

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS**  
**MID-SEPTEMBER OMNIBUS -- IRAQ**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**September 12-16, 2002**  
**N=1,150**

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? [IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
August, 2002	67	21	12=100
Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
July, 2002	67	21	12=100
June, 2002	70	20	10=100
April, 2002	69	18	13=100
Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
February, 2002	78	13	9=100
January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
August, 2001	50	32	18=100
July, 2001	51	32	17=100
June, 2001	50	33	17=100
May, 2001	53	32	15=100
April, 2001	56	27	17=100
March, 2001	55	25	20=100
February, 2001	53	21	26=100

Over the past weeks...

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=595]:**

Q.2F1 Do you think news organizations gave too much coverage to the September 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary, too little coverage to the September 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary, or the right amount of coverage?

	<u>Early Sept 2002<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Early Oct 2001<sup>2</sup></u>
38	35	32
2	3	2
55	56	63
5	6	3
100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> In Early September 2002 the question was worded "...news organizations are giving too much coverage to..."

<sup>2</sup> In Early October 2001 the question was worded "... the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, too little coverage to the attacks, or the right amount of coverage?"

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=555]:**

Q.3F2 Did the news coverage of the one-year anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> help you to come to terms with the tragedy, or not? [IF “YES, HELPED” ASK:] Would you say it helped a lot, or just a little bit?

		<u>Early Sept 2002<sup>3</sup></u>
48	Helped	44
24	Helped a lot	21
24	Helped a little bit	23
46	Has not helped	51
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.4 How good a job did George W. Bush do on the anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> speaking to the nation about the terrorist attacks... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

		<u>Mid-Sept 2001<sup>4</sup></u>
32	Excellent	45
37	Good	38
13	Only fair	10
5	Poor	4
<u>13</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

On another subject...

Q.5 How much have you yourself thought about whether the US should use military force to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq? [READ]

		<u>Late Aug 2002</u>	<u>Jan 1991<sup>5</sup></u>
55	A great deal	46	66
27	Some	35	24
9	Only a little – OR –	11	6
6	Not at all	6	2
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100

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<sup>3</sup> In Early September 2002 the question was worded “Has recent news coverage of the one-year anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> helped you to come to terms with the tragedy, or not? [IF “YES, HELPED” ASK:] Would you say it has helped a lot, or just a little bit?”

<sup>4</sup> In Mid-September 2001 the question was worded “How good a job has George W. Bush done in SPEAKING TO THE NATION about the terrorist attacks... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?”

<sup>5</sup> In January 1991 the question was worded “How much thought have you given to the question of whether the U.S. should use military force against Iraq if it does not withdraw its forces from Kuwait?”

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=595]:**

Q.6F1/8 Would you favor or oppose taking military action in Iraq to end Saddam Hussein's rule? **[IF FAVOR, ASK: Should we attack Iraq only if our major allies agree to join us, or attack Iraq even if allies do not want to join us?]**

		----- Gallup <sup>6</sup> -----					
		Late Aug <u>2002</u>	June <u>2002</u>	Nov <u>2001</u>	Feb <u>2001</u>	June <u>1993</u>	March <u>1992</u>
64	Favor	64	59	74	52	70	55
33	Even if allies won't join	30	--	--	--	--	--
25	Only if allies agree	30	--	--	--	--	--
6	Don't know/Refused	4	--	--	--	--	--
23	Oppose	21	34	20	42	27	40
<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=555]:**

Q.7F2/8 Would you favor or oppose taking military action in Iraq to end Saddam Hussein's rule, even if it meant that U.S. forces might suffer thousands of casualties? **[IF FAVOR, ASK: Should we attack Iraq only if our major allies agree to join us, or attack Iraq even if allies do not want to join us?]**

		Late Aug <u>2002</u>
48	Favor	42
24	Even if allies won't join	18
19	Only if allies agree	21
5	Don't know/Refused	3
36	Oppose	41
<u>16</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>17</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.9 Do you think George W. Bush has explained clearly what's at stake as to why the US might use military force to end the rule of Saddam Hussein, or do you think he has not explained the reasons clearly enough?

		Late Aug <u>2002</u>	<i>New York Times</i> <u>Aug 1990<sup>7</sup></u>
52	Explained clearly	37	50
37	Not clearly	52	41
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100

Q.10 From what you've heard or read, how good a job did George W. Bush do in his speech to the United Nations about the need to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq... excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

23	Excellent
36	Good
16	Only fair
6	Poor
<u>19</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

<sup>6</sup> Gallup trend was worded "Would you favor or oppose sending American troops back to the Persian Gulf in order to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?"

<sup>7</sup> New York Times trend was worded "Do you think George Bush has explained clearly what's at stake and why the U.S. is sending troops to Saudi Arabia, or do you think ..."