

PUBLIC OPINION IN WS StRyrCf

6. The warning against

home front optimism issued by Generals Marshall and Arnold and Admiral King would seem to have been well-timed, for a survey just completed by the Institute shows that the American public's guesses about the length of the war have taken a sharply optimistic turn in recent weeks.

Whereas the average estimate at the end of March was that the fighting in Europe would continue well into 1945, today the public's estimate is that Germany will be beaten and the European war brought to an end within six months'.

There is increasing confidence too of an early victory over Japan.

The average guess is that Hirohito and his minions will be out of the war by the end of 1945 a year and a half from now. Only about one person in ten thinks the Japanese war will still be going in 1946.

Attitudes toward the length of the war have been sounded at regular intervals by the Institute in surveys on the following question:

"How much longer do you think the war with Ger-

many will last? How much longer do you think the war with Japan will last?"

The last test, in March, came at a time when American and British troops were making comparatively slow progress in Italy. Today's new poll reflects the fall of Rome, the success of the Normandy in-

Second half 1945	3	?
In 1946 or later -	6	14
Unwilling to guess ...	4	7
Attitudes toward		

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The median average of estimates on the length of the Japanese war is one and one-half years, on the German war, six months.