January 1, 2020 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about the axis of evil. Your approaches to each of Iran, North Korea and Iraq appear to be failing and coupled with your decimation of the State Department and remarkable stubbornness there is little chance of changing course. Since the 2002 State of the Union speech Iraq has become more chaotic with a sizable Iranian proxy contingent due both to the war prosecuted then and your approach to Iran which by ending President Obama's agreement and imposing arbitrary sanctions has left the Iranian government with little reason to accommodate western goals and good reason to distract from economic issues. In Korea you took the opposite tack insisting on having reached your own agreement (though President Kim disagrees). In Iraq this week the US embassy was under siege. In Iran the nuclear program continues. From North Korea there is a promise of a new blockbuster weapon.

Please assure me that you will begin diplomatic efforts.

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

Sincerely, Eric Babson