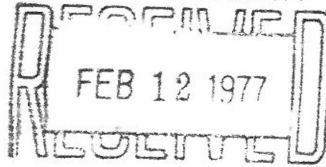


UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

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February 9, 1977

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AVOCATS AMERICAINS

Dear Ron:

Many thanks for your letter of January 21.

This has to be a hasty note. My life has been radically altered by events of recent days. Out of the blue Griffin Bell called me to ask me to come to Washington to be an Assistant Attorney General in charge of a new office he is creating entitled the office for improvements in the administration of justice. It is to a large extent a "think tank," but it is also an action office, with the mission of designing proposals which can be put into effect to reform judicial organization and procedures as well as many other aspects of the justice system. It is right down my line, and I simply could not resist. Assuming I survive Senate confirmation, I should start on the job in about two weeks.

This puts into suspension my work on the book on appellate judges. It seems to knock out the possibility of my projected German and French explorations this summer. However, I am not abandoning the project, and I do hope to pursue it all along and eventually finish it. It is still possible that I should get to Europe sometime within a year. If so I shall let you know.

I am happy to see the first Sokol colloquium shaping up here in March. Are you coming? I will be commuting to Washington for the rest of the spring semester, trying to continue to teach Federal Courts here at the end of the week. So I will be on hand for a portion of the colloquium.

The next time I write I will be deep in the Washington scene. We will need a lengthy conversation at some future date for me to attempt to convey all of the observations I will no doubt accumulate. Anyway, for better or worse, we will make a try at doing something for a change, instead of simply talking about it.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Meador