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7th July 1989

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Y. J. [unclear]

Dear Mr. Lox-Bond,

MONTHLY POLLING REVIEW MAY/JUNE 1989

I attach a copy of the latest CCO monthly polling review - this covers the period May/June.

The normal monthly publication schedule has been disrupted as a result of the European Elections campaign. We will revert to a monthly polling review commencing with the August issue.

The review provides a selective summary of material on public opinion. We have available at CCO a range of further background material - please contact me if any further analyses are likely to be of interest.

Y. J. [unclear],
D. K. Britto

D K BRITTO, OBE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY POLLING REVIEW

MAY/JUNE 1989

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MONTHLY POLLING REVIEW
MAY/JUNE 1989

1. VOTING INTENTION - LATEST POLLS

Since the European Elections we have had two published opinion polls - Harris (Observer) and MORI (Sunday Times). The Harris poll (conducted 21/22 June) found a 14% Labour lead over the Conservatives and MORI (conducted 22/27 June) a 10% Labour lead.

Details together with comparative figures from approximately the same point in the 1979-1983 and 1983-1987 Parliaments are given below:-

Latest Polls and Campaign with 1983-1987 and 1979-1983

	<u>Latest Polls 1989</u>		<u>1983-1987</u>		<u>1979-1983</u>	
	<u>MORI</u> 22-27 June	<u>Harris</u> 21-22 June	<u>Gallup</u> <u>May</u> 1985	<u>Gallup</u> <u>June</u> 1985	<u>Gallup</u> <u>May</u> 1981	<u>Gallup</u> <u>June</u> 1981
Conservative	37.0	34.0	30.5	34.5	32.0	29.5
Labour	47.0	48.0	34.0	34.5	35.5	37.5
Greens	7.0	8.0	-	-	-	-
SLD	4.0	6.0	33.5	30.0 (Lib/SDP)	29.0	30.5
SDP	3.0	2.0				
Nationalists	-	2.0	-	-	-	-
Others	2.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	3.5	2.5
Conservative Lead	-10.0	-14.0	-3.5	0.0	-3.5	-8.0

At approximately the same point into the 1979-1983 and 1983-1987 Parliaments the electorate was split between the Conservatives, Labour and the SDP/Liberals - with the SDP/Liberals being supported by nearly one third of the electorate. In May 1985 Labour had a 3.5% lead over the Conservatives - 34.0% of the electorate said they would vote Labour, 33.5% for the SDP/Liberals and 30.5% Conservative. By June 1985 Gallup found the Labour and Conservative parties 'neck and neck', in July 1985 Labour had a 10.5% lead over the Conservatives and in August a 16% lead. In May 1981 Labour had a 3.5% lead over the Conservatives - 35.5% of the electorate claimed they would vote Labour, 32.0% Conservatives and 29.9% SDP/Liberal. By June 1981 Gallup found Labour with a 8% lead, in July they had a 10.5% lead, and in August a 10.5% lead.

The table below shows the average of the polls published in May and June 1989, the results from the Gallup analysis of all their polls conducted in May and the results of the latest two published polls. The results of the Gallup analysis for June will be published in early July.

Current Political Position

	<u>Average</u> <u>June Polls</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>May Polls</u>	<u>Gallup</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Analysis</u> <u>May 1989</u>	<u>Harris</u> <u>21-22</u> <u>June</u>	<u>MORI</u> <u>22-27</u> <u>June</u>
Conservative	36.5	42.5	40.9	34.0	37.0
Labour	45.0	42.5	40.8	48.0	47.0
Greens	5.0	-	5.5	8.0	7.0
SLD	6.5	7.0	8.8	6.0	4.0
SDP	3.0	3.0	4.0	2.0	3.0
Nationalists	-	-	-	2.0	-
Others	4.0	5.0	-	0.0	2.0
Conservative Lead	-8.5	0.0	+0.1	-14.0	-10.0

The Gallup analysis of all the polls they conducted in May found the Conservatives and Labour parties 'neck and neck' - this analysis was confirmed by our analysis of all polls conducted in May which also found the parties 'neck and neck'. Our analysis of the polls conducted in June found a 8.5% Labour lead.

