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TRANSCRIPT OF RADIO TAPE OF SENATOR MIKE MANSFIELD

Great Falls, Montana
October 20, 1952

The following broadcast is a paid political program, paid for by the "Mike Mansfield for Senator Club." And now, Mike Mansfield.

My fellow Montanans, this is Mike Mansfield speaking. I am talking to you tonight from my own hometown of Great Falls, where I was raised and where my folks still live. In my campaign for senator, I am meeting and talking for the first time with a lot of my fellow Montanans outside of the western district, which I have represented in Congress for ten years, so I feel that I should tell you something about myself and my personal background. Later on, I will tell you how I have been trying to help Montana and how I hope to keep trying to help Montana if you see fit to elect me to the Senate.

But first, I want to tell you how Montana has helped me. While I was living in Great Falls, and before I finished the eighth grade, I ran away from home and joined the Navy. I was fourteen years old at the time and I stayed in the Navy for the duration of World War I. After nineteen months of service, I was honorably discharged and I then joined the Army and later the Marine Corps. As a Marine, I obtained my highest rank in five years of military service when I became a PFC. After I was honorably discharged from the Marines, I came back to Montana and got a job mucking in the Butte mines. In 1927, I applied for admission to the Montana School of Mines, which is the highest ranking mining school in the world. They would accept me only as a special student because I had not finished the eighth grade or gone to high school. I worked at the School of Mines for one year. At the same time, I worked night shift

October 20, 1952

Page 2

The next four years, until 1931, I worked as a miner's sampler and mining engineer. In 1931 Montana, like the rest of the United States, was faced with the Depression, and I am sure most of you listening tonight remember those bitter days. I was working in the mines on a two weeks on and two weeks off basis. I decided I was getting nowhere so I enrolled in Montana State University as a special student. Thanks to the kindness and the understanding of the University faculty and the faculty of Missoula County High School, I was able finally to pass my high school entrance examination, and I graduated from the University in 1933 at the age of 30. I then applied for either of two teaching positions which were open at the time and which paid, respectively, 75 and 80 dollars a month. My heart was broken when I did not get either one. I talked over with my wife the predicament we were in and she cashed what little insurance she had to keep us going. I can assure you that, what I know about the Depression, I did not learn from books. One of my professors offered me a graduate assistantship in history and political science. My salary was 25 dollars a month for ten months. The next year I became a regular member of the faculty and taught at the University for nine years until I was elected to Congress in 1942. I have gone into all of this detail about my personal life not to remind you of the Depression years because those are, I hope, forever behind us. I have told you of this because I want you to know how helpful the people of Montana have been to me down through all the years. I want you to know how appreciative I am---the first born son, American born, of immigrant parents---of the many fine things Montana has done for me and for mine.

October 20, 1952

Page 3

In 1942, when you first elected me to Congress, you accepted me on faith. I have now been Montana's Congressman ten years. I have worked for you, everyone of you, irrespective of your politics or your Congressional district, to the best of my ability. When you wrote to me in Washington, I never asked, as you know, whether you were a Republican, a Democrat, or an independent, but I did do all I could to comply with your request. You and I know that in these past ten years since I went to Congress for the first time, our great state of Montana has at last come into its own. I am proud of the part I have played to bring the future down to the present. I am proud of the Mansfield bill authorizing the great Hungry Horse Dam. I am happy also to have played my part in the authorization and appropriations which have built and are building the Havre, Shelby lines; the Bonneville lines; and the Tiber, Libby, Canyon Ferry and Missouri projects. I take pleasure, for instance, in the fact that I was able to have the Great Falls air base retained as a permanent base after the war. When the Department of Defense canceled out Great Falls, I, personally, went to the late, great Jim Forrestall, my friend. I remember I persuaded him to rescind his orders which would have closed the Great Falls air base for good. Looking over the number of projects for Montana on which I have worked, it is with pride that I recall tapering the President of the United States when he was abroad after the war to get him to approve the establishment of the Veterans Hospital at Miles City instead of western North Dakota, as had been originally planned. All of these projects have meant new vigor and new vitality for Montana. It is just as important as the fact that in their wake has come what Montana needs

October 20, 1952

Page 4

more than anything else---new industry.

