

# MANSFIELD SEES A 2D NIXON TERM

Says Democrats Lack Man  
Who Can Win, Though the  
President Is "in Trouble"  
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By WARREN WEAVER Jr.  
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WASHINGTON, July 10 —

Senator Mike Mansfield, the Democratic leader of the Senate, predicted today that President Nixon would win re-election in 1972, as things now appear, despite foreign and domestic problems.

"The chances are in his favor," the Montana Democrat said. "We haven't come forward with a candidate of stature who could match him. Of course, what may happen in two years I don't know. But as of now his chances are better than any Democrat's."

Senator Mansfield made the political assessment despite his expressed belief that Mr. Nixon is "in trouble" domestically and has the country "in up to our necks" in Cambodia, even after the withdrawal of troops.

"The best man we have at the present time is Ed Muskie," the Senator told a group of reporters over breakfast, "but you have to get out around the

Continued on Page 10, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

country and develop charisma and charm and a following. He has all these things but not in enough degree at this time."

Mr. Mansfield disposed fairly abruptly of the two other Democrats generally regarded as major contenders for the 1972 nomination, former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

"Hubert has lost his platform, and he needs to re-establish himself," the Senator said of the 1968 Presidential candidate, who is now running for the Senate in Minnesota. "I don't think he can come back in a two-year period enough to catch Muskie"

The Montanan said he believed that Senator Kennedy had been "always out" as far as the 1972 nomination was concerned, even before the Chappaquiddick accident. He is fully occupied with running for re-election in Massachusetts, Mr. Mansfield said, "and I don't think he's looking beyond that election at this time."

Although not optimistic over his prospects, Senator Mansfield expressed strong support for Mr. Muskie as a national candidate. Had the Maine Senator headed the ticket in 1968, he said, the party might have beaten Mr. Nixon.

## Domestic Trouble

Mr. Mansfield said the President was in trouble domestically "because his program hasn't stopped unemployment or reduced inflation or cut the cost of living."

As for Vietnam, the Senator said President Nixon had told him privately that he intended to "get out" before his term expired at the end of 1972. Senator Mansfield said he believed that the President meant "all out, air cover, support troops, everything."

"I know the President would give anything to get out and put this thing behind him," Mr. Mansfield observed.

With respect to Cambodia, the Senator said, "Indirectly, we're still involved, in up to our necks."

This involvement, he explained, consists of the presence of South Vietnamese troops, United States advisers, United States logistic and air support and a fivefold increase in our military mission in Phnompenh.