

AMERICANS' VIEWS ON THE CRISIS IN THE MIDEAST
July 21-25, 2006

For most Americans, the fighting in the Mideast between Israel and Hezbollah is not a fight the United States should be part of - most reject sending U.S. troops to the region as part of a U.N. peacekeeping force, and don't think the U.S. generally has the responsibility of trying to resolve the conflicts between Israel and other Mideast nations.

SOLVING CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND MIDEAST NATIONS IS...

The U.S.' responsibility	33%
Not the U.S.' business	58

Americans are pessimistic about the Mideast - by two to one they think it will lead to a larger war in the region and by about that same margin they doubt Israel and the Arab states will ever be able to live in peace. And while about half say Israel's response in the crisis has been about right, the same number blame both Israel and Hezbollah for the current situation.

LIKELIHOOD ISRAEL-HEZBOLLAH CONFLICT WILL SPREAD TO REST OF MIDEAST...

Likely	61%
Not likely	28
Don't know	11

Pessimism about the Mideast extends to U.S. involvement in Iraq - fewer now see the U.S. winning, or see the potential for Iraq to become a stable democracy. Most say Iraq has undermined U.S. diplomatic efforts elsewhere in the region. President George W. Bush's approval ratings remain low - and now there is an additional diplomatic concern. For the first time in CBS News/New York Times polling, most Americans believe foreign leaders do not have respect for Mr. Bush.

THE PRESIDENT AND INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY

Most Americans - 60% - believe leaders of other nations do not respect President Bush, and 30% think those leaders do respect him. These sentiments are dramatically lower than they were two years ago. About half have thought Bush was respected around the world since early 2003, just before the Iraq war.

DO OTHER WORLD LEADERS RESPECT PRESIDENT BUSH?

	Now	1/2004	2/2003	2/2002
Yes	30%	49%	49%	67%
No	60	43	39	22

The belief that President Bush respects other leaders is down from 2003, also, though 51% still think their President does exhibit that respect.

DOES BUSH RESPECT OTHER WORLD LEADERS?

	Now	3/2003
Yes	51%	65%
No	44	29

An overwhelming 75% of Americans reject a "go-it-alone" foreign policy, although most think that's what the Administration does. Only 29% think the Administration does take allies' views into account; 66% think it does not.

IN FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS, THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION...

	Yes	No
<u>SHOULD</u> take allies' views into account	75%	20
<u>DOES</u> take allies views into account	29%	66

Americans prefer that, in general, the United States cede the lead role in solving international crises to the United Nations and other countries; only three in ten want the U.S. to assume the lead role in such matters.

WHO SHOULD TAKE LEAD IN SOLVING INTERNATIONAL CRISES?

United States	31%
United Nations & other countries	59

Most Americans don't believe the U.S. should step up its diplomatic efforts in the current Mideast conflict. Just over half say the current level should be maintained; 17% say it should be reduced.

U.S. DIPLOMATIC ROLE IN MIDEAST SHOULD BE...?

More active	25%
Reduced	17
Maintained as is	53

Just as most believe the U.S. does not have a responsibility to try and resolve Israeli-Mideast conflicts, Americans do not want to commit U.S. troops to the Mideast as a peacekeeping force. Just 32% would support sending in U.S. troops as part of a United Nations force, although 60% would favor such a force. 32% say neither should happen.

PEACEKEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDEAST SHOULD BE...

U.N. & U.S. troops	32%
Only U.N. troops	28
No troops	32

Americans worry the Bush Administration's foreign policy efforts have been stretched thin by Iraq - 58% think the need to focus on the Iraq war has taken focus away from handling other crises around the globe.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY FOCUS HAS BEEN...

Too much on Iraq	58%
Too much on other countries	4
About the right balance	32

41% believe that the U.S. presence in Iraq is making the Mideast less stable. 25% believe the presence of the U.S. in Iraq is making the region more stable. Back in April 2003, 60% thought the U.S. presence would make the region more stable.

