50th Anniversary Paper*

Commentary on Lee A (1970): Supranational Operational Research

R Cuninghame-Greene, Editor, Operational Research Quarterly, 1969–1971.

I was present when Alex Lee presented this paper¹ at the national conference more than 30 years ago and I well recall how my attention was gripped and held. Here was an arena for OR, orders of magnitude broader than that of the classical industrial and commercial management with which I was more familiar.

Like many an important paper, it was notable as much for the questions it raised as for those it answered. Bob Chapman, the conference chairman, had created a formid-

able challenge in posing this topic, and Alec Lee concluded by turning this challenge back on the OR Community at large. It is still appropriate today to ask how far we have gone in meeting it.

Reference

- 1 Lee A (1970) Supranational Operational Research *Opl Res Q* **21**: 5–11.

*In order to commemorate to 50th anniversary of the Journal, a set of influential JORS papers from the past 50 years has been selected. One is being inserted into each issue in 2000, accompanied by a brief commentary.