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"FACE THE NATION"

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GUEST: THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
United States Senate
(Democrat of Minnesota)

MODERATOR: Stuart Novins

PANEL: John Madigan
Newsweek

Robert E. Lee
St. Paul Pioneer Press & Dispatch

Charles Cleveland
Chicago Daily News

PRODUCER: Ted Ayers

MR. NOVINS: Today, Face The Nation comes to you from Chicago, on the eve of the Democratic rally at which Adlai Stevenson is expected to announce his active candidacy for his party's nomination.

Already prominent Democratic leaders from all over the country have gathered here, and our guest today is one of them, Senator Hubert Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota.

Senator Humphrey, it's not only because you are a strong supporter of Mr. Stevenson, but more particularly because of your own activities, that our panel of newsmen is anxious to talk with you, so let me introduce the panel, if I may:

Mr. John Madigan, Washington Correspondent for Newsweek;
Charles Cleveland, political editor for the Chicago Daily News; and

Robert E. Lee, Washington Correspondent for the St. Paul Pioneer Press & Dispatch.

Now, with the first question, here is Mr. Madigan.

MR. MADIGAN: Senator, you and Governor Stevenson sat in the back seat of a Cadillac on Madison Street last night, after a big banquet here, which a lot of party dignitaries attended, and talked for about a half an hour.

Do you know what he is going to say on Tuesday, when he makes his announcement to the Nation?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, Mr. Madigan, may I say that your counter-intelligence service is very good. As I recall, I

believe I met you right after I got out of the car.

I had a very friendly and social visit with Governor Stevenson, following the dinner at the Morrison Hotel. We did discuss some of the issues that would be undoubtedly coming up in the next few months; some of the work of Congress. We also discussed the possibility that Mr. Stevenson might make himself available as a candidate on the Democratic ticket.

MR. CLEVELAND: Senator, your State of Minnesota has one of the earliest of the primaries. Do you anticipate that Governor Stevenson will enter that primary?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I hope he shall. We have extended him a very cordial invitation, Mr. Cleveland. Our State Central Committee, which is very representative of the political organization in Minnesota, unanimously asked Governor Stevenson to file in the Minnesota primary.

It would be my opinion that he will accept that invitation, and if he accepts, I am quite confident that he will be overwhelmingly victorious.

MR. LEE: Senator, do you think he will also accept the invitation of the Californians to enter the primary there?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I don't know. I hope so. I happen to believe that the California primary is of very great importance, Mr. Lee, and I do believe that Governor Stevenson should enter that particular primary.

I have said this to him personally. I have encouraged him,

as I am sure others have, and I kind of think he may.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you believe, Senator, that he should avoid going into preferential primaries in which Senator Kefauver might enter?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, that's a question for Senator Kefauver and Governor Stevenson to decide amongst themselves. I do feel, however, that any candidate for President on either ticket should take advantage of at least some of the primaries. It becomes a very exhausting task to go into all of them, but I think there should be at least a good cross-section of the primaries that are covered by the respective candidates.

MR. MADIGAN: What is the significance, if any, Senator, to the fact that you are one of the few who have publicly come out for Governor Stevenson prior to his expected candidacy announcement.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, Mr. Madigan, I believe that if you are for a man, you ought to be for him early, you ought to be for him during the middle of the stretch, and you ought to be for him late.

MR. MADIGAN: You weren't for him in 1952, were you?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I wasn't for him in the beginning of 1952, because I didn't know that he was interested. As a matter of fact, my visit with him in April of 1952, at Springfield, indicated to me that he was not a candidate for the Office of President.

However, may I say that when we found out that he was, our delegation gave the Governor, Governor Stevenson, considerable support, and I might say that during the campaign we gave him very active support.

MR. MADIGAN: Some people have made the charge that your coming out for him so early this time indicates that you have quite a liking for the Vice Presidency, and might be inclined to make some sort of a deal, to attempt to get the Vice Presidential nomination. That has been printed by some.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, first of all, Mr. Madigan, it takes two to make a deal. I am not going to make any deals, and I know that Governor Stevenson isn't going to make any deals. He is not a dealer. We would prefer to look upon this as a matter of supporting a person that we think is qualified, that we think ought to move out early, in the early stages, get a commanding lead in the Democratic Party caucuses and in the primaries, and therefore be a much stronger candidate in the general election.

