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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Bush Approval Rises Modestly
TEMPERED PUBLIC REACTION TO LONDON ATTACKS

The American public has had a measured reaction to last week's terrorist bombings in London. Interest in news reports on the bombings is at about the same level as for the Madrid terrorist attacks in March 2004, while concerns over another terrorist attack in this country are somewhat higher than after the Madrid train bombings. And by two-to-one the public rejects the idea that terrorist attacks over the past few years are part of a major conflict between the West and Islam.

President Bush's approval ratings are somewhat higher than in the past few months. Overall, 47% approve of Bush's job performance while 46% disapprove. In May and June, more people disapproved of Bush's job performance than approved.

The latest nationwide survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted July 7-10 among 964 adults, finds that more than six-in-ten (62%) Americans see terrorist attacks over the past few years as a conflict with a small radical group, while 28% say they are part of a broader clash with Islam. However, a sizable number of those who say the attacks represent only a limited conflict today believe it will grow into a major world conflict in the future (25% of the general public).

The survey shows that a quarter of Americans say they are very worried there will soon be another terrorist

Reaction to London Bombings				
	<i>Bali</i>	<i>Madrid</i>	<i>London</i>	
	Oct	Mar	July	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	
<i>How closely following news</i>	%	%	%	
Very	20	34	36	
Fairly	34	35	40	
Not too	25	18	17	
Not at all	20	12	6	
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
	100	100	100	
<i>Worried about attack in U.S.</i>				
Very	--	20	25	
Somewhat	--	42	44	
Not too	--	25	19	
Not at all	--	12	11	
Don't know	--	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
		100	100	
<i>Views of Tony Blair*</i>	Apr	Feb	July	
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	
Favorable	88	87	87	
Very favorable	42	43	30	
Mostly favorable	46	44	57	
Unfavorable	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	
	100	100	100	
<i>Bush job...</i>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
Approve	49	42	42	47
Disapprove	46	48	49	46
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100

*Based on those able to rate.

attack in the U.S., while 44% are somewhat worried. That is the highest level of concern since June 2004 (25% very worried) though much lower than the post-9/11 peak reached in February 2003 (34%), shortly before the start of the Iraq war.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair remains widely popular with the American public. Nearly nine-in-ten (87%) of those familiar enough with Blair to offer an opinion have a favorable view of him. That is unchanged from February 2004, although the percentage expressing a very favorable opinion of the British leader has declined from 43% to 30%. Bush's favorable rating stands at 53%, largely unchanged in recent months. A survey released last month by the Pew Global Attitudes Project showed that Americans generally express more confidence in Blair than Bush to do the right thing regarding world affairs; 73% of Americans have a lot or some confidence in Blair, while 62% say the same about Bush (see "U.S. Image Up Slightly, But Still Negative: American Character Gets Mixed Reviews," June 23).

News Interest, Terror Concerns Related

People who paid very close attention to news about the London bombings are twice as likely as those less attentive to say that they are very worried about another terrorist attack in the U.S. (36% very worried, vs. 18%). Those who tracked news on the London attacks very closely also are more apt to describe the terrorist attacks over the past few years as part of a major conflict between Islam and the West.

This same pattern was seen in March 2004 in the aftermath of terrorist bombings in Madrid, Spain. Those who were closely following news about those bombings were more worried about another attack on the U.S. than those paying less attention.

News Attention Linked to Terrorism Concerns				
<i>How worried about another attack in U.S.</i>	<u>Total</u>	<i>Following news — about bombings —</i>		
		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Some-what</u>	<u>Not closely</u>
	%	%	%	%
Very worried	25	36	18	18
Somewhat worried	44	39	47	47
Not too/not at all	30	25	34	33
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Terror attacks are ...</i>				
Part of major conflict	28	33	26	25
Conflict w/ small group	62	61	63	61
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>
	100	100	100	100

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 964 adults, 18 years of age or older, from July 7-10, 2005. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on Form 1 only (N=486), the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
JULY 2005 RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
July 7-10, 2005
N=964

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>	Dis- approve	Don't know		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- approve	Don't know
July 7-10, 2005	47	46	7=100	2002			
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
2004				Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	2001			
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
2003				July, 2001	51	32	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100				
Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100				
Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100				
June, 2003	62	27	11=100				
May, 2003	65	27	8=100				
April 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100				
April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100				
April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100				
March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100				
March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100				
March 20-24, 2003	67	26	7=100				
March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100				
February, 2003	54	36	10=100				
January, 2003	58	32	10=100				