EFFECT OF U.S. PRESENCE IN IRAQ ON MIDEAST STABILITY

Greater stability	25%
Less stability	41
No difference	25

The Iraq war is also seen to be hindering U.S. diplomatic efforts elsewhere in the Mideast - 69% say the U.S. presence in Iraq is making those efforts harder.

IRAQ WAR IS MAKING U.S.' MIDEAST DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS

Easier	10%
Harder	69
No effect	16

THE ISRAEL-HEZBOLLAH CONFLICT

By a two-to-one margin Americans doubt Israel and the Arab states will ever be able to live in peace.

WILL THERE EVER BE PEACE IN THE MIDEAST?

Yes	31%
No	64

About half say Israel's response in the current crisis has been about right.

ISRAEL'S RESPONSE HAS...

Gone too far	26%
Not far enough	9
About right	48
Don't know	17

But many think Israel shares in the blame for the fighting: 46% blame both Israel and Hezbollah equally; 38% solely blame Hezbollah militants; hardly any, only 5% solely blame Israel.

WHO DO YOU BLAME FOR THE FIGHTING?

Israel	5%
Hezbollah militants	38
Both equally	46

The public divides over whether the U.S. should publicly support Israel or say nothing. Few think the U.S. ought to offer criticism.

U.S. STANCE TOWARD ISRAEL SHOULD BE...?

Support	39%
Say nothing	40
Criticize	7
Don't know	14

Americans continue to have a mostly favorable opinion of Israel - six in ten are favorable, with about a quarter unfavorable. Those views are unchanged from 2001.

EVALUATING THE PRESIDENT

Americans are more positive than negative about how President George W. Bush is handling the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah - 47% approve and 27% disapprove - but one-quarter say they can't evaluate it right now.

BUSH HANDLING OF ISRAEL-HEZBOLLAH FIGHTING

Approve	47%
Disapprove	27
Don't know	26

But overall, a majority of Americans continue to disapprove of the way President George W. Bush is handling his job. His overall approval rating stands today at 36%. Among Republicans, his approval stands at 72%, around the same level as last month, when it was 74%.

BUSH'S JOB APPROVAL

	Now	6/2006	5/2006
Approve	36%	33%	35%
Disapprove	55	60	60

On handling the overall war on terror - the President's strongest area - approval has risen to 51%, up from 47% last month. The last time a majority of Americans voiced their approval on this was back in January, before the Dubai ports controversy took its toll on Bush's ratings.

But Americans continue to give the President low ratings for handling foreign policy in general, the economy and Iraq - with just one in three approving in each case. But his foreign policy rating is up significantly from the all-time low that it hit in May.

BUSH'S APPROVAL RATINGS

	Now	6/2006	5/2006
Terrorism	51%	47%	46%
Iraq	32%	33%	31%
Foreign policy	35%	--	27%
Economy	33%	33%	34%

Four in ten approve of the President's handling of North Korea, and about the same percentage disapprove. One-quarter cannot make an

assessment now. These views are similar to those expressed after tensions with North Korea flared up in 2005 and 2003.

BUSH'S HANDLING OF NORTH KOREAN SITUATION

	Now	2/2005	3/2003
Approve	40%	39%	45%
Disapprove	35	34	35
Don't know	25	27	20

Most Americans - eight in ten - have heard at least something about the test-launching of missiles conducted by North Korea. Two in ten haven't heard much about it. Americans overwhelmingly see the situation as one that can be handled without involving the military for now. Seven in ten say there is a threat from North Korea, but it is one that can be contained. These views are similar to 2003.

THE CONTINUING WAR IN IRAQ

The war in Iraq remains the dominant problem facing the country today. 23% of Americans name it as the country's most important problem - up slightly from last month - and it ranks ahead of the economy and jobs (11%), and the price of gas (8%). The number of people naming immigration (4%) has dropped since last month, but both terrorism (7%) and foreign policy (4%) - in light of the current conflict between Israel and Hezbollah - have risen slightly.

MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM

	Now	6/2006
War in Iraq	23%	20%
Economy and Jobs	11	12
Price of gas	8	6
Terrorism	7	5
Immigration	4	7
Foreign Policy	4	2

Americans continue to hold a negative view about the situation in Iraq. 27% of Americans believe the U.S. is winning the war in Iraq, the lowest number to date. Only 13% believe that the Iraqi resistance is winning, but most Americans - 58% - see a stalemate.