MR. MADIGAN: Senator, do you --

MR. NOVINS: Senator Humphrey, in view of what you said a moment ago about being for a candidate early and staying with him, Mr. Harriman, on this program about a month ago, said that he didn't feel morally bound to support Governor Stevenson, in spite of the fact that earlier he said he was for him. I wonder how you would appraise that statement?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, I would appraise it that Mr. Harriman is one of the top political leaders of the Democratic Party. He has strong support in his own State. He has obviously been under some pressure from his own people, that is, pressure from friends that want him to be at least a favorite son candidate, and hopefully the candidate of the Democratic Party.

I know that Governor Harriman is very friendly to Adlai Stevenson. I hope that he will support him, when the, as we say, when the chips are down, in the final analysis.

MR. NOVINS: Well, as a practical matter, do you think he will, at the Convention?

SENATOR HUMPHREY. I kind of think he might, when it's all over.

MR. CLEVELAND: Senator, I would like to explore this point which you touched on. The records, as I have it here, shows that in 1952 in the Convention, Minnesota casts its 26 votes for you on the first ballot.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: That's correct.

MR. CLEVELAND: On the second ballot, 17 for Senator Kefauver and 7-1/2 for Stevenson; and on the third ballot, 13 for Stevenson and 13 for Kefauver.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: That's correct.

MR. CLEVELAND: It would seem that this is not a considerable sentiment for Stevenson, but rather seem to be a rather considerable sentiment for Senator Kefauver. I am wondering why you have changed your mind on Senator Kefauver, for whom your delegation was -- very loyal in 1952.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: The delegation from Minnesota, in 1952 was very loyal to Hubert Humphrey -- period.

It was in that -- that delegation was bound to me by the primary vote.

On the second ballot, it was felt that we should at least extend what we thought was a friendly token of expression to Senator Kefauver, and I can tell you quite candidly that had the

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26 votes been needed on the third ballot, for Governor Stevenson, he would have had the 26; but we have a very friendly regard for Senator Kefauver, as we do now. Furthermore, may I say that it was a little difficult to know whether or not Mr. Stevenson was a candidate in 1952. When we found out that he was a candidate, with serious purpose and intent, we were there with the votes, and if we had a fourth ballot we could have had all 26 votes.

MR. CLEVELAND: There must then be no doubt in your mind that on Tuesday Governor Stevenson is going to say "Yes?"

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, I'm hopeful -- I'm hoping that he will, and I expect that he will. I am one of those that believes you ought to be quite candid about this business of politics.

Yes, I think Governor Stevenson will be a candidate. I think he will campaign rather vigorously, and I think he will have a most commanding lead by the time that the Democratic Convention comes around.

MR. LEE: Senator, it seems to me that a lot of the backing and hawing here in Chicago in 1952, at the Convention, was over the question of civil liberties, which put a lot of Democrats at odds with one another.

Now, is this going to happen again this year, next year at the Convention?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Mr. Lee, I do not believe that the

major issue at the 1952 Convention was over the issue of civil liberties or civil rights. That issue was fought out pretty vigorously in 1948. There was an issue over the loyalty, or at least the, yes, I would say the loyalty, of certain delegations. That was the issue that seemed to divide the Convention.

I can assure you that that will not be an issue in the 1956 Convention, primarily because we have spent over two years working out the details of a program to operate, upon which we can operate our Convention to see to it that there are no unnecessary difficulties or hassles, and at the same time to see to it that the duly elected and loyal Democrats are seated in that Convention.

MR. LEE: Well, we hear some rumors that perhaps some of the Southern Democrats are waiting to hear a little more from Mr. Stevenson about his stand on some of these civil rights matters.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I am quite sure, Mr. Lee, that the Southern Democrats know Mr. Stevenson's stand. I know of no candidate in modern times that has been more precise and more honest, intellectually and politically, as to his stands on issues than Governor Stevenson.

MR. MADIGAN: Senator ---

SENATOR HUMPHREY: His record in 1952 in the campaign was a memorable one. It was one of honor and of political integrity.

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And, I happen to believe that there is great support in the Southern states, amongst Southern Democratic leadership, for Governor Stevenson.

MR. MADIGAN: Would you consider the label "a candidate of moderation" a fitting one for Adlai Stevenson?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, if you mean by "moderation," a candidate that realizes -- that is sensible --

MR. MADIGAN: As different from --- as different from a liberal, I mean.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: No, I think liberals are very moderate.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you regard the Democratic Party now as a liberal party?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I surely do.