Hungry Horse Dam meant cheap electric power, and cheap power always attracts new industry. That is why a huge new aluminum plant is rising in the Flathead. That is why the Diamond Match Company plant is at Superior, and why the Victor Chemical Company now operates at Silver Bow. All of these new industries mean payrolls, new profits and new money which add greatly to the expanding economy of Montana. I want more public power developed so that the potential ten million kilowatts of energy in western Montana can be used to bring into our state even more industry, to create more jobs for all of the people of this state. There is room, plenty of room, for both public and private power to develop so that no one will be hurt and everyone will benefit. I am indeed proud of the REA's in Montana and of the work I have done in Washington to bring them here. The REA's have done ~~much~~ for our ranchers and for the people in our smaller towns. We have already come a long way in the REA program, but I will not be content until we are one-hundred per cent electrified instead of the present seventy-four per cent. Now, that is the Mansfield record on public power and REA.

While we are on the subject, let me ask my opponent where he stands on public power and the REA. Well, his voting record shows he has never in six years cast one favorably vote for REA. If you examine my voting record over the past ten years, you will know that I voted for and fought for all Social Security for the aged, the blind and the needy. Also, my record in behalf of the Veterans, the Veterans of all wars, speaks for itself. As an ex-enlisted GI myself, I had the honor to introduce and work for the passage of legislation in their behalf.

October 20, 1952

Page 5

I think the farmers of Montana already know that I stand for one-hundred per cent farm parity and, since they do, I won't emphasize it tonight. The farmers know this because they know that I am the only Congressman who introduced the bill for one-hundred per cent parity in this Congress. Do you think it is unfair to ask where my opponent stands on farm parity?

Now, let's talk about corruption in government and efficiency in government. Let's look at the Mansfield record. I have introduced legislation and fought in Congress to take postmasters, collectors of internal revenue and Customs collectors out of patronage and to put them on a merit and fitness basis. Now my opponent talks a good game against corruption and for efficiency in government. Well, why doesn't he tell you why he voted against the Hoover Commission recommendation to put these postmasters, Internal Revenue collectors, and Customs collectors under Civil Service. I hope you will compare his words and my actions on this particular issue as on everything else. I have voted for all of the Hoover Reorganization Commission proposals except as they apply to Veterans hospitals. Where does my opponent stand on the Hoover Commission? I have introduced a bill which provides that all Senators, Congressmen and public officials must make public their outside income every year. How does he stand on this? I have introduced a bill to amend the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and to reform the Federal election procedure, so that we will know exactly who financially supports our candidates for Federal office and how much those candidates spend. Some of you may have seen the article in "Collier's" magazine a few weeks ago which discussed the Mansfield Bill. Where does my opponent stand

October 20, 1952

Page 6

on the Mansfield Bill against election corruption?

The next big step which Montana must take if we are to continue our phenomenal advance into the future is to reform the present freight rate structure. Every Montana businessman knows that Montana is discriminated against in freight rates. They are unfair, inequitable, and they keep down and, in fact, out of Montana, small business. If you elect me to the Senate, I shall go to work on the revision of Montana freight rates, Montana's economic problem, No. 1. Before concluding, I want to say just a few words to you about the desperate men.

