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## **Letters**

Letters to the Editor  
Kansas City Star  
July 19, 2005

Pat Roberts complains that condemnation of the prisoner mistreatment at Guantanamo Bay is tantamount to “an insult to our brave men and women in uniform” and that these criticisms “could be exploited by terrorists.”

He knows full well that the harsh words are aimed not at our soldiers but at senior administration officials. The U.S. military has always been a model of discipline and respect. The problem lies with the Bush administration policies (indefinite detention, attempts to deny access to legal representation) that were crafted by high-level civilian political appointees.

Roberts also knows that it is not the criticisms of abusive practices that the terrorists are exploiting; it is the abusive practices themselves.

We who criticize the denial of basic human rights to prisoners at Guantanamo Bay want these practices to stop because we recognize how seriously they erode our support in the international community.

*Steve Simon*

*Leawood*