bills.

"Most bills are decided in subcommittee. So, unless we get hearings, we will have died on first base." He discussed problem of Mathias' criminal law subcommittee as "choked up" with bills.

Main thing is administration attitude. Will they incorporate AS's ideas into their program.

Said AS met with Juliani of Justice Department - also with Fred Fielding, President's Counsel, and with _____ Ellingwood, a guy who works with Meese.

Talked of AS plus his staff (Michel, Levin, Cohen) as "a miniature law firm." Specter's experience is complemented by mine and by the others. We are not dependent on outsiders. We are not dependent on outsiders. We can be creative and do much better than, say CRS. We consult them, but we don't need them. In that way, our office is different from other Senate offices. And we hope to be able to make a difference. Crime is the one area where other Senators will take Arlen's word. He knows more about robbers and burglars

Meese informed when it was...

than anyone in the United States. Lots of people think they are experts though."

He went in to talk about Democrats trying to make partisan competition out of crime area and that they might support AS for that reason. (Later he noted that Kennedy, Chiles, Biden DeConcini had done lot of work on crime, but that no Republican had.)

"Senators are so busy, we can't spend enough time at their elbow. They have wildly crowded schedules and no time to think and reflect. There is no time for me to do a selling job. So the only way I can convince, say, Grassley is to convince his aide. His aide is a 25-30 year old kid, bright, just out of law school but without any idea whatever about crime fighting or law enforcement. That is a difficult audience to sell--especially when the idea is a novel one. I'm about 10 years too old and have 10 years too much experience to talk easily to that group!"

*Michel's experience but he's still young
as he still has to learn
They were all learning!*