Monthly Average - Voting Intention

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number of Polls</u>	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>SLD</u>	<u>SDP</u>	<u>Green</u>	<u>Conservative lead over Labour</u>
December 1988	5	44.0	36.0	9.0	5.5		+8.0
January 1989	6	45.0	37.0	9.5	4.5		+8.5
February 1989	8	41.0	38.5	9.5	6.0		+2.5
March 1989	5	41.5	39.5	8.0	6.0		+2.0
April 1989	6	42.0	39.0	9.0	6.0		+3.0
May 1989	5	42.5	42.5	7.0	3.0		0.0
June 1989	4	36.5	45.0	6.5	3.0	5.0	-8.5

The clear Conservative lead found in our monthly average of all polls in January gradually fell until by May the analysis showed the Conservatives and Labour parties 'neck and neck' and in June the analysis showed Labour with a 8.5% lead. SLD and SDP support has dropped since January - in the case of the SDP from an average support level in January of 9% to 6.5% in June and the case of the SLD from 5.5% in January to 3.0%. Until May/June the polling companies did not record seperately support for the Greens - the average of the polls in June found them with 5% - ahead of the SDP (3%) and only just behind the SLD (6.5%).

Full details of all published polls (and polls published privately by polling companies) since the start of January 1989 are shown in the table below:-

National Polls Since January 1989

<u>Polling Company</u>	<u>Published In</u>	<u>Fieldwork Dates</u>	<u>Con</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>SLD</u>	<u>SDP</u>	<u>Green</u>	<u>Conservative Lead Over Labour</u>
GALLUP	D.Telegraph	12-16 Jan	42.5	34.0	14.0	5.5		+ 8.5
ICM	Guardian	13-16 Jan	44.0	40.0	8.0	4.0		+ 4.0
Harris	Observer	18-23 Jan	47.0	37.0	10.0	4.0		+10.0
NOP	Unpublished	18-23 Jan	46.0	34.0	10.0	3.0		+12.0
MORI	S.Times	26-30 Jan	47.0	36.0	8.0	5.0		+11.0
ASL*	Unpublished	27-29 Jan	44.0	39.0	8.0	5.0		+ 5.0
GALLUP	D.Telegraph	9-13 Feb	40.5	39.0	11.5	4.5		+ 1.5
ICM	Guardian	10-11 Feb	42.0	39.0	7.0	7.0		+ 3.0
ASL*	Unpublished	15-20 Feb	44.0	35.0	7.0	11.0		+ 9.0
GALLUP	S.Telegraph	15-20 Feb	39.0	39.0	11.5	4.5		0
HARRIS	Observer	22-23 Feb	41.0	42.0	10.0	3.0		- 1.0
MORI	S.Times	23-28 Feb	42.0	39.0	9.0	7.0		+ 3.0
MORI	Nat.Mutual	27-28 Feb	42.0	41.0	8.0	4.0		+ 1.0
MORI	BBC	3-4 March	41.0	37.0	9.0	9.0		+ 4.0
ICM	Guardian	10-13 March	41.0	39.0	8.0	7.0		+ 2.0
MORI	S.Times	15-19 March	44.0	40.0	8.0	6.0		+ 4.0
MORI	S.Times	16-17 March	41.0	40.0	9.0	6.0		+ 1.0
HARRIS	Observer	22-23 March	41.0	41.0	9.0	3.0		0
GALLUP	D.Telegraph	29 Mar-2 Apr	37.5	40.0	10.0	8.0		- 2.5
ICM	Guardian	7-8 April	44.0	40.0	7.0	6.0		+ 4.0
HARRIS	Observer	19-20 April	42.0	39.0	11.0	4.0		+ 3.0
NOP	Unpublished	19-24 April	43.0	37.0	9.0	4.0		+ 6.0
MORI	S.Times	20-24 April	41.0	41.0	9.0	6.0		0
ASL*	Unpublished	29-30 April	42.0	38.0	7.0	9.0		+ 4.0
GALLUP	D Telegraph	27 Apr-1 May	40.5	37.5	10.0	7.0		+ 3.0
ICM	Guardian	12-16 May	43.0	43.0	8.0	3.0		0
NOP	Unpublished	17-22 May	42.0	41.0	8.0	3.0		+ 1.0
MORI	S.Times	18-22 May	41.0	43.0	7.0	4.0		- 2.0
HARRIS	Observer	22-23 May	46.0	41.0	7.0	2.0		+ 5.0
ASL*	Unpublished	26-28 May	41.0	45.0	6.0	4.0		- 4.0
GALLUP	D.Telegraph	31 May-5 Jun	36.5	43.5	8.0	3.0		- 7.0
ICM	Guardian	9-10 June	38.0	42.0	8.0	4.0	5.0	- 4.0
HARRIS	Observer	21-22 June	34.0	48.0	6.0	2.0	8.0	-14.0
MORI	S.Times	22-27 June	37.0	47.0	4.0	3.0	7.0	-10.0

