

Gerard Selby
13301 Overbrook Lane
Bowie, MD 20715

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Dear Chip,

From McKnight I hear that Jim had now scheduled the press conference he promised for so long ago on the 25th, two days after his return from Singapore. From Wrone I hear that Jim is afraid because he thinks he'll be asked questions he cannot answer. Aside from the fact that means he has not read the book it also means he has not paid attention to what I suggested to begin with, that he repeat he is doing that for me because travel is unsafe for me and I'll answer all the questions he cannot. If he did what I suggested any media present would have enough. And, if any want more, I can give it. I am inclined to believe that Jim is troubled by some of the debunking I've done, debunking what seems to have assumed importance to him. He has yet to come to understand that the theories and any kind of pretended solution means trouble and can do no good.

I did send him drafts of everything to be said and of documents and with an explanation of each document. I've heard not a word from him since, in a long time.

When I heard from McKnight that without speaking to me and just after he'd given Dave the date he'd hold it, two weeks ago, he shifted to holding it to coincide with COPA, I told McKnight to tell him to forget about the whole thing, that I'd have nothing to do with that and did not want it, that I want no association with some of those nuts or their nuttiness. and that holding a press conference on a book six months after it appeared was ridiculous.

While he or others may suspect that I have some personal or ego interest in this I do not. Such things have not been in my mind for many years. If you and Sandy had come up, as we'd hoped, you'd have seen the amount of work I've done that almost nobody knows about and that is hardly ego-indulgence. Not at my age and in the shape I'm in.

I suppose the possibilities are reduced by the passing of time but my interest was and is in those possibilities. With all that will confront Jim when he returns, when he is so overly-committed to begin with, the date he selected can give him and what happens some problems. But once he got the supply of books there was nothing external to delay him. But he never spoke to me, not once, and never once responded when I wrote him. My hope was that the competitive situation of a press conference might overcome the built-in media barriers to any attention to the content of the book, and that is what I wanted and want. And all Jim had to say is that because he had handled all that FOIA litigation for me, because travel is unsafe for me and they'd not go to Frederick, he is making the information available for me. With the copies I gave him and the comments to make on each. For what he did not know all he had to say was that I'd answer the questions he could not. And not try to answer those he could not. Anyway, if he speaks to you on his return before the event, will you please try to get him to see that this is simple, truthful and adequate? Thanks, and we hope you can make it up soon, *Harold*