WHO IS WINNING THE WAR IN IRAQ?

	Now	6/2006	3/2006	5/2004
The U.S.	27%	34%	29%	31%
Iraqi resistance	13	9	12	10
Neither side	58	55	53	54

And when asked to assess how the war in Iraq is going, 57% of Americans say it is going badly, including 27% who say it is going very badly.

HOW IS THE WAR GOING?

	Now	6/2006	12/2003
Well	41%	43%	65%
Badly	57	55	33

Americans are divided as to whether or not the United States did the right thing taking military action against Iraq. 47% of Americans still believe it was the right thing to do, while 48% say the U.S. should have stayed out.

And while a majority of Americans - 58% - believe success in Iraq is still at least somewhat likely, the number of Americans who see this outcome as very likely has steadily decreased over the past year. 14% of Americans now think it is very likely that the U.S. will succeed in Iraq, down from 22% a year ago.

WILL THE U.S. SUCCEED IN IRAQ?

	Now	6/2006	7/2005
Very likely	14%	19%	22%
Somewhat likely	44	41	40
Not very/not at all likely	41	37	35

Americans also remain pessimistic about the prospects of Iraq becoming a stable democracy in the near future. 53% of all Americans think Iraq will never become a stable democracy - up 10 points from last month. Only 4% believe that Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two, while 41% think it will take longer.

WILL IRAQ BECOME A STABLE DEMOCRACY

	Now	6/2006	3/2006
Yes, in the next year or two	4%	4%	5%
Yes, but will take longer	41	50	38
No, never	53	43	54

Nor do most Americans believe that a continued U.S. presence in Iraq will make the U.S. safer from terrorism. Only 27% believe it will, while 50% think that it will make no difference. 21% believe that a continued U.S. presence in Iraq will make the U.S. less safe.

Fewer than half of Americans - 42% - think the U.S. is making at least some progress at training Iraqi troops to take over. 22% think the U.S. is making not much or no progress. One-third don't know enough to say.

When asked to assess the effect of the war in Iraq on the image of the U.S. abroad, the vast majority of Americans believe it is having a detrimental effect. Nearly three in four Americans think the war in Iraq has worsened the U.S.' image.

IS THE WAR IN IRAQ MAKING THE U.S.' IMAGE IN THE WORLD ...?

Better	10%
Worse	72
No effect	12

Americans don't see a quick end to U.S. involvement in Iraq. 67% think U.S. troops will be there for at least 2 more years, with nearly a third believing they will be there for more than five.

HOW MUCH LONGER WILL U.S. TROOPS HAVE TO STAY?

	Now	3/2006
Less than one year	5%	10%
One to two years	23	20
Two to five years	36	36
More than five years	31	27

Most continue to support a timetable for troop withdrawal. 56% of Americans believe such a timetable is necessary - a similar number as a year ago.

SHOULD U.S. SET TIMETABLE FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL?

	Now	5/2006	7/2005
Yes	56%	60%	55%
No	40	36	40

Americans who believe a timetable is necessary continue to favor it even if it means that the Iraqi insurgents would take control of the country. But raising that possibility reduces support for a timetable to less than a majority.

SHOULD U.S. SET A TIMETABLE FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL IF IT MEANT THE INSURGENTS WOULD TAKE OVER IRAQ?

Yes	33%
No	60

Many Americans do not think that ensuring a stable democracy in Iraq is worth the loss of life and other costs for the United States to remain there. 25% of Americans say a stable democracy in Iraq is worth it, while many more - 42% - say it is not. A third of Americans are unsure.

IS A STABLE DEMOCRACY IN IRAQ WORTH THE COSTS TO THE U.S.?

Yes	25%
No	42
Unsure	32

And when asked overall whether the result of war in Iraq has been worth the loss of American life and the other costs of attacking Iraq so far, almost two out of three Americans continue to believe it has not - a number that has been generally consistent for the past two years.