* Telephone Poll.

2. VOTING INTENTION - SCOTLAND

We have had two recent opinion polls in Scotland - details of the findings on voting intentions are given below:-

Voting Intention

	<u>MORI</u>		<u>System Three</u>	
	<u>June 1989</u>	<u>April 1989</u>	<u>Late May 1989</u>	<u>Early May 1989</u>
Conservative	22	22	21	19
Labour	47	44	47	42
SLD	4	5	5	8
SDP	2	3	1	3
SNP	23	25	25	27
Green	1	1	-	-
Others	-	-	1	1

The Conservatives remain in third place in Scotland with the standing of the parties as shown by both MORI and System Three being almost identical.

3. ISSUES

Details of the trend of the electorate's view of what are the key issues facing the country taken from Gallup's monthly studies are shown below:-

Most Important Issues Facing the Country - Gallup

	<u>May 1989</u>	<u>April 1989</u>	<u>March 1989</u>	<u>Feb 1989</u>	<u>Jan 1989</u>	<u>Dec 1988</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Unemployment	34	37	36	39	43	48
Health	36	27	34	35	30	27
Cost of Living	22	26	23	18	27	22
Housing/Rates*	14	17	14	19	16	13
Law & Order	7	11	9	12	13	10
Pensions	9	9	9	10	9	13
Education	6	6	6	7	6	6
Defence	9	4	3	4	5	5
Environment	10	-	-	-	-	-

(* Including mention of Poll Tax)

The proportion of the electorate regarding unemployment as the most important issue facing the country has fallen from 48% in December 1988 to 34% in May 1989. The proportion regarding the cost of living as the most important problem has remained stable at 22% over the same period. From December 1988 to May 1989 the proportion regarding health as the most important issue increased from 27% to 36%. The environment and related issues was analysed separately for the first time in May 1989 by Gallup - 10% regarded it as one of the most important issues facing the country. MORI asking a similar question found the proportion mentioning the environment increasing from 5% in December 1988 to 14% in February 1989, 17% in May and 23% in June.

4. SATISFACTION RATINGS - LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT

Since the start of the year Gallup have been publishing a monthly analysis of their weekly polls (both published and unpublished) involving over 9,000 interviews. The table below shows what has happened to attitudes to the record of the Government and to the leaders of the main parties since the start of the year.

(i) Satisfaction Ratings - Government

The table below shows responses to Gallup's standard question 'Do you approve or disapprove of the Government's record to date?'

