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December 21, 1979

Britt Alan 5037 Churchill Court Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear Britt:

We wish you to know that we are deeply appreciative of the time and effort you took to express your concern about the situation in Iran. We are happy that you are keeping up with current events and are active politically. It is important to understand not only your own country but all countries in the world.

The Iranian people do not hate the American people. They are just upset and outraged that the U.S. government let the deposed Shah into the U.S., when they knew it would cause serious consequences in Iran. When he first came to the U.S., the Iranian people demanded, peacefully, for his extradition. After two weeks with no answer they took over the embassy. After the take-over, documents were found inside which show it was a place of espionage against Iran. The people inside the embassy may be involved in crimes for which they must be tried. But please be assured that the hostages are being treated fairly and humanely.

It has been troubling to us that those who feel morally upset by the taking of the hostages in Iran, have never expressed their outrage when the U.S. government throught the CIA first overthrew the popular and legitimate government of Mossadegh in 1953 and installed the Shah, and then, through continuous support helped to maintain his brutal and repressive regime for a quarter of a century. The deposed Shah is a man who in one single day on September, 8, 1979 killed between 6,000 and 8,000 unarmed, innocent men, women and children in the streets of Tehran. That very same day President Carter sent a message of support for the Shah.

It is up to each American who believes in freedom, truth and justice to join in the demand for the return of the ex-Shah to Iran to stand trial for his many atrocious crimes. Please be kind enough to share this letter with your fellow classmates and perhaps the enclosed material will be of some use in helping you to understand the situation more fully.

In peace,

Ali A. Agah

Charge d'Affaires'