Q.2X How closely have you been following news about the terrorist bombings in London, England? [READ]

		<i>Madrid</i>	<i>Bali</i>
		<u>Mid-March 2004</u>	<u>Late Oct 2002</u>
36	Very closely	34	20
40	Fairly closely	35	34
17	Not too closely –OR–	18	25
6	Not at all closely	12	20
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=486]:

Q.9XF1 Now I'd like your views on some people. (First,) would you say your overall opinion of... [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? [INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]

		-----Favorable-----			-----Unfavorable-----			Never	Can't
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Heard of	Rate
								(VOL)	(VOL)
a.F1	George W. Bush	53	23	30	45	26	19	0	2=100
	Late March, 2005	53	23	30	45	27	18	0	2=100
	Mid-October, 2004 (RVs)	56	26	30	42	23	19	*	2=100
	Early October, 2004 (RVs)	57	27	30	40	20	20	0	3=100
	Early September, 2004	52	25	27	43	24	19	*	5=100
	September 11-14	49	24	25	46	27	19	0	5=100
	September 8-10	55	28	27	40	21	19	*	5=100
	August, 2004	58	27	31	39	22	17	0	3=100
	June, 2004	52	19	33	45	22	23	*	3=100
	Early February, 2004	53	21	32	44	25	19	0	3=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	January 29 - February 1, 2004	52	--	--	47	--	--	--	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	January 2-5, 2004	65	--	--	35	--	--	--	*=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	October 6-8, 2003	60	--	--	39	--	--	--	1=100
<i>Gallup:</i>	June 9-10, 2003	66	--	--	33	--	--	--	1=100
	April, 2003	72	37	35	25	11	14	0	3=100
	December, 2002	68	35	33	27	11	16	0	5=100
	July, 2001	61	22	39	35	14	21	*	4=100
	January, 2001	60	24	36	33	12	21	0	7=100
	May, 2000	58	18	40	31	12	19	1	10=100
	March, 1999 ¹	61	21	40	21	7	14	4	14=100
	November, 1997	54	13	41	18	6	12	9	19=100
c.F1	British Prime Minister Tony Blair	66	23	43	10	3	7	5	19=100
	Late February, 2004	75	37	38	11	4	7	4	10=100
	April, 2003 ²	68	32	36	10	3	7	10	12=100

¹ In March 1999 and November 1997 the category was listed: "Texas Governor George W. Bush."

² In April 2003, item was asked as "Tony Blair" without description.

ASK ALL:

Q.10X How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? **[READ]**

	<u>Very worried</u>	<u>Somewhat worried</u>	<u>Not too worried</u>	<u>Not at all worried</u>	<u>DK/Refused (VOL)</u>
July, 2005	25	44	19	11	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	17	43	27	12	1=100
August, 2004	20	44	25	10	1=100
July, 2004	17	41	26	15	1=100
June, 2004	25	42	20	12	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	20	42	25	12	1=100
Early February, 2004	13	42	28	16	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	20	45	24	10	1=100
August, 2003	13	45	29	12	1=100
March, 2003	22	42	20	14	2=100
February, 2003	34	41	17	7	1=100
January, 2003	18	50	23	8	1=100
December, 2002	31	42	18	8	1=100
Early October, 2002	20	46	22	11	1=100
Late August, 2002	16	46	25	12	1=100
June, 2002	32	44	17	7	*=100
January, 2002	20	42	28	9	1=100
December, 2001	13	39	27	19	2=100
October 15-21, 2001	29	42	18	10	1=100
October 10-14, 2001	27	40	19	12	2=100
Early October, 2001	28	45	15	11	1=100

Q.24X Do you think that the terrorist attacks over the past few years are a part of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe versus the people of Islam, or is it only a conflict with a small, radical group?

IF CONFLICT WITH A SMALL RADICAL GROUP (2 IN Q.24X) ASK:

Q.24Y Do you think this conflict is going to grow into a major world conflict, or do you think it will remain limited to a small, radical group?

		<u>Late Aug³ 2002</u>	<u>Mid-Oct 2001</u>
28	Major conflict	35	28
62	Conflict with a radical group	52	63
25	Is going to grow into a major world conflict	19	--
33	Will remain limited to a small, radical group	28	--
4	Don't know/Refused	5	--
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100

³ In 2002 and 2001 the question was worded: "Do you think the terrorist attacks are the start of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe versus the people of Islam, or is it only a conflict with a small, radical group?"