

What happens to all the Surplus Food?

Big farmers in this country produce so much food that they cannot get the prices they want for it.

So the United States Department of Agriculture's Marketing Service buys surplus food from the rich farmers. This makes the rich farmers even richer. They can buy more farm machines and hire fewer day laborers. They can do away with their tenants and sharecroppers.

The surplus food is then supposed to be given to poor people through the commodity program.



President Johnson's administration tells us this is part of his "Great Society" program.

Poor people ask "is this the way a Great Society works?" Without jobs poor people get poorer. Food only helps them stay alive and poorer longer.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL THE SURPLUS FOOD?

In our state the Department of Public Welfare in Jackson tells each county to decide whether or not poor people should get that food.

How does the country decide whether poor people should get this food? Do they ask the poor people?

Who elected the people to make the decisions for the country? The poor people? Negro people?

In everyone of our state's 82 counties there are five beats. In each beat there is one supervisor. That supervisor sits with other supervisors on what is called a County Board of Supervisors.

There are no Poor People who are supervisors
There are no Negro People who are supervisors

There are 82 counties in Mississippi.

20 Mississippi counties voted against having the food commodity program.

Many counties decided that only people on welfare should get commodities.

Other counties decided that poor people should receive commodities only in the winter.

Is there a way to force the County to take part in the commodity program?

And is there a way to stop welfare agents from denying food to people who need it because of their color or their civil rights activities?

