January 25, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about erratic foreign policy. In the past two years the US has gone from a powerful force around the world to a childish caricature of one. The State Department has been decimated and security analyses are ignored. There are a few chosen good guys: Saudi Arabia, Russia and a bad guy: Iran and otherwise allies are randomly attacked and autocrats randomly praised. With little coherence or mechanism to get on the good list comes little influence - though President Erdogan is trying to influence you with brazen diplomatic stunts and plans to attack Kurdish positions. Wildly varying plans are being thrown about by Secretary Pompeo, Advisor Bolton, Envoy Jeffrey and yourself. Most recently Secretary Pompeo in Egypt has put forth a 'Let's break anything reminiscent of President Obama' policy bringing Iran and the previous President into his vision but not human rights. Were not so many lives at stake this would be comic.

Please assure me that you will take military decisions seriously.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson