

Pete Domenici

May 19, 1979

Walked in and we talked over the petition. He said he saw me in ^{Committee} Energy and that I wouldn't come over to talk with him. He said he'd have trouble getting me into the meeting. I said I'd written a book on the budget process 10 years ago. He said there wasn't any then. He mentioned Steve Horn's book. Then he said Magnuson thought they didn't need a budget committee. I said, "You ought to look at it the other way. With a budget committee we don't need an appropriations committee." He said "Now you're cooking with gas." I said "You're doing a lot of line iteming anyway." He said, "You think we are?" I said, "I don't see how else you can build a budget and set targets." Then he came out, we shook hands and started off down the corridor.

He said he may have to whip out to energy, that "I have an amendment on the energy committee and I have all the votes lined up... (He explained that he's trying to get a formula written into DOE budget providing for aid to schools in scientific cities (Los Alamos mostly--although Oak Ridge and Richland have same arrangement already...) "These things for your state are arranged behind the scenes."

Then he talked about WIPP program being deauthorized by House Armed Services. In Senate Armed Services a provision was put forward to make for consultation with States in such matters. He calls it an "historic change" done without...

Budget Committee - House members = 12 Senators = 5

Negotiation: "Why don't we go back to the original difference and split it right down the middle." "Middlemen have not yet agreed." "We had great difficulty passing this on the House floor." "I think we ought to give a little. There's some flexibility in these figures." "I'm intrigued by the House's willingness to accept administration estimate on food stamps and not on

disaster areas." "If we give you what you want on this one, then we would like some consideration when we come to the next one." "Is that a firm offer on the House side?" "How many are for my side?" That's an interesting coalition? What do we do?" "It seems to me the Senate's position is irrelevant at this point." "All right, I make the offer." "The vote is 8-4. We make you an offer of 191 in Auth. 141 in outlays. "Without objection, the Senate agrees."

PD to EM "I'll be back. I'm not going to pull a Maggie on you. When you get to 050 I want to argue it. The others have given me their arguments."

PD and Bellman - over to energy committee. Hang around there and coming back - oversight - 2 year budget year - so "People didn't used to want to do oversight. They just wanted to pass bills. Oversight wasn't sexy. But there are so many horror stories out there that I think oversight can be made politically sexy."

Tom: "I see they're letting the scrubs in."

Dave Obey came over and said "The House members are fed up. The budget process is a mess. We tell ourselves what we are going to do. We do what we said we were going to do and then we tell ourselves what we did. It's meaningless."

Bargaining:

"I don't mind passing over this and see if we can build up some momentum on the other matter." "We passed the program, you did not. We cut out revenue sharing, you put it in. I think these things will have to be handled as a package?" "You didn't give up anything."

PD- "The main reason for my going to the Budget Committee is so I can learn the process. I'll be taking over next year."

We moved back and forth from Energy Committee to Budget Committee--each time House members had to vote. We went to Energy once, hung around and left. Went back for Clinch river and lost 10-7 - Bumper Amendment. Paul Tsongas won.

We got back to office and he talked with Pete Wellish on matter of his water bill. He wants Moynihan to go with him. "I went over to see Moynihan yesterday

and he seemed excited. He wanted to check with his staff man. He probably wanted to check with his New York State people. You can't blame him for that. We can wait to have the press conference. I want it done right."

Then staffman comes in with a resolution on Mexico for him to sign. But he also tells PD that Max Baucus has a similar resolution in and that his has passed ~~Senate~~ and is over in the House. He explains how PD can still get "credit," but PD is not happy. "Who was on this you or Bruce? Bruce? Well you can tell him he screwed up. I'd like to tell him myself." The race for credit. You wait; you lose. (If you're a Kennedy, you get credit even when you are late! PD and 3 mile island!)

When we got back to his office, he also talked about the problem of regulations involving cleaning ^{SO₂} SO₂ out of coal and how eastern and western coal have different % of ^{SO₂} SO₂. "One of the interesting things that happens around here is that once you have a set of regulations in place, someone wants to get a regional advantage out of them. This is one that happened to Lee Rawls and my interest in the Clean Air Act."

After the loss of Clinch River - "This wasn't my baby so I can be completely negative after the fact. I think the strategy was wrong." He wanted to have an amendment saying that Clinch River is dead but there should be a commitment.

1/5/79

1. "The press section will begin a weekly column in the N.M. press under the Senator's byline. Since such an effort will require a great deal of raw information the legislative staff has been asked to contribute. Accordingly, every Monday, beginning Jan. 15, member of the legislative staff should give the press secretary the outline of an idea for use in the column."

2. "One of the Senator's goals is to ^bpublish more articles, not only in trade journals but also in the national media. This obviously requires a commitment of time that is almost impossible given the daily work load of a Senator's office. Accordingly, for those staffers working on major articles "a sabbatical" policy will be instituted. In plain English, this means time off will be given (not play) on any assigned articles."

Memo #2 -- 1/5/79 lists 22 bills and dates of introduction. "The following schedule for introducing is predicated on introducing 2 or 3 bills a week (or the rate at which their content can be spoon fed to the press section.) The schedule is subject to change without consultation, reason or notice."