GUANTANAMO BAY AND THE WAR ON TERROR

Most Americans are aware that the U.S. operates a detention center in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, using it to hold suspected terrorists: 69% have heard at least something about the facility. And Americans prefer that it remain open. 51% say the detention center at Guantanamo should

continue to operate, while 34% say the U.S. ought to close it and transfer its detainees elsewhere.

GUANTANAMO BAY SHOULD...

Remain in operation	51%
Be closed	34
Don't know	15

Most Republicans say the facility should stay open; Democrats are more likely to say it should close.

The U.S. handling of detainees at Guantanamo has spurred both controversy and court challenges, and Americans overwhelmingly think the U.S. should follow international agreements in its handling of captured prisoners of war - 72% say so. Only 25% think the U.S. should do what it thinks right regardless of international agreements.

SHOULD U.S. FOLLOW INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN HANDLING POW'S?

Yes	72%
No	25

Half of Americans say that the Bush Administration has struck the right balance between protecting civil liberties and cracking down on terrorism - 52% say the balance has been right, while one-third say the Administration has gone too far in impinging on civil liberties in its anti-terror efforts.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-TERROR MEASURES HAVE...

Gone too far limiting civil liberties	31%
Not gone far enough	12
Balanced about right	52

But they are resistant to the idea of giving a President more authority to act independently and make changes to Constitutional rights during this campaign against terrorism - 53% say a President ought not to be able to do that. Four in ten would let a President make changes to such rights. These feelings are similar to earlier this year, but very different from those expressed in 2001, just after the terror attacks, when two thirds approved.

TO FIGHT TERROR, SHOULD A PRESIDENT BE ABLE TO MAKE CHANGES TO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS?

	Now	1/2006	12/2001
Yes	43%	36%	64%
No	53	57	29

This poll was conducted among a nationwide random sample of 1127 adults, interviewed by telephone July 21-25, 2006. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus three percentage points. Error for subgroups may be higher.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
Americans' Views on the Crisis in the Mideast
July 21-25, 2006

q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Jun06a
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep	Dem	Ind	%
Approve	36	72	10	28	33
Disapprove	55	20	87	55	60
DK/NA	9	8	3	17	7

q2 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q3 What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun06a
War in Iraq	23	20	31	18	20
Economy and Jobs	11	9	12	12	12
Gas prices/heating oil crisis	8	11	6	8	6
Terrorism (general)	7	12	4	7	5
Immigration	4	5	2	5	7
Foreign Policy	4	2	5	4	2
Health Care	3	2	3	3	3
Defense / Military	3	2	2	4	1
The President/G.W. Bush	3	0	5	3	5
Moral Values/Family Values	2	4	1	3	2
Poverty / Homelessness	2	1	2	3	3
Environment	2	1	3	2	2
Education	2	2	2	2	3
Attn. to domestic affairs	2	0	3	2	3
Politicians/Government	2	2	1	3	3
Budget Deficit /Nat'l Debt	2	1	1	3	2
Other	14	21	11	13	15
DK/NA	6	5	6	5	6

q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling foreign policy?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May06a
Approve	35	66	13	28	27
Disapprove	54	26	78	57	63
DK/NA	11	8	9	15	10

q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun06a
Approve	33	61	13	27	33
Disapprove	59	32	84	58	59
DK/NA	8	7	3	15	8

q6 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun06a
Approve	32	64	7	29	33
Disapprove	62	33	89	63	61
DK/NA	6	3	4	8	6

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with North Korea?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Feb05b
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	40	62	25	36	39
Disapprove	35	18	49	37	34
DK/NA	25	20	26	27	27

q8 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

					Jun06a
Approve	51	82	27	47	47
Disapprove	42	15	67	41	46
DK/NA	7	3	6	12	7

q9-q20 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q21-q24 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q25 During wartime, some presidents have either received or assumed special war powers, which give the president more authority to act independently when he feels it is necessary. In the current campaign against terrorism, is it a good idea or a bad idea for the president to have the authority to make changes in the rights usually guaranteed by the Constitution?

					Jan06a
Good idea	43	67	24	39	36
Bad idea	53	28	73	56	57
DK/NA	4	4	3	5	7

q26 How much confidence do you have in George W. Bush's ability to handle a crisis -- a lot, some, a little, or none at all?

