February 2, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about nuclear war. Proliferation during the 75 year atomic era has been slowed by mostly bilateral agreements between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The Iran agreement was the only more recent success. Negotiations today are complicated by several factors. There are more players: China, India and Pakistan. NATO cohesion is at a low point. US negotiating power has been compromised by a decimated State Department and a virulently anti-agreement team led by Mr Bolton who helped end the ABM treaty and the Iran treaty and now apparently the INF treaty. Your administration has ended many agreements but negotiated precious few. The decision to end the INF treaty appears to be yet another abdication to President Putin as it allows him to point to the US as the instigator while continuing to deploy an intermediate range system. The US has no such plans. The game theory of nuclear arms has been out of the news for decades but your administration should revisit that analysis.

Please assure me that you will avoid accelerating the nuclear arms race. I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our restrained weapons development.

Sincerely, Eric Babson