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
January 1989 (%)	36.6	48.6	14.8
February 1989 (%)	34.2	50.6	15.2
March 1989 (%)	33.1	53.6	13.3
April 1989 (%)	34.6	52.1	13.3
May 1989	35.8	50.2	14.0

The proportion of the electorate claiming to approve of our record in government fell from 36.6% in January 1989 to 33.1% in March 1989 - it improved to 35.8% in May. The proportion disapproving of our record in Government increased from 48.6% in January 1989 to 53.6% in March 1989 but fell to 50.2% in May.

(ii) Satisfaction Rating - Leaders

The table below shows the trend of approval for the leaders of the main parties since January 1989.

	<u>Satisfied/ Is Good Leader</u>	<u>Dissatisfied/ Is not Good Leader</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<u>MRS THATCHER</u>			
January 1989 (%)	43.8	50.4	5.8
February 1989 (%)	41.6	52.5	5.9
March 1989 (%)	39.7	54.7	5.6
April 1989 (%)	40.6	53.7	5.7
May 1989 (%)	40.9	53.5	5.6
<u>MR KINNOCK</u>			
January 1989 (%)	28.1	59.6	12.3
February 1989 (%)	28.7	58.7	12.6
March 1989 (%)	29.2	59.1	11.7
April 1989 (%)	31.7	55.7	12.6
May 1989 (%)	35.0	52.1	12.9
<u>MR ASHDOWN</u>			
January 1989 (%)	25.4	26.3	48.3
February 1989 (%)	26.9	26.8	46.3
March 1989 (%)	26.0	34.7	39.3
April 1989 (%)	28.2	31.2	40.6
May 1989 (%)	23.3	38.5	38.2
<u>DR OWEN</u>			
January 1989 (%)	38.7	38.6	22.7
February 1989 (%)	40.7	36.6	22.7
March 1989 (%)	41.4	39.0	19.3
April 1989 (%)	41.2	37.6	21.2
May 1989 (%)	31.7	47.3	21.0

The Prime Minister's popularity fell from January 1989 to May 1989 whilst over the same period the popularity of Mr Kinnock improved sharply Mr Ashdown's fell marginally and Mr Owen's fell sharply.

5. ECONOMIC EXPECTATIONS

Gallup have asked for a number of years a series of questions about the electorate's perceptions of the current economic situation and their expectations for the future. Details of the answers from some of the main questions since September 1988 are given below:-

Q How do you think the general economic situation in the country has changed over the last 12 months?

	<u>Got a lot better</u>	<u>Got a little better</u>	<u>Stayed the same</u>	<u>Got a little worse</u>	<u>Got a lot worse</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
<u>1988</u>						
Sept	8	26	20	25	16	4
Oct	6	23	23	28	16	4
Nov	7	24	18	24	22	4
Dec	5	19	19	32	21	4
<u>1989</u>						
Jan	4	18	20	33	20	5
Feb	5	20	20	30	20	5
March	3	16	19	32	26	4
April	3	18	18	31	26	4
May	4	18	21	30	22	5

Q How do you think the general economic situation in this country will develop over the next 12 months

	<u>Get a lot better</u>	<u>Get a little better</u>	<u>Stayed the same</u>	<u>Get a little worse</u>	<u>Get a lot worse</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
<u>1988</u>						
Sept	3	23	29	26	11	8
Oct	3	23	28	25	12	9
Nov	4	23	26	26	15	8
Dec	3	20	26	29	15	8
<u>1989</u>						
Jan	2	22	24	29	14	9
Feb	3	20	30	24	13	10
March	2	19	28	26	17	8
April	3	20	26	27	17	8
May	2	22	28	24	14	9

The proportion of the electorate believing the general economic situation has 'got a lot better' or 'got a little better' over the last 12 months has fallen from 34% in September 1988 to 22% in May 1989. The proportion believing it has 'got a little worse' or 'got a lot worse' has increased from 41% in September 1988 to 52% in May 1989.