MR. MADIGAN: Why, then, did you people in the Senate desist in your efforts to get a Fair Employment Practice Commission bill through?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: For the simple reason we do not have the votes. One of the first laws of politics, Mr. Madigan, is to be able to count, and there are times that it's worthwhile having political battles, even though you know that you are doomed to total defeat; as one Senator, I placed into the legislative hopper, or into the legislative process, civil rights bills. I will continue to do so until those bills are enacted. I will continue to work for them. But may I say that we thought it was anything but prudent judgment to try to ram

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through a measure where we didn't have one chance in a thousand to get it through.

MR. MADIGAN: Well, there is some comment in the Cloakrooms in Washington to the effect that liberal Democrats are counselling more, rather than less, harmony with the moderates of the South. Do you favor more --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: More harmony?

MR. MADIGAN: Yes.

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SENATOR HUMPHREY: Oh, indeed I do.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you favor it in a lessening of attempting to get civil rights legislation, and trying to repeal Taft-Hartley? Do you want to abandon all those now?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: We don't abandon those. As a matter of fact, we are making steady progress in this country in the field of civil rights. We are making it at local government levels, at state government levels, we are making it in private and non-sectarian groups. Those of us in Congress feel that this is a proper way for us to proceed.

May I point out that we always have a number of people that would like to have a good fight in the Democratic Party? We are interested in harmony and in unity, without the sacrifice of principle.

There is a difference between unity and unanimity. Unanimity is a disciplined kind of coherence and cohesiveness, and unity comes out of respect, despite the fact that we have some differences.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you expect to be on the Platform Committee, or do you hope to be, at the Convention next year?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Yes, I do. I hope so.

MR. MADIGAN: If so, will you insist that the platform contain planks calling for FEPC, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, and other such liberal Democratic Party members -- measures?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Mr. Madigan, I was very satisfied with the platform of 1952. It seemed to me that it represented

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mature political judgment, it encompassed most of the great issues that affect this country. Those issues, of course, had a change in some detail. We will be a little bit more precise, for example, this time in the field of agriculture, in the field of monopoly, and some of the tax and fiscal policies; but in the main, I was satisfied with the 1952 platform, and I will continue to support the broad outlines of that platform.

MR. NOVINS: Senator, when you talk about unity within the Party, I have to think of Senator Strom Thurman and some of the other gentlemen down in the South, who have threatened, as recently as August, the possibility of a third party, a states rights party, in effect.

Do you think that there is any reality in that threat, and what effect would it have?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I don't think there is much reality in that threat, Mr. Novins. As a matter of fact, I think that the Democratic Party is so much more united today than the Republican Party, that we almost look like a wall of solidarity.

Could we talk about Republican disunity for a few moments?

MR. NOVINS: We may find ourselves in that area, but before we do, I would like to ask what you think ought to be done to some members of the Democratic Party, and I'm thinking specifically for example, of the Governor of Louisiana, who has said that he was for Eisenhower, and hoped that Eisenhower would run again.

Do you feel that any kind of party discipline is indicated

in a situation like that?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, I'll tell you, Mr. Novins, I have great faith in the people of Louisiana. I went to school at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I know Senator Russell Long, of Louisiana. I know many of his close associates and admirers. I am perfectly willing to leave the matter of Mr. Kennon, Governor of Louisiana, up to the people of Louisiana.

Now, if Mr. Kennon comes to the Democratic Convention and wishes to parade as a Democrat on the one hand, and announces before that he is not for our candidate, whoever we may nominate, I think the Democratic Convention will deal with that problem in an honorable and fair manner.

MR. NOVINS: You think there may be a fight in the Credentials Committee on a State like that?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I doubt that. I think that the people of Louisiana, the Democrats of Louisiana, will send us a good loyal Democratic delegation.

You know, we have just about enough problems in our own States without moving in on others, and if the people of Louisiana will trust Minnesota, why, we'll sort of trust them, and I kind of think that I have a right to be an optimist in this matter. I am not concerned about so-called divergent elements or dissident elements that may come to the Democratic Convention. I think there will be good Democrats there, supporting a good ticket.

MR. CLEVELAND: Senator, as one of the leaders in the loyalty oath fight of the 1952 Convention, do you think that Governor Shivers, of Texas, who also bolted to Eisenhower in '52, do you think he should be allowed to take his seat in the 1956 Convention?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, again, may I say to you, Mr. Cleveland, I have great faith in the Democrats of Texas. They are hard at work down there. I think that the Democrats of Texas will send a loyal Democratic delegation to the Democratic Convention.

