Process Paper

Our topic was about the Iranian Hostage Crisis which we thought was an important topic to cover. The title of our project is Diplomacy of The Iranian Hostage Crisis: Success, Failure and Consequences. Our inspiration for our 2022 National History Day project first came to us when we found out one of the citizens of our town was a former hostage. We were also very interested in our topic because we knew it had impacted America's relationship with Iran till this day. We enjoyed creating a website based on this topic because we learned as much as we could so we could inform others about the significance of this historical event.

We conducted our research by using websites, our local library and an interview with a former hostage. The websites we found to be the most informative to the research of our project were the Jimmy Carter Library, National Archives and Youtube videos. From these websites we learned about the background events of diplomacy between Iran and the United States leading up to the takeover at the embassy, the failed mission attempting to rescue the hostages safely and the consequences after they returned. The most helpful resource was former hostage, Mike Moeller. He provided information that we were not able to find on the internet or in books. For example, his first hand experience before, during and after the storming of the embassy. He also told us about conversations he had throughout the takeover.

All of our information was kept in a research journal (Google Spreadsheets) so both partners had access to it whether they were at school or home. Each tab of the journal was a different source and contained information, quotes, pictures and the connection to history - social, political, and culture. During our research we divided our work by each finding a certain number of resources.

When it came to putting the information into the layout of our website we decided it would be beneficial to break our information into different sections and make the final decision on what would be the most beneficial. We based our topic pages off of the events we thought were most significant to inform others and that were most relevant to the National History Day theme.

Throughout the process of creating our project there were a few obstacles that we experienced. The biggest issue we had was choosing the information to put into the website as there was so much in this story of terrorism against the United States.

We felt that the Iranian Hostage Crisis fit the criteria of the National History Day theme because it involved diplomacy between Iran and America. As well as the debate of

deciding a rescue mission and whether it would be a success or a failure. Lastly, the final consequences the event had on America and Iran. Our topic was important in history due to its long-lasting effects it had on America and Iran's negative relationship.