

*Pepper mailed me this  
without more.*

To All Members of the Coalition Conference Committee:

Dear Friends:

The much discussed and long considered Conference appears finally likely to get off the ground early this spring.

As you know, the involvement of some of the planners in the assassination's investigation and hearings constituted a diversion.

An emergency situation involving the life of Chuck Dederich, the founder of Synanon, arose in January, and has required an extraordinary amount of time on the part of a number of the Coalition Conference planners. Chuck Dederich, who for some time has been unable to take care of his own affairs, and critically ill physically, was the object of an extradition requisition by Jerry Brown, the Governor of California, based upon allegations that he conspired to attempt to murder a Los Angeles lawyer. The fact that there was no conceivable basis of probable cause did not prevent Governor Brown from responding to the wave of hysteria in his State following the Jonestown tragedy and the efforts of the Los Angeles District Attorney to both make headlines and find a notable scapegoat.

Dederich has been so ill that movement of any kind would likely kill him; and consequently a serious effort to prevent extradition was mounted, which in fact involved a number of you.

Bill Pepper and Flo Kennedy were retained as Special Counsel, and submitted a brief Amici Curiae to the Superior Court of Mohave County, Arizona in support of the application for a Writ of Habeas Corpus. Pepper argued before that Court in support of the Writ on Monday, January 15, 1979.

The Planning Committee is pleased to announce that it appears that adequate funding has been committed to provide for the transportation and lodging expenses of the Conference participants, and we are looking forward to scheduling it at the earliest time this spring.

We trust that a couple of days early in April will be convenient for you and ask you to please inform us if any day or days during the first three weeks of April are totally impossible for you. Thanks for your continued diligence and patience.

Yours sincerely,

By: *Ken Ruby / Poff*

PLANNING COMMITTEE