

Opinion Pulse

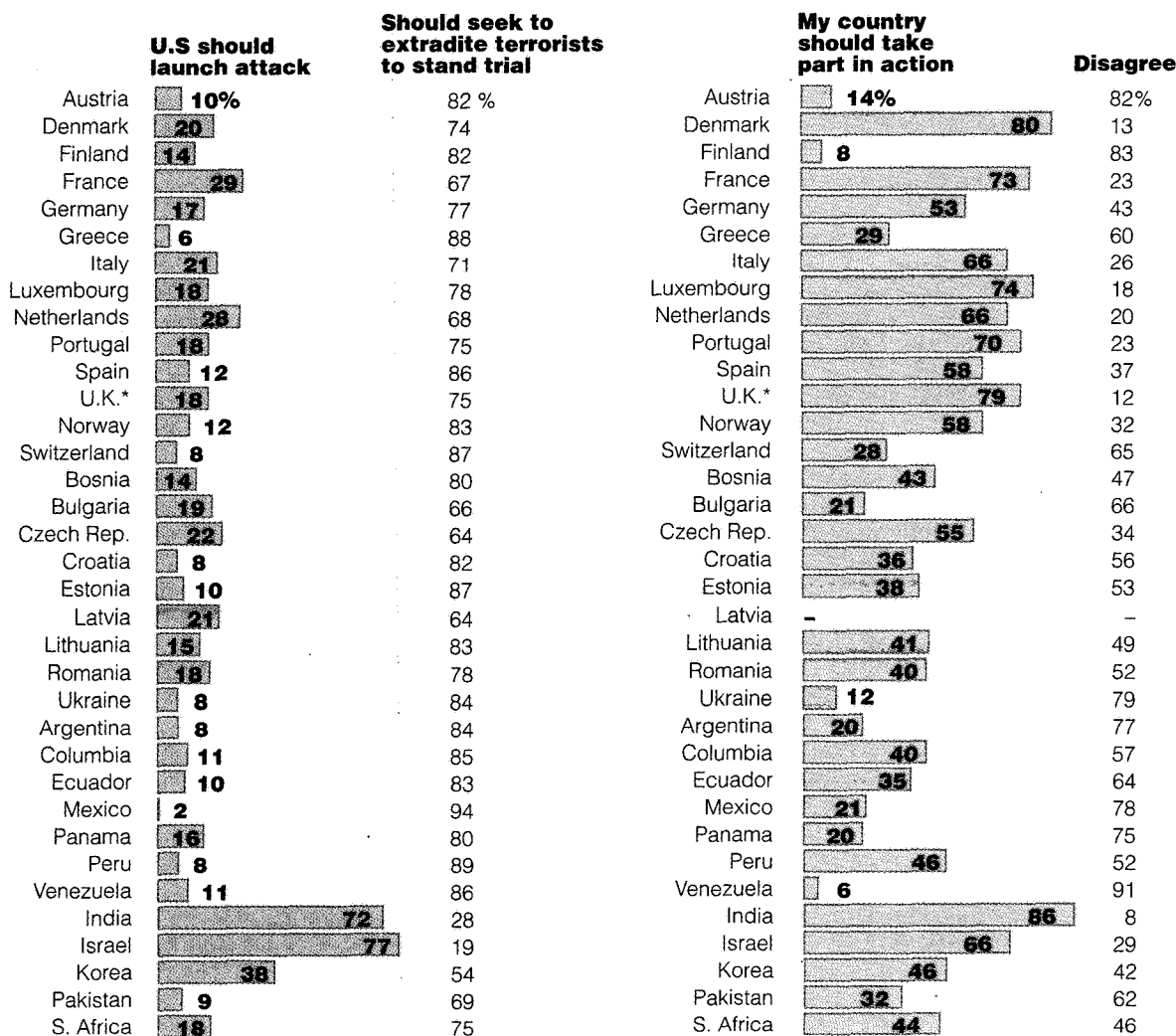
Edited by Karlyn Bowman

The World Reacts

Gallup International interviewers found that many people around the world knew of the terrorist attacks in the United States within three hours of their occurrence. With the exception of Israel and India, all nations surveyed preferred to extradite the terrorists to stand trial rather than launch an attack on the country or countries where the terrorists are based. When told that NATO and other countries had agreed to participate in military action against the terrorists and the countries harboring them, many of our traditional allies said they would support their country's military involvement.

