Iranian Hostage Crisis Primary Source Timeline

Directions: Use the website to answer the questions about the events and government reactions to the Iranian Hostage Crisis.

**State of the Union Address, Jimmy Carter, January 21, 1980**

teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/state-of-the-union-address-168/

1. Why does Jimmy Carter believe Iran took 50 Americans hostage at the embassy?
2. How have the three basic developments America has gone through caused the tensions that America is going through in the Middle East?
3. Why is America’s main goal containment of Communism and not the full explosion of communism?
4. Why does President Carter state that America should be getting involved in other countries affairs?
5. What does President Carter believe will increase relations with a majority of Middle Eastern countries?

**Relations with Islamic Nations Statement by the President, Jimmy Carter, Feb 7, 1980**

teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/relations-with-islamic-nations-statement-by-the-president/

1. What does President Carter say Muslim countries have in common with America? Why is he bringing this up?
2. How does Carter plan on improving relations with Muslim nations in the Middle East?
3. Why does put an emphasis on stating that America is still friends with Islamic countries? What is the point of this?

**Executive Order 12205-Economic Sanctions Against Iran, Jimmy Carter, April 7, 1980**

teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/executive-order-12205-economic-sanctions-against-iran/

1. What is the purpose of putting sanctions on Iran?
2. Why does Carter leave out medical and survival needs in the sanction against Iran?

**Sanctions Against Iran Message to the Congress Reporting Further Prohibitions on Transactions with Iran and Transmitting an Executive Order, Jimmy Cater, April 17, 1980**

teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/sanctions-against-iran-message-to-the-congress-reporting-on-further-prohibitions-on-transactions-with-iran-and-transmitting-an-executive-order/

1. Why do you think Jimmy Carter thought that more sanctions were needed against Iran? What does this say about the Iranian Hostage Crisis and relations?
2. Why does Carter say that the area of Iran has a vital importance to the United States?
3. What was the purpose of banning travel to and from Iran? How did Carter believe this was going help in the long term?
4. Why do these sanctions not apply to news media outlets?

**State of the Union Address, Jimmy Carter, January 16, 1981**

<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/state-of-the-union-address-part-iii/>

1. Why has America been so patient with Iran during the hostage crisis?

**President Ronald Reagan’s Speech to the Nation on the Release of TWA Hostages**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcVnNqrkQPk>

1. How has the policy changed from Carter to Reagan?
2. What is promised to every person according to Reagan and why is this promised?
3. What has the fight switched from Communism and how has this had a long lasting impact on America?
4. Who does Reagan give credit to for helping America in the Middle East and why are these relations important?

**Free Response Question:** How do you feel the American public felt about Jimmy Carter at the end of his term after the Iranian Hostage Crisis? How do you believe this correlated with Reagan’s popularity?