MR. CLEVELAND: If it includes Governor Shivers, should Governor Shivers be entitled to sit in the 1956 Convention, in view of the action he took politically in 1952?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: First of all, his case, Mr. Cleveland, will be considered by the Credentials Committee. All evidence will be weighed by that Committee. If I were to be asked to judge this case now, and since of course I am not, because I am not on the Credentials Committee, nor is the Convention sitting, but theoretically, if I were to be asked to judge it, I would say that in view of Mr. Shivers' most recent statements in reference to some of the potential candidates of the Democratic Party, that he could not qualify, under the rules and regulations which have been laid down by the Advisory Committee to the Democratic National Committee.

In other words, he would not be a certified delegate.

MR. MADIGAN: In substance, then, you will -- propose a loyalty oath.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, in substance, what we are saying is that those who are delegates to the Democratic Convention shall be bona fide Democrats, that they shall be certified by their respective State officials as having qualified under the laws of the State to be delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

We have a Credentials Committee at every Convention. Any one that wishes to contest anyone's right to sit in that Convention will be heard before that Credentials Committee. It will be orderly. It will be fair. It will provide due process, and I am convinced that there will be no difficulty, because when you mete out justice, you do not have difficulty. It's when you start to have unnecessary battles and scraps that you get into the difficulties that you are alluding to.

MR. LEE: Senator, do you want to talk about the Republican Party?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Oh, I'd love to.

MR. LEE: Do you think Mr. Eisenhower is going to run again?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: That, again, may I say, Mr. Lee, is a question that only Mr. Eisenhower can decide.

If you ask my own personal opinion, I doubt that he shall.

MR. LEE: Whom --- would be --- who would be the best candidate the Republicans could put up in his absence, do you think?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Now, when it comes to selecting candidates, Mr. Lee, I prefer to think about who would be the better candidate on the Democratic ticket. May I point out to you, sir, that I think that in this area that we are uniquely -- in a very unique situation. We have a number of good candidates on the Democratic side, and I still haven't found one for the Republican side.

MR. MADIGAN: Well, we hear considerable conversation in Washington that there might be a Stevenson-Kefauver ticket. Would you favor such a ticket?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: That would be a fine ticket, it would be an outstanding ticket.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you believe that Senator Kefauver, who is scheduled to meet with the Governor some time this week, will

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perhaps enter into some sort of discussions along that line?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I don't know. I would imagine that Senator Kefauver may be first thinking about his own Presidential candidacy in the Democratic primaries, but I do hope that they will discuss the whole political picture, because both Senator Kefauver and former Governor Stevenson are outstanding leaders in our party, and if they should contest against one another in these primaries, I hope it will be on a most friendly, and yet, of course, a very vigorous basis. I'm quite sure that that can take place.

MR. LEE: What qualifications, geographical and otherwise, should a Vice Presidential candidate have?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, Mr. Lee, I think the geographical qualifications have been way overemphasized. I know that there is a tradition about geography in these nominations for President and Vice President: If you have a man from the East, you ought to have one from the West; if you have one from the North, you ought to have one from the South.

May I suggest that it would be better for the respective conventions to not be half as concerned about geography as they are about ability, as they are about the experience which is necessary to fill such an office, as they are about the credentials that one should possess in terms of background and understanding of the great issues that face our country.

What we need today is less of the -- less of the game of

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politics and more of the solid substance of thought on the great issues.

MR. NOVINS: Senator, when you talk about issues, one of them, of course, is going to be the farm issue, and you are on the Agricultural Committee --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Yes.

MR. NOVINS: You recently made some accusations about Mr. Benson's Agriculture Department. I think you accused them of putting out what you called pure and unadulterated political propaganda.

Now, what does that mean?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: That means just exactly what it says, and not only recently but early.

And the Department of Agriculture has been running its mimeograph machines overtime of late, trying to make the American farmer believe that what is happening to him is not really happening to him; trying to make the American farmer and the American people believe that agriculture is not in a very serious state, that prices really haven't gone down, that income isn't particularly low. I say this is unadulterated nonsense.

MR. NOVINS: But, have you --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: And I suggest that Mr. Benson get busy and administer the laws of the land, rather than going around trying to interpret what's going on in a way that is favorable, despite the obvious facts.

