The U.N.'s Plea on Guantánamo

To the Editor:

The United Nations report about Guantánamo Bay, Cuba ("Investigators for U.N. Urge U.S. to Close Guantánamo," news article, Feb. 17), makes it clearer than ever that the Bush administration needs to hear the following message from the American people: Not only is it possible to defeat terrorism while keeping our civil liberties, but also the only way we will ever defeat terrorism is by keeping those civil liberties.

We must lead by example. If we continue to shame our country by sacrificing the very hope we should bring the world, we will lose the war on terror, by joining it on the wrong side.

GEORGE STETTEN

Pittsburgh, Feb. 17, 2006