

Poll Shows British View of Watergate

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Awareness of the Watergate case is nearly as widespread in Great Britain as in the U. S., with 90 per cent in the United Kingdom saying they have heard or read about Watergate compared to 86 per cent in the U. S.

In addition, the views of the British public regarding President Nixon's involve-

ment in the Watergate situation closely mirror the views of the American people.

Nearly half of the British interviewed (48 per cent) say they think President Nixon knew in advance about the Watergate bugging, while 20 per cent feel he did not; 32 per cent have no opinion.

A comparable proportion of Americans (46 per cent) share the British view that

Mr. Nixon had prior awareness of the bugging. A somewhat greater proportion of Americans than British say he did not know but it should be borne in mind that the "no opinion" percentage is approximately twice as large in Great Britain as here.

Comparable majorities in both nations (56 per cent) hold the view that Mr. Nixon participated in a coverup of the Watergate situation. Again, the proportion hold-

ing the opposite view is higher in the U.S. than in Great Britain. About three in ten (28 per cent) of Americans say the President did not participate in a coverup, compared to 16 per cent in Great Britain. As in the case of the previous question, the "no opinion" category is about twice as high among the British as among the American public.

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