

JACK ANDERSON and JOSEPH SPEAR

405,442 Ask: Who Killed JFK?

By an overwhelming vote, 405,442 troubled Americans have delivered a dramatic mandate to President-elect George Bush. They want to reopen a chapter of history that the late President Lyndon B. Johnson tried to close.

Seldom in the history of telephone polling have so many Americans made toll calls at their own expense. They don't accept the Warren Commission's verdict; they want Bush to determine who really murdered President John F. Kennedy.

That was their response to our televised report on the Kennedy assassination.

They sent the next president a clear message: A resounding 405,422 callers voted to set the record straight; only 6,598 voted to accept the Warren Commission's findings. If the lid is lifted, it will embarrass some prominent people and powerful institutions. Here are some of those who want to continue the cover-up:

- Fidel Castro. If Bush will appoint an independent commission to review the case, we will present our evidence that the Cuban premier triggered the Kennedy assassination in retaliation for attempts on his own life. Castro learned from the late Santo Trafficante, Mafia boss of the Cuban underworld, that the Central Intelligence Agency was sending Mafia hit teams to eliminate him. So Castro recruited Trafficante to turn the Mafia's guns against Kennedy.

- The CIA. We can prove that the late Central Intelligence Agency Director Allen Dulles proposed the assassination of Castro as early as December 1959. The following year he directed the CIA to

strike a deal with the Mafia to liquidate Castro. Six hit teams disappeared before the CIA discovered that Trafficante had double-crossed them and was feeding warnings to Castro. After Kennedy was gunned down in Dallas in 1963, the CIA reported to the new president, Lyndon B. Johnson, that the plot to kill Castro had backfired against Kennedy.

- The Warren Commission. We can show that the Warren Commission covered up the terrible truth. Johnson—fearful that the truth would incite retaliation against Castro and precipitate a war—appointed Dulles to the commission. As the instigator of the plot that backfired, he could be counted on to suppress the incriminating facts. The other distinguished commission members depended on the Federal Bureau of Investigation for their information. The FBI was tightly controlled by its dictatorial director, the late J. Edgar Hoover, who for years was Johnson's neighbor.

- The FBI. Documents in our possession prove that the FBI had learned enough about the CIA's attempts on Castro's life to suspect, at least, that the conspiracy had backfired against Kennedy. Not only were these suspicions withheld from the Warren Commission, but other incriminating evidence was suppressed.

- The Kennedy family. We can demonstrate that the late Robert F. Kennedy may have triggered his brother's assassination. As President Kennedy's personal watchdog over the CIA, Robert participated in the decision to use the Mafia to liquidate Castro. He was devastated by the CIA report that this decision had brought retaliation against his brother.