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MR. NOVINS: Well, as a member of the committee, are you going to call for an investigation to find out why all this propaganda is going on, if it's not a function of the Department?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, I'm not so much on investigations. I happen to think that we don't need to investigate this area. All we need to do is go out and ask any farmer, and he will tell you what's going wrong, what's wrong in the Department of Agriculture; and any member of the Congress knows what's wrong.

What I suggest we do is to legislate; and, secondly, I suggest we call Mr. Benson and his associates before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and point up to them their responsibility to administer the laws of the land. If they don't want to administer those laws, they ought to resign and, very frankly, they are not administering them.

MR. MADIGAN: Senator, your candidate for President has been accused, by Chairman Hall of the Republican Party, of a flip-flop on the farm question, in first advocating the lukewarm approach to rigid price supports, and now coming all-out for it.

In fact, in a letter sent to an assistant of yours that was read at Des Moines, Iowa --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Yes.

MR. MADIGAN: Do you think he is guilty of a flip-flop?

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SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, you know, I'm almost touched by that statement, Mr. Madigan, and I could be impressed, because Mr. Hall is great -- a real expert in the area of flip-flops, and he is also an area -- an expert somewhat in trying to play this great game of politics in a way that is somewhat confusing.

But Mr. Stevenson has been for, since 1952, a price support program that at least offered a base of 90 per cent of parity. He has not been one that felt that this was the only issue, nor do I.

This is more than an argument between flexible price supports and so-called fair rigid price supports. The word "rigid" is an unfortunate word, one that was doctored up by the Republican propagandists.

Mr. Stevenson's position has not changed; as a matter of fact, it has only become one that has been expressed in more detail.

MR. MADIGAN: Is it not a fact that you came to Chicago and met with Mr. Stevenson in the period between his one statement at Green Bay and the other at Des Moines?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: No, that is not a fact --

MR. MADIGAN: Did you not meet with him?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Yes. It was in New York.

MR. MADIGAN: New York --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: I happened to be there --

MR. MADIGAN: Did you --

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SENATOR HUMPHREY: No, I was going to -- I did visit with Mr. Stevenson.

MR. MADIGAN: You did advise him, did you not, to come out more strongly for rigid price supports, for not the permanent, lasting remedy, but a part of it?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Mr. Madigan, my visit with Mr. Stevenson was on many issues, and one of them, needless to say, was the agricultural question. All that I pointed out was that I thought that the speech at Green Bay, Wisconsin had been grossly misinterpreted, and that when some people persist in misinterpretation, there is only one way to stop it, and that is to be precise, concise, unmistakably clear, and I am happy to point out that the Democratic candidates, whomever they may be, Stevenson, Kefauver, Harriman -- Russell -- whoever they may be -- they are unmistakably clear on the issue of agriculture.

Now, if we could get the Republicans, who are in charge of this Government, to be half as clear, we'd start to clear up the agricultural picture.

MR. MADIGAN: Well, what does Adlai Stevenson propose that is new to clear up this surplus problem which has caused this whole thing, a mess, Senator -- Secretary Benson calls it -- that was inherited from the Democrats?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, may I just go back on the latter part of your statement? Mr. Benson can talk about inheritance,

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but I may say that he's in charge of this part of the American economy, and I suggest that he stop being such a profound student -- in quotes -- of ancient history and get down to the contemporary.

Mr. Benson is Secretary of Agriculture. He is the -- President Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture. And all of this historical recitation, these histrionics about what the Democrats did or did not do, does not answer the current problem. The fact is that when the Democrats left office in 1952, parity for farmers was 100. It is presently 82. Prices have dropped. Income has dropped 30 per cent. Farm mortgage indebtedness is up 17 per cent.

Now, I am not going to be listening to the idle chatter of a Secretary of Agriculture who can only say, "Well, I didn't do it."

MR. MADIGAN: Did Adlai --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: "It's the responsibility of Democrats --"

MR. MADIGAN: How would Adlai --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Republicans are running the Government,

Mr. Madigan.

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MR. MADIGAN: How would Adlai Stevenson or Mr. Humphrey, if he were Secretary of Agriculture, solve it?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, may I say, you don't solve any problem by magic, a magic wand.

The first thing I would suggest is that there was a will to administer the programs. Presently, the present programs are literally demoralized. The farmer committees at the local level no longer feel a part of the agricultural program. The Department of Agriculture has not even used the authority which is available to it under present law. It has refused to purchase, for example, foodstuffs that could be used in our school lunch program, in our aid to the indigent, in many of our needy cases.

