PAUL MICHEL

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Re Martin Anderson's resignation. "I wasn't upset about it. Anderson has been our main holdup for the last 60 days. He's the one that put the kibosh on the Justice Department's testimony on December 10th. He did it on December 9th. After we had finally gotten past OMB we were tripped up by the Anderson office."

"Last Thursday(?) we had a meeting with all the Justice people. Juliani, Jensen, McConnell and some others to iron out any last minute objections, to make sure we understood each other, to make any last minute drafting changes that were necessary. I made a few. The more important part of the meeting involved for the discussion with Erlman from Anderson's office. I had spoken to him before and I had sent him pages of detailed technical material. But this was the first meeting with Specter present. It went very well. As a result I added two pages to the bill laying out the standards the federal government would accept in taking cases, trying to draw some lines as to which cases would be handled by the federal government."

At Williamsburg "We took the opportunity to talk up the bill with the House members there. We lobbied Rodino, Hughes, McClory and Sawyer."

"This week I sent the final draft bill down to Anderson's office and to Justice for their final approval. 'This is it. Say yes.' As you know, off the record for now, the President and Meese both supported the bill with the proviso that OMB was satisfied that it was feasible in terms of prison space. They are satisfied. Once the White House and Justice sign off on this draft, our impression is that we've got a deal from top to bottom. The next step will be fore a high Justice Department official, probably Jensen, to come before the committee and announce the administration's support for the bill, we hope in emphatic terms.

"Too many cooks in the kitchen causes real problems. We met with Fred
Fielding, the White House Counsel in September. Yet Anderson gets involved
for the first time in December without any knowledge or background."