

PAUL MICHEL

August 6, 1982

Paul comes by late, as I'm finishing my PD notes in the rotunda. He hasn't got much hard news on 1688.

*reacts to
1/17/82
10/1/82*

"I talked to Arlen the other day--I can't recall whether it was before the Judiciary Committee meeting or after--and I got the sense that for the first time Arlen thought it wasn't going anywhere. Up to that conversation he'd always been very optimistic. I've talked to the members--we'll get it done. I have always been more pessimistic. I've told him he needed a push from the administration, that he couldn't do it all by himself. I think he sees that now. And I say that because of the instructions he gave me, to think more broadly and more long run about a crime control package. With 1688, the idea always was, get it done this year, show what a newcomer can do, get on the score board. Now he seems to be talking about the long run, that we should lay the ground work for a time where there is more money or come up with things that don't cost money... He's set several conditions to what I come up with. It can't cost money. It can't enlarge federal jurisdiction. It can't piss off the administration. It can't be opposed by a major lobby. And so on. I'm scraping the bottom of the barrel for ideas... I can't see what vehicle there is for Arlen to demonstrate his knowledge and leadership in crime. It's very frustrating to me. He can find other things that are . But for me as a staff man, it almost makes my work here a waste of time. I can get involved in nuclear arms control and a few other things...

We shot the bill for some time about what and how Arlen could do to take advantage of that talent.

He thinks Strom is upset at Arlen some. But he says Arlen does not see that at all.