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Dear Maxine,

I look forward to a discussion with you. Things are so confused & confusing to me.

One suggestion made to me is to have an open NIH "Town Forum" with press invited, & I answer questions all day long. Whereas this has some attractive aspects to me others have advised against it, saying it is too "risky" & provides too many possibilities for volatile press interactions.

Nonetheless, I must find

some pathway, some mechanism  
to clarify a few key issues  
& perhaps also to make  
apologies for managerial  
imperfections etc. & anywhere  
else people think it is needed.

The key thing is that people  
have a small fraction of the  
story, & is perpetually misconstrued  
to the advantage of the French  
government. Mitterrand is openly  
using this to hide from their  
blood test scandal which somehow  
rarely is mentioned here. Of course,  
Duggell-Stockton et al are another  
& more serious matter. Joe Orsk  
has prepared a "white paper" which is written  
clearly & clarifies many, perhaps all, of  
the points, but I am unsure what to  
do with it.  
Hope we talk soon. Regards & thanks,  
Bob