The proportion of the electorate expecting the general economic situation to 'get a lot better' or 'get a little better' fell from 26% in September 1988 to 22% in May 1989 whilst the proportion thinking it will 'get a little worse' or 'get a lot worse' increased from 37% to 38% over the same period.

6. TENTH ANNIVERSARY - PUBLIC ATTITUDES

The Observer on the 30th April included details of a major Harris study (conducted 19-20 April) on general attitudes to our tenth anniversary in Government. In addition to the questions published in the Observer the Harris study included some questions which the Observer did not publish. Details of both the published and unpublished findings are given below:-

(a) The Government and the Prime Minister

Harris asked respondents whether they thought the tenth anniversary of Mrs Thatcher's rule was something to celebrate or mourn - 35% saw it as a cause for celebration (including 72% of Conservatives) and 40% as something to mourn (including 5% of Conservatives).

Harris asked respondents when they thought Mrs Thatcher should retire and when they thought she will retire. They found:-

Mrs Thatcher Should/Will Retire

	<u>Should Retire</u>	<u>Will Retire</u>
Now	40	1
Within two years after next election	15	19
Five to 10 years from now	13	30
More than a year but before the next election	10	5
Within a year	8	2
The year 2000	2	4
Never	4	28

40% of electors thought Mrs Thatcher should retire now but only 1% thought she would.

Harris asked what respondents most liked about Mrs Thatcher and what they found most annoying.

Mrs Thatcher - Factors Liked and Factors found Annoying

<u>Liked About Mrs Thatcher</u>		<u>Found Most Annoying about Mrs Thatcher</u>	
Determination	32	Her voice	24
Courage	16	Uncaring nature	19
Leadership	14	Obstinacy	15
Strength	14	Her policies	12
Energy	12	Big-headedness	10
Decisiveness	11	Narrow-mindedness	9
On top of her job	6	Her snobbery	9
Clear-sightedness	3	Her appearance	4
Her policies	2	Her prejudice	4
Her caring nature	2		

When asked what they thought were the best and worst things Mrs Thatcher had done - Harris found:-

Best/Worst Things Mrs Thatcher's Done

<u>Best Things</u>		<u>Worst Things</u>	
Trade Union Reforms	20	Reorganisation of NHS	34
Falklands	15	Tax cuts for the rich	16
Privatisation	9	Unemployment	15
First women PM	7	Privatisation	11

When asked about attitudes to Mrs Thatcher's views to Europe Harris found:-

Opinion of Mrs Thatcher's Attitudes to Europe

	<u>All</u>	<u>Conservative Supporters</u>	<u>Labour Supporters</u>	<u>SLD Supporters</u>	<u>SDP Supporters</u>
She is too soft with them (%)	15	14	17	14	14
She is not committed enough to a united Europe (%)	24	15	32	30	31
Her attitude to Europe is about right (%)	48	65	33	47	40
Don't Know	13	6	18	9	15

48% of electors, including 65% of Conservative supporters and 33% of Labour supporters think Mrs Thatcher's attitude to Europe is about right.

(b) Attitudes in Policy Areas

The Sunday Telegraph, on 30th April, included details of a Gallup 10th Anniversary poll. This particular poll concentrated on public attitudes in a range of political areas.

Gallup asked respondents what they thought about privatisation, they found:-

Attitudes to Privatisation

Most industries should be Privatised/sold off	14%
Present combination about right	41%
More industries should be nationalised/in public ownership	38%
Don't Know	7%

Details of the electorate's attitude to a range of changes over the last ten years are shown below:-

