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Date: 17August2007
Leon Hammock, Treasurer
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Subject: Support the Troops Donation

Attached is a check in the amount of \$500.00 made payable to the Florida Society from a very remarkable lady, Judy Hoffman, to be used by the FLSSAR Support Our Troops committee to post boxes to the four units we support in Iraq, and/or for purchase of items to be included in the care packages. Per our conversation, Barbara and I will send you receipts for all expenditures.

Our association with Mrs. Hoffman grew from my letter to the editor of the Sarasota Herald Tribune in which I described what the FLSSAR has been doing to support our troops in Iraq for the past three years. In the letter, I mentioned that we sent everything from personal items to Beanie Babies for the Iraqi kids. The very next day, I got a phone call from Judy Hoffman. She donated her collection of more than 360 Beanie Babies and she and Mr. Hoffman delivered them to us for distribution to our troops. Barbara and I returned from a visit to our grandkids in Ohio last Tuesday. Waiting for us was a box of personal items and more Beanie Babies from Judy. On Thursday we received the check, which is simply earmarked for "postage."

This lady has given the Sons of the American Revolution a huge lesson in citizenship, generosity, and appreciating what it means to be an American. She has gifted us with the funds to post more than sixty flat-rate boxes to our servicemen and women. I will make an appeal for donations to the Board of Management at the October meeting, the success of which will enable us to send really nice boxes for the holiday season, including plenty of Beanie Babies for the kids in Iraq. Barbara and I are looking forward to the pleasant task of putting the boxes together and getting them ready for shipping.

Fraternally,

Frank X. Hodalski

Cc: Judith Hoffman; Grant Wallin, President, FLSSAR; Lindsey Brock, Immediate Past President, FLSSAR; Dick Fowler, Editor, Florida Patriot

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4F I SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007 | HERALD-TRIBUNE

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

The electric power lobby will never allow us to be free from our monthly utility bill.

Surely it is possible to operate one's house like a cell phone — run it off batteries then plug it in to a power source to recharge it. Solar-powered homes are similar, with a give-and-take relationship to the electric grid.

Using the cell phone analogy, one's home could run for a few days off stored battery power. Then, automatically, the batteries would be recharged with electricity for several hours to bring them back to full power, for use over the next few days.

It seems as if this method would use a lot less electricity than an average household and hopefully be a lot less expen-

sive than a typical electric bill.

So why can't we get more help from our government with creative ways to help us all make a difference on how much power we use and how much we have to pay for it? New industries in battery technology will develop over time, as well as discoveries about better ways to recycle them.

However, unless we vote for people who want to get rid of special-interests' control of government and get government working for the average citizen, we will have no hope of directing the political agenda toward such endeavors. Regardless of a candidate's party, vote for freedom from special interests.

David DeMinico
Sarasota



Group sends care packages to U.S. bases in Iraq

Many individuals, groups and organizations are paying much more than lip service to giving material support to our servicemen and women in Iraq.

For almost three years, the Sons, Daughters and Children of the American Revolution have worked together to send care packages to troops in Iraq. We have adopted two Army companies and one Marine unit, and we recently added a Navy river patrol squadron. Cash donations from our members have provided \$1,000 for postage alone and much more for the purchase of everything from foot powder and playing cards to Beanie Babies for the Iraqi kids.

The Tequesta Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution in Miami recently collected a variety of items which helped us fill 25 flat-rate boxes. In addition, members of our local chapters of

Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution routinely visit Bay Pines VA Hospital, taking personal items and purchasing coupons which are given to patients for use in the PX.

The commanding officer of Regimental Combat Team 6 at Camp Fallujah, Iraq, recently wrote to us, saying, in part: "During a time of war, the support of the American public is critical to mission success, as well as the morale of the troops on the front lines. When we receive your care packages, we know that America stands by her troops."

Frank X. Hodalski

The writer is chairman of the Support Our Troops Committee, Florida Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Sarasota.

Englewood choir collects and mails items

I would like to thank Robert Goodman for his guest column Tuesday titled "Our community can aid troops," and his men-

was suggested for the choir by our director of music, Fonda Davies, who has two sons in the military.

A list of recommended items is available in the

country.

The Declaration says\ alter or abolition- wish is the /greed of capitalism. For capitalism to < honest medicine involve national pol

No more for the

With Proposition 13 construction to House could ignore a shift her behavior Congress; \ tion of these indicted felon Sid with his support for welfare, tramp national right