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Could this be media driven?

Swiss Review 02/2003, Editorial

I respect the right of the Swiss population to be against the war but I highly question the 90% because among our families and our friends, we do not find anywhere that high a percentage. Could this not be "media driven?" Be that as it may, now that the war is over, you may have to restate some of your statements. I don't see massive unemployment in Switzerland. The drop in demands for equipment started after 9/11 and not because of the Iraq war. The Iraq war did not cause the price of oil to go up that much.

*Hans B. Nadler,
San Antonio, Texas, USA*

Harmful to Switzerland

Swiss Review 2/2003, Editorial

On the one hand, Mr Ribi's editorial has now been largely confirmed by subsequent events. On the other hand, the fact that the "Swiss Review"

published this unqualified condemnation of America and played down the actions of an evil dictator is highly questionable for a magazine such as yours and harms Switzerland's image. It is precisely this kind of dilettante "peace policy" that throughout history has almost always led to war.

*W. Buholzer
Munich, Germany*

Nobody likes war

Swiss Review 2/03, Editorial

I will not argue with you about war, as far as I know nobody likes or wants a war. I will however argue with you that the sentiments in Europe are indeed anti-American sentiments and not sentiments against US Policy. I have sensed that in the 27 years I lived in Switzerland and sense it every time my american husband and I go back there to visit my family. It seems we always have to justify our actions as a nation. It would be nice if everybody would be as "neutral" and self-absorbed as the Swiss. A lot less young Ameri-

can soldiers would have to die if we minded our own business. We could just sit back and watch someone else do the dirty work for change. Maybe the Europeans could volunteer

*Andrea Sawyer-Weder
Seattle, Washington, USA*

Spoken from the heart

Swiss Review 2/03, Editorial

At the risk of once more infuriating the "Andy" referred to in the letter, I think the clear, objective sentiments expressed by Rolf Ribi in the "Swiss Review" editorial were "spoken from the heart".

*Schlosser Margrit
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

"Heimweh" is untranslatable

Swiss Review 2/03, Focus

By the way, the word "Heimweh" is peculiar to German and virtually untranslatable: most language textbooks agree on this point.

*Theo Brune
Bad Iburg, Germany*

Eskimo sickness

"Swiss Review" 2/03, Focus

I had to smile when I read the brief article entitled "Cowherd melodies that tear at heart-strings" and felt moved to pen these lines. Having lived for several years in the land of the Eskimos (Inuit), I can assure you that they are much more prone to home sickness than we are. Almost as soon as they leave the boundaries of their community they want to return. Scarcely have they reached the "Great South" (Winnipeg, Ottawa or Yellowknife) – usually for medical or job-related reasons – than they begin to fade away from heat and boredom. Their ties with family and clan are very close, and they also have a strong attachment with the earth: with the wind that blows over vast expanses, with hunting and fishing, the freshness and cleanness of the air, and the profound silence.

*Fabienne Theytaz
Canada*

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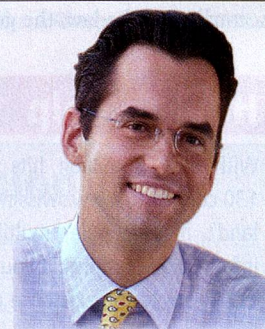
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