Approval/Disapproval of Changes over the past Ten Years

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
Trade union members have been given greater control over their unions by increased use of ballots:	70	19	11
More than a million council tenants have bought their homes	72	23	5
Large numbers of government-owned firms, such as British Airways and British Telecom, have been sold to the private sector:	39	53	8
The law has been changed so as to make it more difficult for trade unions to strike:	58	34	8
The number of council houses being built has been sharply reduced:	11	83	6
Britain has retained control of the Falklands:	58	24	18
People have been encouraged to buy things like education, pensions and health care for themselves rather than relying on the state:	41	52	7
A national curriculum has been prepared for introduction in all state schools:	50	29	21
Britain has signed the Single European Act to abolish all trade barriers inside the EEC by 1992:	53	23	24
Strict controls have been placed on spending by local authorities:	43	47	10
Taxes on the things you buy, such as VAT have gone up, but at the same time income tax has been cut:	34	54	13
The Greater London Council and the other metropolitan councils have been abolished:	33	41	27
The introduction of a Community charge or Poll Tax to replace rates:	22	68	10

Gallup included in their study their standard three part question on attitudes to government spending. They asked 'People have different views about whether it is more important to reduce taxes or keep up government spending. How about it? Which of these statements comes closest to your view?' They found:-

Attitude to Government Spending/Taxation

Taxes being cut, even if it means some reduction in government services, such as health, education and welfare	10%
Things should be left as they are	14%
Government services such as health, education and welfare should be extended, even if it means some increases in taxes	73%
Don't know	3%

7. ATTITUDES TO PRIVATISATION

(a) Consumers Association Study

The Guardian on 17th May included details of a survey conducted by 'Public Attitude Surveys' in March for the Consumers Association on attitudes to privatisation.

The survey included a question on what the electorate thought would happen to the service to the consumer provided by the water and electricity industries after privatisation. Details are given below:

Service after Privatisation

	<u>All</u> <u>Electors</u>	<u>Con</u> <u>Supporters</u>	<u>Lab</u> <u>Supporters</u>	<u>SLD</u> <u>Supporters</u>	<u>SDP</u> <u>Supporters</u>
<u>Water</u>					
Better	13	21	8	5	17
Same	16	19	15	13	10
Worse	58	46	69	71	63
Don't know	13	14	8	11	10
<u>Electricity</u>					
Better	14	24	9	8	16
Same	31	37	27	27	33
Worse	41	25	54	51	43
Don't know	14	14	10	14	8

(b) Harris Survey - Water Privatisation

The Observer on 2nd July included details of a Harris poll on attitudes to water privatisation conducted on 28th and 29th June.

Harris found 79% of the electorate thought that water should not be privatised and 84% did not intend to buy shares in the privatised water companies.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Harris poll published in the Observer on 25th June (conducted 22/22 June) asked a number of questions on attitudes to environmental/'Green' issues. Harris found 24% claiming they were 'very satisfied' or 'fairly satisfied' with the Government's performance on environmental issues, 18% 'neither satisfied or dissatisfied' and 51% 'fairly dissatisfied' or 'very dissatisfied'.

30% saw the Environment Secretary (Mr. Ridley) as doing a 'very good' or 'fairly good' job, and 49% a 'fairly bad' or 'very bad' job.

70% of the electorate agreed that there would be a separate Ministry for 'Green' issues.

Harris asked representatives which environmental issues they regarded as most important. They found:-

Environmental Issues Regarded As Most Serious

The 'Greenhouse' effect (damage to the ozone layer)	54%
Destruction to the Rain Forests	45%
Oil Pollution of the Sea	41%
Nuclear Power Stations	38%
Acid Rain	27%
Lead in Petrol	23%
The changing in British Countryside	16%
Litter	14%

9. HEALTH SERVICE REFORM

The Daily Telegraph on 13th June included details of Gallup studies on attitudes to health service reform conducted among GPs' and the electorate. The poll was conducted by telephone in May.