					May06a
A lot	26	60	4	16	25
Some	27	23	22	34	25
A little	23	10	32	26	21
None at all	24	6	42	22	28
DK/NA	0	1	0	2	1

q27 Do you think leaders of other countries around the world have respect for George W. Bush, or not?

					Oct04a*
Have respect	30	51	18	23	46
Do not have respect	60	38	75	66	44
DK/NA	10	11	7	11	10

Trend is among registered voters.

q28 Do you think George W. Bush has respect for leaders of other countries around the world, or not?

					Mar03c
Yes	51	76	29	49	65
No	44	19	65	46	29
DK/NA	5	5	6	5	6

q29 When it comes to foreign policy, do you think the Bush Administration has focused too much on Iraq and not enough on other countries, or too much on other countries and not enough on Iraq, or has the balance been about right?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Too much on Iraq	58	35	74	64
Too much on other countries	4	3	6	4
Balance about right	32	58	15	24
DK/NA	6	4	5	8

q30 BLANK

q31 Is your overall opinion of Israel very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

					Dec01a
Very favorable	20	30	13	17	36
Mostly favorable	41	44	40	40	15
Mostly unfavorable	20	16	24	20	29
Very unfavorable	6	4	7	7	18
DK/NA	13	6	16	15	3

q32-q36 RELEASED SEPARATELY

q37 Do you think the result of the war with Iraq was worth the loss of American lives and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not?

					Jun06a
Worth it	30	57	9	28	33
Not worth it	63	35	87	66	62
DK/NA	6	8	4	7	5

q38-q39 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q40 Compared to one year ago, do you feel more safe from the threat of terrorism, less safe, or about as safe as you felt one year ago?

					Apr03c
More safe	14	25	6	11	31
Less safe	18	10	26	17	18
Same	68	64	68	71	51
DK/NA	1	1	0	1	

q41 When it comes to foreign policy in general, do you think the Bush Administration should do what it thinks is right no matter what U.S. allies think, or should the Bush Administration take into account the views of U.S. allies before taking action?

Do what it thinks is right	20	36	7	18
Takes views in account	75	60	89	75
It depends (Vol.)	1	2	1	1
DK/NA	4	2	3	6

q42 When it comes to foreign policy in general, what do you think the Bush administration usually does? Do you think the Bush Administration usually does what it thinks is right no matter what U.S. allies think, or does the Bush Administration usually take into account the views of U.S. allies before taking action?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	Total	*** Party ID ***		
	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%
Does what it thinks is right	66	57	75	66
Takes views into account	29	36	23	27
Depends (Vol.)	2	3	1	2
DK/NA	3	4	1	5

q43 Which of the following statements comes closer to your point of view -- the United States should take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts, or the United States should let other countries and the United Nations take the lead in solving international crises and conflicts?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Sep02c
					%
U.S. should take lead	31	44	28	23	46
U.S. should not take lead	59	48	64	63	48
Depends/Some of both (vol.)	6	6	6	6	2
DK/NA	4	2	2	8	4

q44 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q45 Overall, in its efforts to fight terrorism, do you think the Bush administration has gone too far in restricting people's civil liberties, or has it not gone far enough, or has the balance been about right?

Too far	31	11	47	33
Not far enough	12	15	11	11
About right	52	69	35	51
DK/NA	5	5	7	5

q46 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q47 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the US have stayed out?

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun06a
					%
Right thing	47	74	24	45	44
Stayed out	48	24	71	47	51
Don't know/No answer	5	2	5	8	5

q48 How would you say things are going for the U.S. in its efforts to bring stability and order to Iraq? Would you say things are going very well, somewhat well, somewhat badly, or very badly?

