

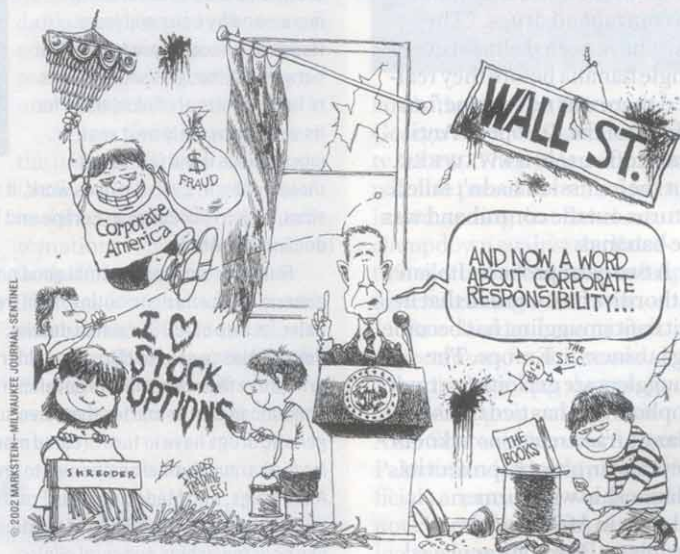
“We are convinced that bin Laden is still alive.”

August Hanning, head of Germany's foreign-intelligence agency, on information gleaned from recent investigations

“I believe very strongly such plans should not be made.” Former Russian president **Mikhail Gorbachev**, on the U.S.'s imminent plans to invade Iraq

“Hold me accountable.” Former president, **Bill Clinton**, speaking at the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, on his regrets of not having done more to combat the disease while he was president

“In the corporate world, sometimes things aren't exactly black and white when it comes to accounting practices.” President **George W. Bush**, defending himself against allegations that his former company, Harken Energy, inflated its reported earnings



“If we had really wanted to forge 50 messages then you could have hired a Swede who could write Swedish perfectly.” **Peter Skaarup**, deputy leader of the Danish People's Party, which placed an ad in a Swedish newspaper thanking the Swedes for their support of the DP's hard-line anti-immigration stance. The ad printed more than 50 messages from Swedes, which another paper claimed had many grammatical mistakes and must have been forged.

“Culture shouldn't be like a neutered tomcat: comfortable, fat and predictable.” Russian author **Vladimir Sorokin**, on the controversy over his novel whose content, deemed pornographic by some, has been the cause of recent protests