Question: In your opinion, once the identity of the terrorists is known, should the American government launch a military attack on the country or countries where the terrorists are based or should the American government seek to extradite the terrorists to stand trial?

Question: Some countries and all NATO member states have agreed to participate in any military action against the terrorists responsible for the attacks or against those countries harboring the terrorists. Do you agree or disagree that your country should take part...?

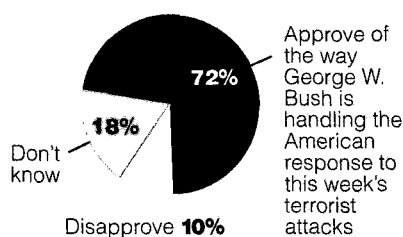


Note: *Excludes Northern Ireland. The Gallup International Association, the sponsor of these polls, has no connection with the Gallup Organization in the U.S.
Source: Gallup International, September 14-17, 2001.

Early reactions in Britain were very similar to those in the U.S. A large majority approve of Bush's actions and support using British troops against those responsible for the attacks and the nations that harbor them. A majority of Germans agree that an attack against the United States is an attack on all NATO members. A plurality of Germans do not trust the way President Bush is dealing with the situation. A very substantial majority of Muscovites have confidence in the Bush administration's handling of the situation.

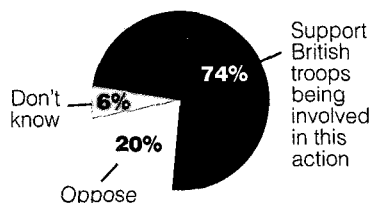
British Opinion

Question: Do you...?



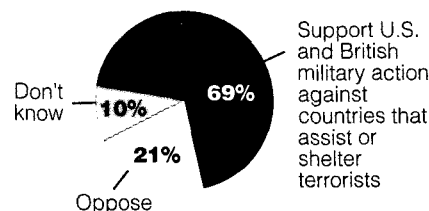
Note: On October 9, 72% approved and 19% disapproved.

Question: And if the United States were to take military action against those responsible, would you...?



Note: On October 9, 72% supported British involvement, and 22% were opposed.

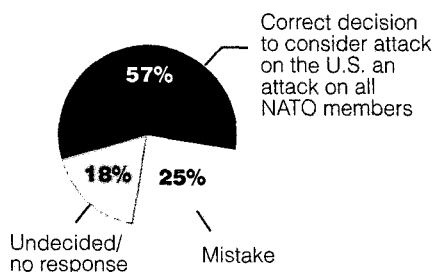
Question: Would you...?



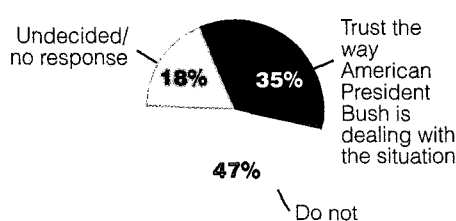
Source: Market & Opinion Research International (Great Britain), September 14, 2001.

Opinion in Germany

Question: NATO has now decided that an attack on the USA will be viewed as an attack on all NATO members—thus also an attack on Germany. Would you say this is...?

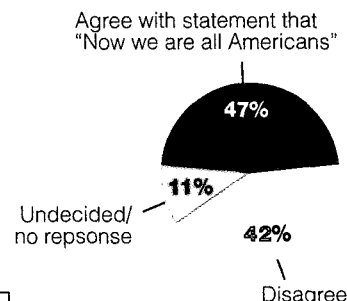


Question: And would you say you...?



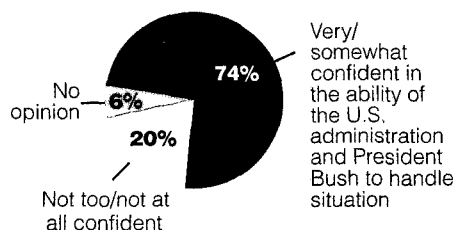
Source: Institut für Demoskopie Allensbach (Germany), September 13, 2001.

