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X NEW YORK AP - Newsweek magazine says a telephone poll of more than 500 Americans shows 51 per cent think J. Edgar Hoover should retire as head of the FBI, but 80 per cent gave the FBI a "favorable" rating.

X The poll results showed 70 per cent of those polled by the Gallup organization for Newsweek thought Hoover had done a "good" or "excellent" job as FBI chief. Forty-one per cent said he should remain in office.

Newsweek said the poll showed that 46 per cent thought political protesters are not being dealt with strongly enough, as compared with 21 per cent who believe protesters rights are not being respected.

Forty-two per cent thought the FBI hasn't done enough investigation of political and protest groups and 29 per cent were satisfied with FBI efforts in that direction.

Twenty-five per cent thought the FBI had gone too far in wire-tapping and bugging, while 35 per cent thought the amount of such activities is "about right."

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