The law needs to be revised, the flexible price support program does not work. Simply put, Mr. Madigan, all the flexible price support program does is reduce price, reduce income, and increase production.

Now, I suggest that we stop that right now.

MR. MADIGAN: How long do you let a rigid program stay into effect, and support --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Now, what is more rigid about 90 than 75? Now, you feel 75 some time and see if that is any less rigid than 90. All 90 per cent of parity means is 10 per cent less than fair. I don't think you'd want much less than 10 per cent less than a fair wage for yourself.

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Now, the Democratic Party program says that on basic commodities, the storable commodities, we will provide for Mr. Farmer a floor under the price structure, and then we'll ask him to comply with production controls. We'll try to bring supply into balance with demand, and when you pay a farmer or guarantee to a farmer a fair price for his unit of production, he will comply.

MR. CLEVELAND: Senator, Mr. Madigan asked a question which I don't think you answered, which I understand to be the heart of the farm problem, and that is, what are you going to do with the tremendous surpluses built up in this country? What is your solution?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, there are many solutions. First of all, let's stop accumulating them, and we can accumu- -- stop this accumulation of surplus, with a fair income to the farmer to a point where he will accept and comply with production controls, and any program, Mr. Cleveland, is going to need production controls.

Secondly, we can stimulate the use of our surplus foods in the domestic economy. The food stamp plan for our indigent and our needy.

Think of an old lady, a grandmother, trying to get by on \$55 a month under old age assistance, think what it would mean to her if she could have \$10 in food stamps for perishable commodities, such as butter, cheese, milk and dairy products.

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MR. CLEVELAND: In other words, you want to give it away?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Oh, we are giving it away to our foreign friends, we are giving millions and millions of dollars worth of it away. I suggest that we give some away to our hometown people.

Furthermore, if we've got any price concessions to make on agriculture, which we are making to people all over the world, I would suggest we do a little bit of it right back here in the States.

Now, this Administration, Mr. Benson's and Mr. Eisenhower's Administration, are not really selling these farm products at even a fair price overseas, and they are not administering this program at home.

Now, we have a farm program, Mr. Cleveland, it's a farm program that makes good sense. It's one that ties in soil conservation with production control, one that provides a fair price for a unit of production, one that stimulates use of temporary surpluses, and finally, may I say that in our great foreign policy, the use of this abundance of food can be a powerful weapon.

MR. NOVINS: Senator, you are obviously very much interested in the farm program --

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Yes, I am.

MR. NOVINS: You have a good reason to be. But you are also on the Foreign Relations Committee, and I wonder what you

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think about this current crisis in the Middle East? What should the United States policy be? Should we arm Israel?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Well, this current crisis in the Far East is one that I've been concerned about for months. It hasn't been, this didn't come upon us, Mr. Novins, overnight.

What I think we should have done a long time ago was to have implemented the activities of the United Nations in that area. Furthermore, I think we should have offered a mutual security pact to the area, to the nations in the Far East, the Arab and Israeli alike, and in the present situation, to be right direct to your question, I do not think we can afford to let Israel go down and be defeated.

We sponsored the State of Israel. We introduced her and sponsored her in the United Nations. We were the first to recognize the State of Israel as an independent nation state. Israel and the Near East represents democracy in action. It represents progress. It represents modern technology. Therefore, I suggest that we do everything within our power to guarantee her frontiers and call upon the United Nations to join with us to stop this arms race, and as I said last night, let's have a little race for peace, rather than an arms race.

MR. MADIGAN: You say stop the arms race -- you do not want to give Israel any weapons?

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Oh, sir, I would like very much to see a balance of power, but may I suggest that we have a role to

play there with the British and the French, and ourselves and the United Nations, rather than having two antagonists standing at each other's borders ready to go at each other's throats.

Let's have some international control in the area, rather than an outburst of nationalism.

MR. NOVINS: Thank you very much, Senator Humphrey, for coming here to Face The Nation today.

And thanks also to today's panel of newsmen:

To Robert E. Lee, of the St. Paul Pioneer Press & Dispatch;

To Charles Cleveland, of the Chicago Daily News; and

John Madigan, of Newsweek.

This is Stuart Novins. We invite you to join us again next week for another edition of Face The Nation.

Our program today originated in the studios of WBEM Television, CBS, in Chicago.

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Produced by Ted Ayers.

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