Question: The SPD party leader Peter Struck has said, "Now we are all Americans." Do you find that well said?



Opinion in Moscow

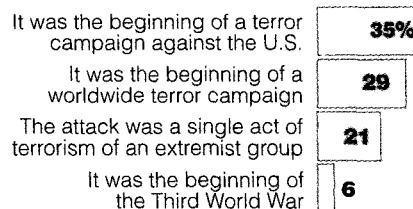
Question: How confident are you in the...?



Note: On October 6, 42% approved of U.S. military actions in Afghanistan and 49% disapproved.

Source: Russian Public Opinion and Market Research (ROMIR), September 12, 2001

Question: On September 11, 2001, the United States had to go through the most wide-scale terrorist attack in history. Which of the statements would you agree with?

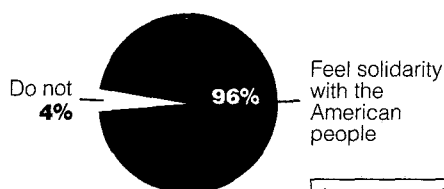


World Reaction (continued)

The French feel solidarity with the American people and believe the attacks threaten world peace. Hungarians feel the attacks have not shaken the U.S. position as a superpower and believe the country will surmount the difficulties. Australians and New Zealanders prefer to attack military targets only.

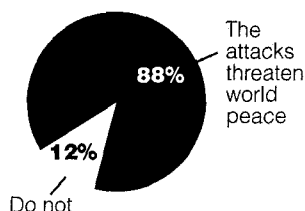
French Opinion

Question: Do you feel...?



Source: Groupe CSA for *Le Parisien* and *Aujourd'hui* (France), September 12, 2001.

Question: Do you think...?

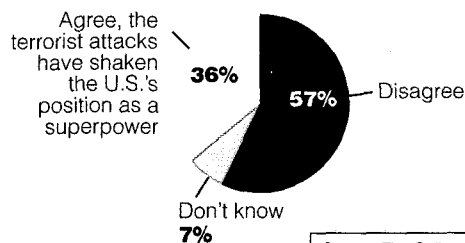


For a review of American attitudes on the terrorist attacks and the U.S. response, see www.aei.org/ps/psfront.htm.

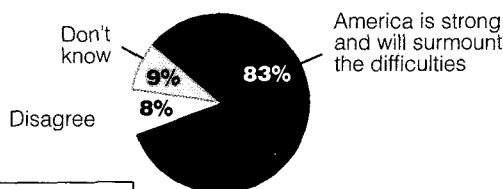
The material will be updated every Friday for the foreseeable future.

Hungarian Opinion

Question: There are many opinions about the consequences of yesterday's terrorist attacks. I will read you a list of statements. For each one, please tell me...?

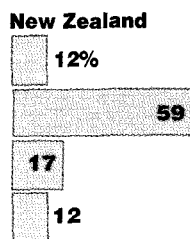
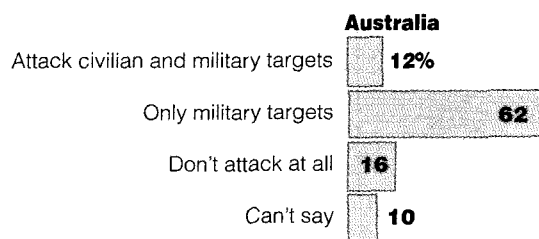


Source: The Gallup Organization (Hungary), September 12, 2001.

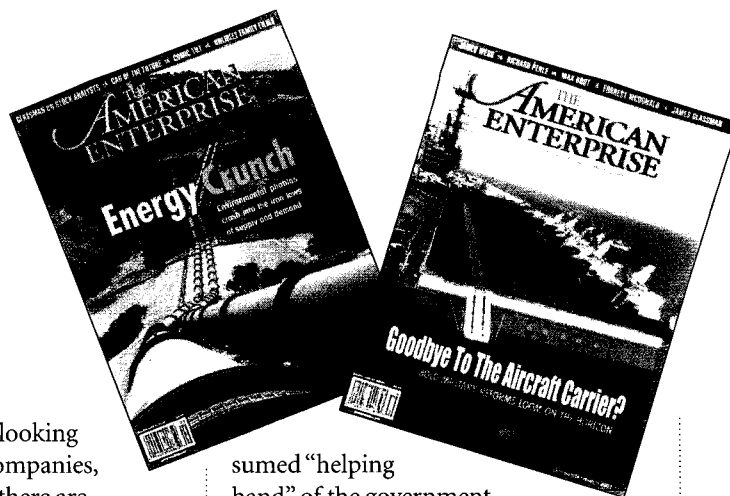


Opinion in Australia and New Zealand

Question: Should the American government...?



