Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Eldridge

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June 29, 1968

Dear Mr. Lederberg

Your advocacy of the doctrine that "parity is the most stable equilibrium for mutual security" has a familiar ring. The same argument was used by Alger Hiss in imposing the "veto" on the United Nations conference at San Francisco.

The difficulty with this theory is that "parity" is never attainable in fact. No matter what may be expressed in words there is no such thing as "equality" on the process level. "Equality" is a higher abstraction of the human nervous system which is empirically unattainable. No two individuals are identical, hence no two groups of individuals can attain the identity which is the quid pro quo of "parity."

The great periods of "peace" which have been brought about in the world history have been created by overpowering forces exerted by a single power. Pax Romana, Pax Brittania could never have been attained by seeking "parity."

Let us hope that the missile gap continues and in our favor.

Sincerely

F R Eldridge