

The Harris Survey Post 3/6/67

Public Has Doubts on Warren Report But Opposes Reopening of Probe

By Louis Harris

Public doubts about the Warren Commission report on the assassination of President Kennedy persist. By a 59-to-30 per cent margin, Americans are convinced that there is more to the story.

But in a survey taken shortly before reports of new evidence uncovered by New Orleans authorities, the public expressed resignation that the whole story would never be known and little would be gained by further inquiry.

By 2 to 1, the American public is against reopening the Warren Commission investigation.

Public certainty that Lee

Harvey Oswald shot the President remains at 70 per cent. Those who believe he did voted 44 to 35 per cent in favor of the theory that Oswald was part of a broader plot rather than acting on his own.

Last September and again last month, a cross section of the public was asked:

"From what you have read, do you feel the full story of the Kennedy assassination was reported in the Warren Commission report, or do you think there are still a lot of unanswered questions about who killed President Kennedy and how it was done?"

DID WARREN COMMISSION TELL FULL STORY?

	Feb. 1967	Sept. 1966
Full story told	30%	32%
Still unanswered questions	59	54
Not sure	11	14

Of the points questioned about the Warren report, the establishment of Oswald as the killer was most believed by the public. People were asked in both surveys:

"Do you believe or not that Lee Harvey Oswald was the

man who shot President Kennedy?"

WAS OSWALD THE ASSASSIN?

	Feb. 1967	Sept. 1966
Was assassin	70%	69%
Was not	7	3
Not sure	23	28

People also were asked:

"Do you feel the Kennedy assassination was the work of one man or was it part of a broader plot?"

ONE MAN OR A BROADER PLOT?

	Feb. 1967	Sept. 1966
One man did it	33%	34%
Part of broader plot	44	46
Not sure	21	20

In the face of these doubts, the public stands fast in its determination not to have the Warren Commission investigation reopened. The cross section was asked:

"Do you think the Warren Commission investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy should be reopened or would you be opposed to that?"

REOPENING WARREN COMMISSION INVESTIGATION

Should be reopened	27%
Don't reopen	58
Not sure	15

© 1967. The Washington Post Co.