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STATEMENT FROM THE FAMILIES OF THE AMERICAN HIKERS DETAINED IN IRAN

The families of Shane Bauer, Sarah Shourd and Josh Fattal issued the following statement today in response to the latest reports from Tehran regarding their detention.

"The allegation that our loved ones may have been engaged in espionage is untrue. It is entirely at odds with the people Shane, Sarah and Josh are and with anything that Iran can have learned about them since they were detained on July 31. Shane, Sarah and Josh have now been held for more than 100 days simply because they apparently strayed into Iran by accident while hiking in Iraqi Kurdistan. We again call on Iran to show compassion to our loved ones and release them without delay. This has already gone on for too long."

November 9, 2009