Gallup asked GPs' and the electorate what degree of reform they thought the NHS needed. They found:-

Need for Health Service Reform

	<u>GPs'</u>	<u>Electorates</u>
	%	%
Needs Major Reform	12	40
Needs Moderate Change	79	42
Is adequate as it is	9	16
Don't Know	1	2

When Gallup asked about attitudes to aspects of reform of the health service they found:-

	<u>GPs'</u> %	<u>Electorate</u> %
<u>That health care should be made available to everyone free of charge?</u>		
Yes	86	83
No	11	13
Don't Know	2	4
<u>That patients who can afford it should make a contribution towards certain health care services</u>		
Yes	53	69
No	40	26
Don't Know	7	5
<u>That more patients should have private health insurance</u>		
Yes	29	38
No	63	47
Don't Know	8	16

10. ATTITUDES TO EUROPE

(a) Gallup

The Daily Telegraph on 12th June included details of a Gallup poll conducted from 31st May to 5th June on attitudes to Europe and European issues.

Gallup asked 'Generally speaking do you think that British membership of the European Community is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad'. 51% thought it was a 'good thing', 19% a 'bad thing', 23% 'neither good nor bad' and 8% had no view. When asked about Mrs Thatcher tough line on Europe 46% approved of it, 38% did not approve and 16% had no view.

Gallup asked respondents which of the following statements about the future of Europe came closest to their own views. They found:-

Future of Europe

A fully integrated Eurport with most major decisions taken by a European government	13%
A Europe more integrated than now but made decisions that mainly affect Britain staying in British hands	48%
The situation much as it is now, with Britain retaining a veto over major policy changes it does not like.	21%
Complete British withdrawal from the European Community	12%
Don't Know	7%

Gallup found more than two thirds of the British electorates had never heard or read anything about the EEC commission.

They also asked respondents about attitudes to a range of European issues - they found:-

Attitudes in Policy Areas
(Britain should or should not)

	Should %	Should not %	Don't Know %
Agree to European standards for clean beaches	92	4	4
Accept Euro-standards for reducing pollution in drinking water	82	10	8
Accept a programme to teach other European languages in schools throughout Europe	78	13	9
Have stricter health warnings printed on all cigarette packets	63	26	11
Adopt a new "social charter" guaranteeing workers' rights to join trade unions and encourage workers' participation in managing companies	60	22	18
Make it possible for citizens of any EEC country to travel to any other without a passport	48	44	7
Join the European Monetary System, fixing the value of the pound in relation to the other European currencies	42	34	24
Agree to abolish all frontier controls between Community countries	38	48	13
Create in the long term a single European currency, involving the disappearance of the pound sterling	31	56	12

(b) EEC COMMISSION POLL

The EEC Commission published in late April the results of a survey conducted in all member states in March/April. The main findings from the UK survey are given below:-

(i) Unification

The Commission asked 'In general, were you for or against efforts being made to unify Western Europe'. The study found in the UK 21% 'very much in favour of these efforts' and 49% 'for them to more extent'. This is the lowest level of support in any member state with the exception of Denmark.

(ii) Membership of the Community

The survey found 48% of the British electorate regarding our membership of the Community as a 'good thing'. Again with the exception of Denmark the lowest level in the Community.

(iii) Benefits of Membership

Only 44% of the British electorate thought that Britain had benefited from our Membership - the lowest level in any Member state.

(iv) Scrap the Community?

68% of the British electorate claimed they would be 'indifferent' or 'relieved' if the Community was scrapped tomorrow.

(v) Single European Market

63% of the British electorate claimed to have seen or heard something about 1992 - the lowest level of awareness in any Member state. In Britain, 45% thought the idea of a Single market was a good thing, 29% 'neither good or bad' and 16% 'a bad thing'.

(vi) Fundamental Social Rights

The Commission asked 'There is talk of adopting a charter of fundamental social rights for all the entire EEC, that is a set of common rules throughout all the Member countries for matters concerning the rights and responsibilities of workers and employees'. In the UK 65% thought this would be a 'good thing', 10% 'neither good or bad' and 15% a 'bad thing'.

(vii) The Environment

When asked about the possibility of Community legislation to protect the environment, 88% of the British electorate thought there should be some common rules.