

March 31, 1969

Barbara Reid
538 St. Phillips
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Barbara,

You may remember speaking with me on the phone one night several months ago when I was trying to reach Harold at your place. I very much enjoyed speaking with you and appreciated your invitation to visit when I am in N.O. I hope to have that opportunity this summer.

You are undoubtedly aware of attacks on yourself by Kerry Thornley and Dave Lifton (parroting Thornley's words) in OPEN CITY, the underground paper from Los Angeles. You are probably also aware of the fact that both of them go around calling you a witch in phone calls and letters. Recently I got a call from Dave Lifton during which he mentioned something you may not be aware of which relates to his attacking you and supporting Thornley, although it may be no more than a rationalization of his views. He told me that Dick Billings had fully investigated Thornley and cleared him, and that it was the Thornley thing that turned him against Garrison. He further claimed that Billings told him that he interviewed you and that you were evasive and fully unconvincing, and made it sound like you had probably made the whole thing up. Dave has told others, and me, that he had a source other than Thornley, and this is very likely it. He mentioned it while quite excited since I was attacking his view on Thornley on the basis that he had no evidence, only Thornley's word, and that if all they could find wrong with you was that you were interested in witchcraft, I couldn't see how that could affect your credibility. In fact, I enraged him by saying that I hoped that you were knowledgeable about voodoo or other forms of witchcraft, since I planned to meet you sometime in the future and am very interested in such things myself. I would be very interested in any comments you might have time to jot down about the Billings interview.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Penn Jones. It is a reply to many letters of mine, one of which mentioned that you had spotted Boxley et. al., and that they had tried to convince Jim that you were an agent, and added comments I had heard from Harold, Vince, and Louis Ivon about your ability as an investigator. Penn's source is probably Boxley.

Best wishes. Hope to see you in the future.

Gary Schoener
1080 15th Ave. SE
Minneapolis, Minn. 55414

cc: Harold
Vince