

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Fellow Delegate:

Providence surely must look kindly on our Democratic party when you consider that in this time of the nation's greatest need for leadership, we are so richly endowed with superior candidates.

Many of us have committed ourselves to a particular candidate, or otherwise have expressed or now harbor a preference. I sincerely hope you will not consider my writing this letter presumptuous and an imposition. I feel it important to express my thoughts to my fellow delegates who share this most important responsibility to select the leader of the free world----it is no less than that. Perhaps this will be my only opportunity to express myself directly to you.

First, let me say that I am pledged to my truly great Governor Edmund G. Brown, and to me he is more than a favorite son. His most remarkable record of accomplishment as Governor, and his demonstrated willingness to place humane considerations above political considerations, speak with great force and clearly establish that he is superbly qualified to lead the nation. If it should appear at any time that he has an appreciable chance for the nomination, I will do all in my power to bring about his nomination.

Governor Brown does not present himself as a serious candidate at this time, therefore I search among the serious contenders for the man we can reasonably conclude is most likely to rise to the demands of the Presidency in these times and to the requirements of a successful candidate of the Democratic Party. In the conscientious pursuit of that task, I collected material on each person prominently mentioned.

I have come to the solid conclusion that Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri stands conspicuously above all others when all elements are taken into account.

When I made that decision I never had met him nor even discussed him with the few mutual acquaintances we had in the Congress. I went strictly on the record. For me, his truly remarkable record overshadowed such rumored inadequacies as a lack of forcefulness as a speaker and an inability to project as a personality. Anyone who has heard him or been subject to his presence, either in person or on television, can testify that he is a most effective speaker and can communicate on the same wave length as the man in the street. His warmth, graciousness and friendliness are most unpretentious and winning.

In short, he's got it.

Since coming to know the Senator, I become increasingly confirmed in my original findings. His values are our values. He was raised close to the people in a humble home, but a home rich in appreciation of learning. His father, being more interested in building greater values than bank accounts, served as a college professor until he had to become a lawyer to support his family of six children. Borrowed (and repaid) money saw Stuart Symington through a liberal education at Yale.

He is deeply intellectual, in the truest sense, by native intelligence and cultural exposure at home and in school. He is a man of the people by being of and with them and knowing their problems for having lived with them--- to me an irreplaceable and indispensable requirement.

Physically he has the stature and the striking handsomeness one symbolically associates with character and leadership. Put a striped top hat and swallow tail coat on him and he is the living embodiment of Uncle Sam.

But infinitely more important than the physical appearance is his phenomenal record of accomplishments in the Executive Branch of the government and in private business. His innate fairness has won him the admiration and support of broad sections of management and labor. He is completely unregional and demands great respect and substantial following in all sections of the country. The Senator is an unequalled, proven vote-getter in the critical "balance" area of the midwest.

Mr. Nixon has two principle weapons in his arsenal: first, a line of innuendos suggesting less than perfect loyalty and lack of firmness in dealing with Communism, and all the old noxious Nixon routines; second, the myth carefully nurtured by the Administration that the wiggly Whittierite is the best trained man for the job.


When applied to Senator Symington, how silly they sound.

Indeed, if Mr. Nixon has the political astuteness with which he is credited (and how else could so little go so far) he will abandon these weapons against Senator Symington for fear of a backfire of resentment and ridicule.

Senator Symington is a winner.

Stuart Symington----in all capacities, private and public, and against mighty and contrary influences, political and economic----has remained absolutely true to the principles----and to the organization----of the Democratic Party. He can lead a united party to victory in November, and he is the big man for the big job in the White House.

Respectfully,


George A. Kasem
Nixon's Congressman