These desperate men are found in every one of the forty-eight states. They are frustrated politicians for the most part because they have been out of power for a long, long time. They have not received the confidence of the American people since the Depression of the '30's. In Montana, as in every other state, they began the campaign of 1952 with high and dear hopes. These hopes are slowly and bitterly turning to ashes, and they know it. In their desperation and in their frustration I want to warn you tonight that they will say anything about anyone. You will hear charges against Governor Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic candidate for President. You will hear these desperate men attack every Democratic candidate for office in Montana, including me. You know these charges have a familiar ring. They were made against President Roosevelt for fourteen years. You have heard the same old stuff about Mike Mansfield for ten years. It has never fooled you before. Don't let them fool you this time. With defeat staring them in the face, they will resort to every trick in the book. Don't let them scare you.

October 20, 1952
Page 7

Now, for example, my opponent has recently tried to line me up with, and I quote him, "Acheson, Hiss, and Lattimore." I don't even know Hiss and Lattimore, but as for Acheson embarrassing me, my opponent has a boomerang in his hand. Let's look at the printed Congressional Record. He, not I, endorsed Acheson, and I can prove it. I have before me as I talk to you a copy of the Congressional Record of the date of January 18, 1949. On Page 479 you will find the Roll Call vote of the United States Senate on the confirmation of the nomination of Acheson as Secretary of State. You will note that my opponent voted for the confirmation of Acheson. Let me ask again who endorsed who? My opponent has been going through Montana saying that he is against Communism. Well, he talks against it but what has he done about it in six years? Has he voted to build up the strength of the United States armed forces and those of our allies throughout the free world as I did? No, he has just talked. Has he voted to outlaw the Communist Party in the United States? Mike Mansfield has introduced legislation in the House to outlaw the Communist Party in this country, but I have not read anywhere yet that my opponent has introduced this legislation in the Senate, or is even in favor of it. I have voted for the McCarran Act to restrict and to weed out immigrants with a subversive intent, and I have voted for the Mutt-Nixon bill against Communism, and both of these have become law. But equally important, I have voted to make America strong through its military might and to strengthen the military might of our allies. Look at my opponent's voting record on military aid, and there you will see in black and white who the appeaser of Communism is.

October 20, 1952

Page 8

Last year I was selected by the U. S. government to go to the United Nations Assembly in Paris to debate against Vichinsky, the notorious foreign minister of the Soviet Union, that same arrogant man who stands in New York state thundering against the free nations of the world. I think most of you listening tonight will remember yet how that debate in Paris came out. It is true that Vichinsky lost his temper and shook his fist at me and called me a Montana miner and lumberjack. He thought this was a crushing Russian insult because he didn't know that in Montana both of these occupations are badges of honor. I am proud that I have been a Butte miner and that I have been a lumber jack and it is just too bad if Vichinsky doesn't like it. But the people of Montana should know that, before going to the United Nations to debate Vichinsky, I had to be confirmed by the United States Senate including my opponent. The Senate vote to confirm Mike Mansfield was 84-0. My opponent voted for me and every other Republican senator on the floor that day as well. I appreciate the confidence my opponent and his Republican colleagues placed in me by their vote and hope that the praise I received from the Nation's newspapers, the world press, and the people of Montana will be sufficient reward for all of those Republican senators for their vote of confidence. I am grateful, also, for the special resolution passed by the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee on February 19, 1952, when I returned to Washington after my fight with Vichinsky, Democrats and Republicans alike joined in the resolution of thanks, and I quote, "for distinguished services U. S. delegate to the United Nations."

October 20, 1952

Page 9

I was one of three Americans who on May 28, 1951, received a meritorious service award of the Marine Corps League. The other two were Senator Paul Douglas and Congressman Jimmy Debrone, the hero of Wake Island. This award was granted in the following language: "In appreciation and gratitude for distinguished services in the United States of America, the U. S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League." I am proud to be the author, along with Senator Douglas in this last term of Congress, of the law which provides that the Marine Corps shall have a minimum strength of three divisions and three air wings. There is nothing in my life that has given me so much satisfaction as my five years in the fighting services of my country, and I am proud to be numbered among the thousands of fellow Montanans who have shared that honor and that privilege.

This is Mike Mansfield saying "So long and good night."