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What a Friend We Have in Britain

I was amazed to see Richard Cohen claim that "You could argue . . . that Britain is a strategic burden" [op-ed, Sept. 11].

If you could, it would certainly be a very strained argument about a country that, far from being a liability, is a major trading partner and close ally that supports U.S. foreign policy, even to the absurdity of backing our lead in Iraq. Mr. Cohen added that some considered Great Britain a strategic burden to the United

States in the run-up to World War II. Perhaps, but many Britons would argue that they fought fascism for well over two years, much of that time alone, before America was blasted into the war by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor. Aiding the British during that time, especially with a financial loan and lend-lease supplies, seems, under the circumstances, to have been a small burden.

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