Only a few say Oswald acted alone

American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N.J. — As the House Select Committee on Assassinations begins its investigations, the overwhelming majority of Americans believes that others besides Lee Harvey Oswald were involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Nov. 22, 1963.

In the latest survey, just completed, only 11 per cent think Oswald acted alone.

Approximately one-half of the survey respondents who believe others were involved did not name a specific group. Among those who did, however, Cuba or Castro were mentioned most often. Other responses frequently given are "the Mafia," "Communists," and the CIA.

The same survey also shows that few

Americans believe James Earl Ray acted on his own in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, April 4, 1968.

One week after the Kennedy assassination, a large majority of Americans expressed doubts that Oswald had acted alone.

The question asked in three surveys:

"Do you think one man was responsible for the assassination of President Kennedy, or do you think others were involved?"

The trend:

KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

| | One | Others | No |
|----------------|------|----------|---------|
| 1904 Paris | Man- | Involved | Opinion |
| November, 1963 | 29% | 52% | 19% |
| January, 1967 | 36 | 50 | 14 |
| December, 1976 | 11 | 80 | 9 |

This question was also asked:

"Here is a question about the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King. Do you think one man was responsible for the assassination of Martin Luther King, or do you think others were involved?"

The results:

KING ASSASSINATION

| | | | | . ' | |
|-----------|------|-----|----------|---------|--|
| • | | One | Others | No | |
| | | Man | Involved | Opinion | |
| December, | 1976 | 18% | 69% | 13% | |