Source: Roy Morgan International, September 12, 2001



The horrific terrorist strikes on our financial and military centers instantly transformed these symbols of power into metaphors for our anachronistic military structure.

New York's Twin Towers were like two of our current Army divisions, designed for fighting WWII—massive hierarchical structures, vulnerable to current threats, with personnel concentrated in a way that thwarts mobility.

Ironically, the strike on the Pentagon demolished the Army office in charge of streamlining bloated headquarters staffs.

Congratulations to TAE for the October/November 2001 issue explaining the need for military reorganization. Now that we've been shocked from our seductive sense of false security, perhaps the mass media will turn to salient voices like Colonel Douglas Macgregor's.

When civilians realize that the reorganization of their military is essential to ensure greater security against the widest range of possible threats, pressure may finally be brought against entrenched resistance to long-overdue reform.

Ruth Windsor
Bedford, New York

As a long-time IBM employee, I resent Karl Zinsmeister's lumping us in with the ghosts of the likes of International Harvester and Pan Am (BIRD'S EYE, October/November 2001). Dell and Compaq hardly "overtook IBM."

We're the world's largest computer hardware company, as well as the largest information technology services company. We're second in software, where our portfolio boasts best sellers in the key technologies of the Internet age: databases, Web application servers, messaging, and development tools.

If Mr. Zinsmeister is looking for defunct computer companies, or ones on life support, there are plenty. IBM isn't one of them.

Kent Rebman
Brownsburg, Indiana

Mr. Rebman is right. Using IBM to illustrate an overtaken firm was stupid. IBM was, of course, overtaken in several high-profile consumer lines like desktop computers and operating systems (what I was generally referring to). But it has many other thriving lines, and the overall company is extraordinarily healthy. I should have picked a better example.

—KZ

If Max Boot is correct about the growing unwillingness among the American public to tolerate casualties ("Imagining Clean Pushbutton Wars? Get Over It," October/November 2001), we're on our way to a socialist America.

Lack of will and fortitude are traits of socialism. That's what infects France, a loser of every engagement since Napoleon.

Toby Elster
USAF (ret.)
Wichita, Kansas

Hendrik Mills accurately portrays the travesty of federal jurisdiction over Indian reservations ("Helping Victims to Their Ruin," July/August 2001). Decades of government programs have resulted in denial of full citizenship rights and responsibilities to American Indians.

An existence entirely dependent on the state has crushed personal incentive, as one misguided program after the other perpetuates the cycle of dependency that leads to despair. Today, despite the pre-

sumed "helping hand" of the government, every conceivable social ill is found on the reservations in abundance.

American Indians have been misled. Mills sums it up well: "They have been badly damaged by the idea that they are 'owed' something and that the public purse is their route to prosperity."

Stan Stephens
Governor of Montana (1989-1993)
Kalispell, Montana

I hope with all the fervor and fiber I can muster that you were able to provide copies of your absolutely dynamite "Energy Crunch" issue (September 2001) to the entire U.S. Congress.

If these articles don't open their eyes and minds, America is doomed to mediocrity when it comes to energy and the economy.

Ray Gerhardt
Las Vegas, Nevada

After September 11, there is an even greater imperative to become energy self-sufficient (see "Fight Terror: Drill in America" on page 10 in this issue).

—The editors

In this time of national disaster my beef is petty, but it must be said. I was disappointed to see "Gonna" above James Glassman's piece on Social Security reform (FORWARD OBSERVER, October/November 2001). What's next—"whatever"?

On the bright side, TAE, unlike *National Review*, has never published an article about Rosie.

Jim Cierzniak
South Bend, Indiana