

October 23rd, 2018
Eric Babson
babson@math.ucdavis.edu
1094 Cragmont Avenue
Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about Yemen. This administration has taken the simplistic approach of picking groups in the middle east to blindly support. Besides no single actor having goals fully aligned with democracy and human rights, your financial interests appear to dictate who to back. Saudi Arabia is a prime example with the attacks on the economy of Iran, enthusiasm for weapons sales and material support for a proxy war in Yemen apparently related to Saudi spending at your hotels and charming of your son-in-law. This policy has been possible partly because career officials in the state department have been sidelined with Secretaries Pompeo and Mattis ignoring all evidence to certify Saudi good faith and partly because of a growing acceptance of war by presidential fiat. This unquestioning support has continued in the face of European opposition to Iran sanctions, the murder of Mr Kashoggi and the worsening conditions in Yemen where civilians are being targeted - including a bus full of children last August - and the north of the country is descending into famine.

Please assure me that you will extricate the US from Yemen.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our respect for human rights.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson