

BARBARA MCLENNAN

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I wander into the Budget Hearing for Alice Rivlin and the seats are all taken. So I go up and sit through the hearing with Barbara. Domenici and Kasten. are only ones there.

"The important things now are what the members say to each other. This is all baloney."

I tried to get some sense of committee sentiment and PD's practices from her. She said re PD "You can't twist a Senators arm like you can a House member's. (But won't he have to build a coalition?) "He doesn't seem to be very good at doing that. He couldn't do it last year."

Nice question: Can you play hard ball easier in House?

She said that Committee needs a gramm-latta (She served on House Budget last year) "I don't know who will be Gramma. Not Hollings. He's the leader. Maybe Chiles or Johnson."

Dan came in and asked about difference between Defense Department estimates and CBO estimates. Barbara says "He's angry at the Defense Department. He heard some bad testimony over in Armed Services. They wouldn't budget... He seemed very engaged in there today."