Dr. Thomas L. Saaty
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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Dr. Saaty,

Thank you for your letter of May 13.

It was good of Dr. Scoville to mention me to you, and of you to write. I had asked some time ago for more details on the game studies mentioned in his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (ACDA authorization HR 14940) in March 19, 1968. This referred to an analysis of ABM options which does not seem to be included in your 1968 book, which I have scanned with interest, and intend to peruse more carefully.

My own work on computers has involved the simulation of inductive behavior. I have been speculating about applying this approach to theory-operation in diplomacy, a "theory" here being a draft text of an agreement to be negotiated. I would relate this to the sets of strategic options that you have available as input to your game analyses. Indeed, your game programs might eventually serve as "performance programs" to test the utility of various hypotheses. However, there are formidable problems in creating the necessary interfaces, and it may still be useful to work with less fully formalized filters for the rejection of the most untenable permutations (like 1.5 in your book).

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If you know of other work along these lines, or can offer any other comments I would be most grateful.

I would also be interested to learn more about the didactic use of your model programs, and the other foreign and domestic applications mentioned in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg Professor of Genetics

JL/rr