

# ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY

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*'As Commission Prepares to Investigate . . .'*

# Majority in Survey Believe Oswald Did Not Act on His Own

### Think Group, Other Individuals May Be Involved, but Few Make Mention of Any Specific Group

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PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 5 — The need for such a commission as President Johnson has now set up to investigate the assassination of John F. Kennedy is revealed by widespread fears that Lee Harvey Oswald did not act on his own.

A Gallup Poll just completed shows a majority of the American public holding the view that some group or element — or other individual — was also involved in the assassination. Another 19 per cent express uncertainty. Only about a third of those persons interviewed think the assassination was the act of a single person alone.

President Johnson recently named a top-level seven-man commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, to try to bring to light all the facts surrounding the tragic death of President Kennedy.

In interviews that began on Tuesday following Kennedy's death — and the subsequent murder of the accused assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, by Jack Ruby, a Dallas night club owner — the Gallup Poll asked this question of adults across the nation:

*"Do you think that the man who shot Kennedy acted on his own, or was some group or element also responsible?"*

The results:  
Assassin acted  
on his own . . . . . 29%  
Some group or element  
also responsible . . . . . 52  
Uncertain . . . . . 19

#### Few Mention Specific Groups

While the initial reaction to the President's murder may have led some persons to believe that an extremist group was behind the assassination, the survey results show that very few people at present single out any specific group.

Only about one person in a hundred thinks Russia, Cuba, or

"the communists" may have been involved in the assassination. Almost no one mentions the "extreme right", or segregationists, as responsible.

#### Plot Is Deeper

While about a third of the public blames the death of Kennedy on the deranged and depraved mind of a single man, there are many more who are dissatisfied with such a conclusion.

Of those who think the plot may be deeper than has yet come to light, views vary all the way from the belief that the assassination was part of a major conspiracy to persons who think the assassin was hired by another person to carry out his ends.

#### Jack Ruby

Some question the part in the events played by Jack Ruby, who shot and killed Oswald almost exactly two days after the death of Kennedy.

Others are disturbed about reports that Oswald displayed a wealth not in keeping with his meager salary.

Whatever the beliefs and fears of Americans at this time, one thing is clear — the whole nation is awaiting any answers that the newly-formed commission will be able to provide regarding the tragic events of recent days.

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#### NOTE TO EDITORS

On Tuesday, following the late President Kennedy's State Funeral, the Gallup Poll assigned its nationwide staff of interviewers to begin to measure the effect of recent tragic events on the political scene.

Interviewing has now been completed and results will be released in the near future.