List of bills from Jan. 15 - March 22.

Staff assignments:

Energy - Paul Gillman

Environment and Public Works - Lee Rawls/Linda Dickman

Agriculture and Natural Resources - George Ramonas

Budget - Steve Bell

"I get 10 or 12 million on the energy bill every year--just by being over there." I think he meant just by being on the committee.

I think he likes it a lot. He likes the maneuvering.

PD to Bellman. "He followed me in my campaign and we became pretty good buddies."

Re TR Reid story.

"So you think the book will be pretty good in terms of notoriety."

He thought Muskie book was great. "When you finish reading that book, you almost know the institution." That's when I mentioned the Reid book.

Back after lunch to Budget Conference.

On Energy Markup PD states Senate position. He plays a more active role than any Republican on House side does.

Budget conference held in 5207 with picture of Mike Mansfield at end of

The interesting thing is that conferees speak for selves at times and for their institution at times.

How do you decide whether someone is really pushing on given policy or not?

Bargaining:

"I'm reluctant to make offers without you indicating whether you're favorable or not because my offer becomes the base point." "When we like your offer, you'll know."

House seems to take lead in making "offers" to Senate.

Oftentimes one side recedes on budget authority and the other on outlays.

Muskie gives impassioned plan for EDA - very Maine oriented.

When we got back to his office he picked up on Paul Week--whom he had mentioned earlier.

newsmen from Albuquerque paper

"We have a guy in our delegation who is a millionaire, from oil. On the energy thing, his whole interest is in drilling oil wells. So what does the newspaper make the headline of its story on finances--that Pete Domenici made 4800 in honoraria. \$4800! That's a pittance. No other reporter in the country would have made that his lead story. If the Washington Post got hold of that, they would never let up on the millionaire. I know he doesn't like Steve and Dennis. But why should a newspaperman who doesn't like an AA and a former press guy take it out on me, when I'm doing a good job. Why does he stick it to me all the time? He never writes anything good about me. The best I ever get is a news story and then it usually has a little editorial zinger in there. That's what creates the rumbles back home. People read it and think I'm up here making millions of dollars. I suppose I shouldn't give a damn. I just got reelected and I have five more years. But I can't look at it that way. I'm convinced if I was a Democrat--majority or minority--with all that I've accomplished and my work within the institution--

he would be writing glowing reports. As long as I'm a Senator, he'll be here. His editor thinks he's great."

At one point he thought "I think I ought to talk with him." We'll let the Doc arbitrate."

He talked to Runnels about it while we were.

PD to Bell - "We're going to be running this in 2 years, Bell. I feel comfortable with the process. If we don't have a sharp recession, it will survive. The staff are excellent. There's better staff work done on both sides of the Budget Committee than on any other committee."

SENATOR'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 17

9:00 a.m. Kay, Bob Helm, Steve
re: Salt II

9:30 a.m. Meeting with Bruce, Dave Moran, Steve, George
re: North American Continental Trade Commission Resolution

10:00 a.m. Energy & Natural Resources Committee - Room 3110 DIRKSEN
BUSINESS MEETING. Pending calender business. w/Paul

10:00 a.m. SENATE-HOUSE BUDGET CONFERENCE - Room S-207 CAPITOL
re: First Concurrent Resolution 4-4004 w/Steve
5815

12:00 Noon RAMS Luncheon. Capitol Hill Club, 3rd Floor
DENNIS Speaker: Congressman John Rhodes

12:00 Noon Admiral Thomas Hayward, CNO, U.S. Navy
KAY Briefing for Congressional Staffs re major defense issues
Minute Man Memorial Building, 1 Constitution Ave., N.E.

12:30/ Lunch in Energy Committee Library - Room 3112 DIRKSEN
1:30 p.m. with Minority Members, Energy Committee, and staff
re: Inventory hearing which comes up next Monday

w/Dave and Paul

1:55 p.m. Look at experimental safety automobiles designed
by DOT. Trolley car stop at Delaware Avenue
between Russell and Capitol

w/Peter
Photographer

2:00 Rodney Heath, Farmington

2:00 p.m. SENATE-HOUSE BUDGET CONFERENCE - Room S-128 CAPITOL
re: First Concurrent Resolution 4-7215 w/Steve
16

3:30 p.m. Dr. Edward Lunsdain
PAUL New Mexico Solar Institute

4:15 Jennie, Nick Gonzalez - Alb. Fire Fighters.

5:00 p.m. Drop-by. AGING COMMITTEE new offices
- Room G-233 DIRKSEN

ALL STAFF INVITED

5:00/ Senator Javits' Birthday reception by his staff
7:00 p.m. - Room 318 RUSSELL

6:00 p.m. Menswear Retailers of America reception. Personal
invitation of TOM MOORE, SANTA FE - Cannon Caucus Room

6:00/ National Association of Development Organizations Reception.

8:00 p.m. Personal invitation of NICK SALAZAR and LEO MURPHY of
Santa Fe (representing North Central New Mexico

Economic Development District - Room EF-100 For Linda