

January 10, 1996

Senator Beutler said he gives me his time except for 30 seconds, so I'm going to let him have his 30 seconds first.

SENATOR BEUTLER: (Laugh)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Beutler, 30 seconds.

SENATOR BEUTLER: In that case you can have the damn 30 seconds.

(LAUGHTER)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And we have used his 30 seconds in the way he thought best. Madam President, what just happened between me and Senator Beutler indicates what I was talking about in terms of the laws or principles of warfare. The war that I see is not between me and individuals on this floor, but between me and the Legislature as a whole. I will be civil when an individual senator is civil with me. If I am asked questions I will answer the questions. If somebody needs time and I think that they're going in a direction with which I agree I would yield time to them if they asked me. But as far as giving quarter in terms of going along with this kind of thing that we have before us now to get along and maintain a good feeling with everybody, perish the thought. May I perish before that would happen, and some would probably feel that would be the way to resolve all of this. But I'm not going to die for you. And let me tell you something else. Some of you all think that I am challenging God, not "God Osborne", that will come later, but I'm challenging God when I say I'm not going to die any time soon, and here's where I get you and frustrate and defeat you even if I should die. I wouldn't be here for you to tell me, I told you so, see there, you died. I'll beat you even then and you'll be more frustrated if I die than if I stay alive 'cause you can't say anything to me about it. Senator Bromm tried to talk in a very restrained manner on this issue and I can applaud him for that, but he was doing it as a tactic. He talked about the crime bill without talking about the dynamics at play. There was a battle, not only on the floor of the Legislature but between the Governor and the Attorney General. The Attorney General's minions were carrying his vision of what the crime bill should be for political purposes and the Governor had his minions carrying his version based on political motivation of what the crime bill should be. So it wasn't just our legislative rules that led to that. It was the weakness and