

Letters to the Editor (continued)**From page 3**

ble to avoid the killing of innocents, even to the extent of putting our own troops in danger. Saddam Hussien is the real threat to the innocent civilians in Iraq. It is a fact that he has tortured and gassed his own people to maintain his power. When we have successfully removed Saddam Hussein from power I know I will feel safer knowing that we have removed a maniacal dictator bent on our destruction with insidious weapons at his disposal. I hope you will too.

From your fourth paragraph, 'gross misallocation of shrinking public funds to the military'. In this war, it is likely that more of our soldiers will die from some mishap with their equipment than will die in actual combat. It is the federal government's and the president's primary responsibility to defend this nation from those who would do us harm. Those men and women that we send out to perform that duty should be equipped with the best tools that we can provide for them. It is a crime that their own equipment is of a hazard to them than the enemy that they fight.

In response to the whole of paragraph five, it is a fact that every time in history the federal government has cut taxes, revenues to the federal government have increased. We could argue all day about who should receive the tax cut and exactly how do you define the rich. Personally I think it should go to those that earned it. The fact is that cutting taxes is a good way to increase revenues to the government and get us out of the recession that our current president inherited from the last administration.

As for raiding the social security trust fund. What trust fund? It is a fact that the money that we all send to the federal government for social security just goes into the general fund and is spent in the same manner as all of the other taxes they collect. There is no trust fund. When our president proposes letting individuals manage just a small portion of their own social security all we hear about is how risky it would be. The fact is that letting people manage their own account would be a real trust fund for each individual. As far as risk one could put their money in the safest investment that there is and do much better than the

measly 2 percent or less that social security currently returns. It is also a fact that if we let the system go on as it is now it is doomed and I don't see our presidents detractors coming up with any alternative plans of their own.

From paragraph seven 'The reason is power, political power, economic power, absolute power'. Then you attempt to compare our president to some Nazi. Now you have really gone over the edge. Comments like this without any facts to back them up take away from whatever points you were trying to make in your editorial. Get real, our president is not perfect and I disagree with him on many issues, but I trust him and really believe that he is trying to do what he thinks is best for our nation. You imply by your comments that his ambition is to be the dictator of the United States. I guess the point of your editorial is that you really hate our president, George W. Bush. From your previous editorials I think we Independent readers have figured that out already. In your next editorial go a little lighter on the venom and a little heavier on the facts. Also you might consider putting the editorials at the back of the paper like most other papers and maybe allow others in the community to write them occasionally.

**The Dalebroux Family
Vernonia**

WRC is grateful for community support

To the Editor:

Thank you! Thank you! It was heartwarming to receive so much community support for the Adopt A Bed program and the Volunteer Recruitment. On behalf of the Columbia County Women's Resource Center Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and clients, thank you for your support. The women and children in our shelter, The Starting Place, are fortunate to have people like you helping them out during a difficult period in their lives.

On February 25, 2003, CCWRC had a Volunteer Orientation. We had an overwhelming response from the community in offering volunteer services. Many of the people who came are now in our Spring Volunteer Training. Exciting new ideas and events have been taking place since

the volunteers have joined our team. Our Volunteer Coordinator has been working with volunteers to coordinate programs and events for the women and children in our shelter.

In our first month of the Adopt A Bed program, ten people sponsored a bed for the shelter; three sponsored a bed for one year; one sponsored a bed for four months; and six sponsored a bed for one month. It was an exciting first month and we look forward to providing continuing services in our community. Our goal is to have all of our beds (26) sponsored each month.

We all appreciate your concern and caring for the Columbia County Women's Resource Center and shelter. With your help, we continue to strive to meet the immediate physical, emotional and legal needs of victims and to educate the community to eradicate future violence in our county.

Thank you very much for being such concerned and involved community members. The success of the Columbia County Women's Resource Center depends on your continued support and encouragement.

**Vickie J. Hagan
Executive Director
Columbia County Women's
Resource Center**

President's position should be respected

To the Editor:

I was appalled to read about our President being degraded as was done in the March 20, 2003 *Opinion of The Independent* when the President should be respected because of his position! President Bush is not a bully by any means. He is just carrying out his responsibilities to protect this country from an empire that is gaining in power and does not have any respect for America or it's people. In the article Bush was quoted as saying, "we will not pass along our problems to other Congresses, to other presidents and other generations." If we do not take out the Iraqi Regime now, it will be a problem that other Congresses, presidents and generations will have to deal with later.

Bush did not provide tax relief to the wealthy only, but an equal percentage of relief to all taxpayers. True, the wealthy would receive a greater amount of return, but it is still the same

percentage. The tax relief was designed to put more money back into the hands of consumers to spend, and therefore the more money that is spent the more people have jobs, the more money to be able to be spent, etc. in the meantime giving a jumpstart to the economy.

Another thing, by quoting Hermann Goering (the Nazi Field Marshal that started the Gestapo, ordered the extermination of the Jews, was named as Hitler's successor, and later sentenced to death by hanging during the Nuremberg Trials) and applying it to President Bush is another disgrace. By doing so you are virtually call-

ing George W. Bush "Adolph Hitler" and that is totally unacceptable! The President does not have any of the motives that the Nazi Dictator had.

As for me I will continue to respect my President and support him in everything he does 100%! Also if this is the attitude you continue to have toward our elected officials printed in *The Independent*, I will not pick-up another one of your papers and I will discourage others to do the same!

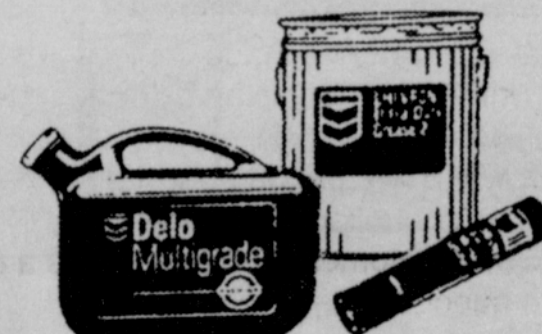
Thank you for hearing my voice.

Sincerely,
**Michael Huntington
Birkenfeld**

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