Very well	4	9	3	2	5
Somewhat well	37	60	18	35	38
Somewhat badly	30	21	38	29	33
Very badly	27	9	38	32	22
Don't know/No answer	2	1	3	2	2

q49 Regardless of whether you think taking military action in Iraq was the right thing to do -- would you say that the U.S. is very likely to succeed in Iraq, somewhat likely to succeed, not very likely to succeed, or not at all likely to succeed in Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Jun06a
	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	14	27	6	9	19
Somewhat likely	44	54	35	43	41
Not very likely	29	15	38	33	24
Not at all likely	12	4	21	12	13
Don't know/No answer	1	0	0	3	3

q50 How much longer do you think the United States troops will have to remain in Iraq -- for less than a year, one to two years, two to five years, or will U.S. troops have to stay in Iraq for longer than five years?

					Mar06a
Less than a year	5	5	7	3	10
One to two years	23	32	18	20	20
Two to five years	36	32	38	37	36
Longer than five years	31	23	34	36	27
Don't know/No answer	5	8	3	4	7

q51 Which of these do you think is most likely? 1. Iraq will become a stable democracy in the next year or two, OR 2. Iraq will become a stable democracy, but it will take longer than a year or two, OR 3. Iraq will probably never become a stable democracy.

					Jun06a
Will in the next year or two	4	8	2	4	4
Will, but will take longer	41	54	30	39	50
Will never become a democracy	53	37	67	55	43
Don't know/No answer	2	1	1	2	3

q52 Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq -- the United States, or the Iraqi resistance and insurgents, or neither side?

The U.S.	27	49	13	20	34
Iraq resistance	13	7	19	13	9
Neither side	58	41	66	64	55
Don't know/No answer	2	3	2	3	2

q53 From what you have heard or read, how much progress has the United States made in training Iraqi troops to take over from the U.S. a lot, some, not much, none at all, or don't you know enough about it yet to say?

					May06a
A lot	10	18	3	8	12
Some	32	41	29	27	35
Not much	19	7	23	24	20
None at all	3	2	3	3	6
Don't know enough	35	29	40	36	25
DK/NA	1	3	2	2	2

q54 Do you think the United States should or should not set a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	May06a
	%	%	%	%	%
Should	56	42	66	59	60
Should not	40	55	30	36	36
DK/NA	4	3	4	5	4

q55 If you knew that the insurgents would gain control of Iraq as soon as the Americans left, would you favor or oppose setting a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq?

Still favor	33	21	41	36
Oppose	20	20	20	19
Oppose in q54	40	55	30	36
DK/NA in q54	4	3	4	5
DK/NA	3	1	5	4

q56 BLANK

q57 Do you think it is worth the loss of life and other costs for the United States to remain in Iraq until there is a stable democracy there, or is it not worth the loss of life and other costs, or are you unsure?

Worth it	25	50	9	17
Not worth it	42	19	59	47
Unsure	32	30	31	33
DK/NA	1	1	1	3

q58 How do you think the war with Iraq is affecting the United States' image in the world? Is the war making the U.S. image in the world better, making it worse, or is the war having no effect on the U.S. image in the world?

Better	10	19	4	8
Worse	72	54	84	77
No effect	12	20	8	9
DK/NA	6	7	4	6

q59 Do you think the war with Iraq has made U.S. diplomatic efforts in the rest of the Middle East easier, harder, or has it had no effect?

Easier	10	18	7	5
Harder	69	57	76	73
No effect	16	19	12	17
DK/NA	5	6	5	5

q60 Do you think the U.S. presence in Iraq is leading to greater stability in the Middle East, less stability, or doesn't it have any effect on the stability of the Middle East?

Greater stability	25	42	13	21
Less stability	41	22	55	46
No effect	25	29	24	23
DK/NA	9	7	8	10

q61 BLANK

q62 If the U.S. stays in Iraq for several more years, do you think that will eventually make the United States more safe from terrorism, less safe, or won't it make any difference?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
More safe	27	50	11	21
Less safe	21	9	36	18
No difference	50	37	51	59
DK/NA	2	4	2	2

q63-q64 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

q65 How much have you heard or read about the United States government holding suspected terrorists at the U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

A lot	32	34	26	36
Some	37	38	42	33
Not much	18	13	20	20
Nothing at all	11	14	10	10
DK/NA	2	1	2	1

q66 As you may know, for the past five years the United States has been holding a number of suspected terrorists at a U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Based on what you have heard or read, do you think the U.S. should continue to operate the prison, or do you think the U.S. should close the prison and transfer the prisoners somewhere else?

