September 18, 2017 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am very concerned by myopic foreign policy. US foreign policy has long been guided by attempts to spread freedom and democracy throughout the world. We have not always lived up to this ideal with CIA involvement in South American coups and the Iran-Contra affair as well as the wars in Korea, Vietnam and Iraq. These ideals have, however, inspired our greatest successes with the rebuilding of Europe and the ongoing NATO agreements, our world wide humanitarian aid and nudging both friends like South Korea and foes like China toward more open institutions. Incidentally all of these also improved life here at home. Acting idealistically inspires others even when those actions are misguided. Justifying evil actions by their ends rarely achieve those ends and debase and weaken our country.

Please assure me that you will work for freedom.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our moral world leadership.

Sincerely, Eric Babson