

The Harris Survey

Kennedy Plot Theory Gains

By LOUIS HARRIS

FOR the first time since the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963, a sizable majority of the American people (66 percent) believe that the shooting was not the work of one man but was part of a broader plot.

Within the past 60 days, public confidence in the Warren Commission report has been eroded nearly by half. Seven out of every 10 Americans are convinced that there are still many

important unanswered questions."

A major contributor to this swelling doubt is the investigation into the assassination by the New Orleans district attorney, Jim Garrison. Nearly two of three persons say they have been following the events. Among these there is an even division of opinion on the merits of the (Garrison inquiry: 45 percent believe it will shed new light on the assassination, while 46 percent think not much will come of it. All in all, one American in

four has been converted to a belief in the conspiracy theory charged in the New Orleans inquiry. One in three of the less educated and one in five of the better educated have changed their minds.

From the beginning the group most prone to criticize the findings of the Warren Commission and to believe the assassination was part of a broader conspiracy has been the less well educated, low-income segment of the population.

Although only half of those in this group have followed Garrison's activities, they have been most inclined to believe his charges. Persons under 35 are more likely than their elders to suspect that Lee Harvey Oswald was not alone in the killing.

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D. A. to Defer Plot Arrests

NEW YORK, May 28 (AP).

—New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison said Sunday that he is "going to have to defer any further arrests" in his probe of the assassination of President Kennedy.

But he added that "there will be other arrests and they will probably be before the trial" of Clay L. Shaw, New Orleans businessman accused by Garrison of participating in a conspiracy to kill Mr. Kennedy.

No date has been set for the Shaw trial.

Garrison appeared on the ABC radio-television program "Issues and Answers."

The conspiracy, Garrison said, included Lee Harvey Oswald, Shaw and the late David W. Ferrie, also of New Orleans. Garrison has said also there was a link between Oswald and Jack Ruby.

Table

Changed Opinions

Here are Harris Survey findings after interviewing cross-sections of the public on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of it:

One Man or Broader Plot?

	May '67 Percent	Feb. '67 Percent	Sept. '66 Percent
Part of a broader plot	66	44	46
Work of one man	19	35	34
Not sure	15	21	20

	Plot Percent	One Man Percent	Not Sure Percent
Nation-wide	66	19	15
By age			
Under 35	70	15	15
35 - 49	65	21	14
50 and over	65	18	17
By education			
Grade school or less	71	13	16
High school	69	15	16
College	57	30	13

Garrison Investigation

Followed			Percent
Not followed			64
			36
	Little Shed Light Percent	Little Come of It Percent	Not Sure Percent
Of those who followed it:	45	46	9
By education			
8th grade or less	46	40	14
High school	48	44	8
College	39	54	7