Continue to operate	51	66	38	52
Close it	34	22	46	34
DK/NA	15	12	16	14

q67 When it comes to the treatment of prisoners of war, should the United States follow the international agreements that it and other countries have agreed to, or should the U.S. do what it thinks is right, even if other countries disagree?

Should follow	72	63	77	75
Do what thinks right	25	33	19	22
DK/NA	3	4	4	3

q68 How much have you heard or read about North Korea test-launching a series of missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

A lot	35	40	29	36
Some	44	41	48	44
Not much	14	12	16	14
Nothing at all	7	7	8	6
DK/NA	0	0	0	0

q69 Which of these comes closest to your opinion? 1) North Korea's development of weapons is a threat to the United States that requires military action right now. 2) North Korea's development of weapons is a threat that can be contained for now. OR 3) North Korea's development of weapons is not a threat to the United States at all.

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

	*** Party ID ***				Apr03c
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	
	%	%	%	%	%
Requires action now	16	22	16	12	12
Can be contained	69	69	66	71	71
Not a threat	10	6	14	9	10
DK/NA	5	3	4	8	7

q70 Do you think there will or will not come a time when Israel and the Arab nations will be able to settle their differences and live in peace?

					Gallup Poll
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	2/2006
Yes	31	29	34	32	32
No	64	67	61	64	65
DK/NA	5	4	5	4	3

q71 How much have you heard or read about the current conflict between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon -- a lot, some, not much, or nothing at all?

A lot	40	40	37	44
Some	34	35	36	32
Not much	17	18	19	15
Nothing at all	8	6	8	9
DK/NA	1	1	0	0

q72 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the fighting between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon?

Approve	47	69	29	45
Disapprove	27	10	45	26
DK/NA	26	21	26	29

q73 Do you think the U.S. has a responsibility to try to resolve the conflict between Israel and other countries in the Middle East, or is that not the U.S.' business?

U.S. has responsibility	33	43	29	29
Not U.S. business	58	51	63	60
Don't know/No answer	9	6	8	11

q74 BLANK

q75 What do you think about the way Israel is responding in the current conflict with Hezbollah militants in Lebanon? Has Israel gone too far, not gone far enough, or has Israel's response been about right?

Gone too far	26	16	32	28
Not far enough	9	13	4	12
About right	48	56	47	41
DK/NA	17	15	17	19

q76 In your opinion, do you think that the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon is likely to lead to a larger war between other countries in the Middle East, or not?

** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **

*** Party ID ***

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Yes, likely	61	58	66	60
No, not likely	28	33	25	27
DK/NA	11	9	9	13

q77 Who do you think is mostly to blame for the current fighting between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon - mostly Israel, mostly the Hezbollah militants, or both sides equally?

Israel	5	4	5	6
Hezbollah militants	38	51	27	36
Both equally	46	37	54	45
Other nation (vol.)	1	1	1	1
DK/NA	10	7	13	12

q78 What should the United States do in this conflict? Should the United States government publicly support Israel, should it say or do nothing, or should it publicly criticize Israel?

Support	39	56	29	34
Say nothing	40	34	44	42
Criticize	7	3	11	7
DK/NA	14	7	16	17

q79 Do you think the United States should play a more active diplomatic role in trying to bring peace between Israel and its neighbors, or should the United States reduce its diplomatic role in trying to bring peace between Israel and its neighbors, or should it maintain its present role?

More active	25	22	28	23
Reduce	17	11	16	22
Maintain	53	63	48	47
DK/NA	5	4	8	8

q80 In order to try and end the fighting between Israel and the Hezbollah militants in Lebanon, would you favor or oppose the United Nations sending in a peacekeeping force? IF YES: Would you favor or oppose the United States sending ground troops as part of the United Nations peacekeeping force?

Favor UN troops & U.S. troops	32	31	33	31
Favor UN, oppose U.S.	28	24	35	26
Oppose UN troops	32	38	26	33
DK/NA	8	7	6	10

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	1127	
Total Republicans	351	351
Total Democrats	390	374
Total Independents	386	402