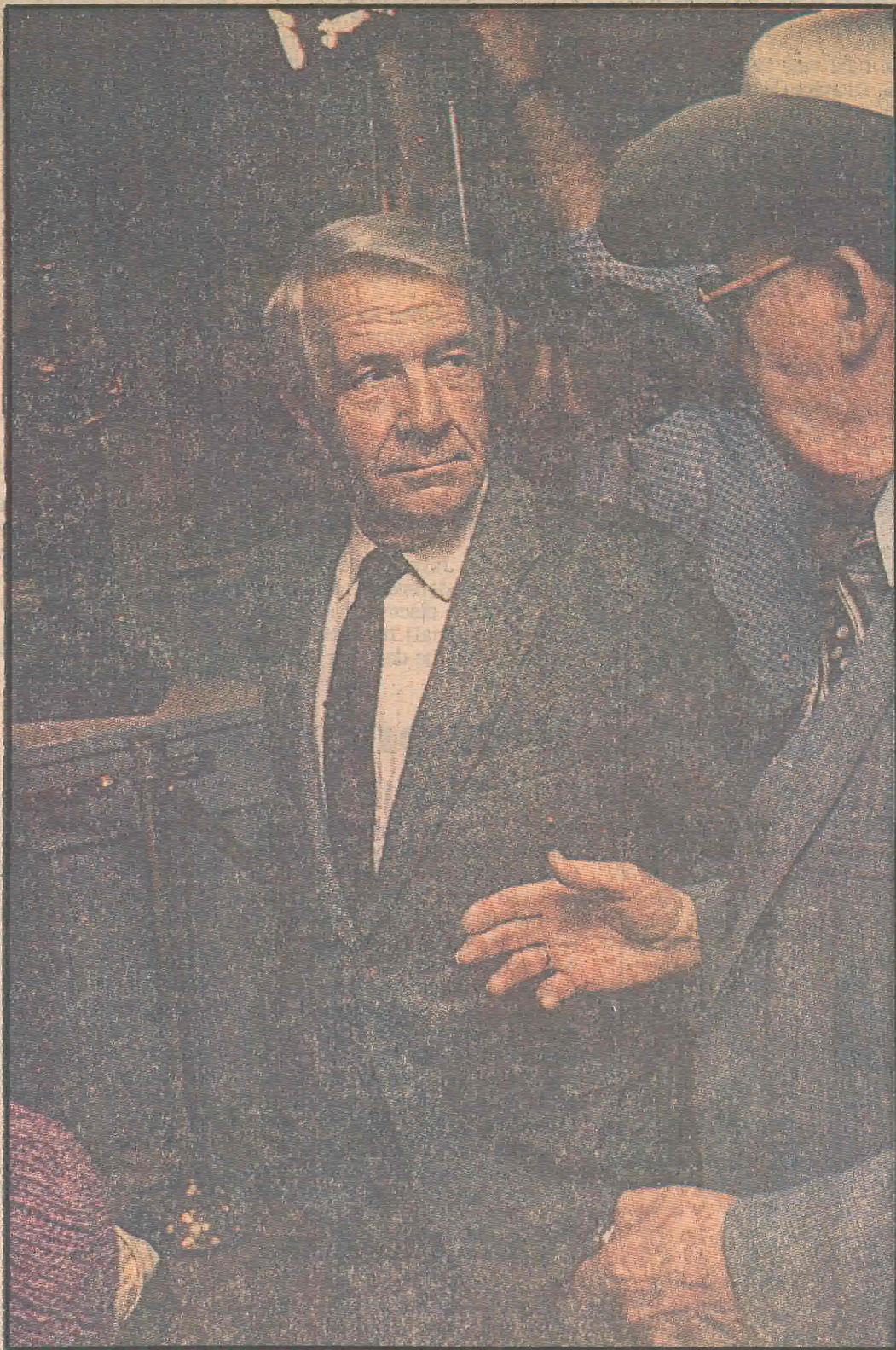


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Staff photo — Mike James

Harry Reasoner (left) talks with Gaines DeGraffenreid, of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame

## Harry Reasoner readies Lucas report in Waco

By **DARRELL DUNN**  
Tribune-Herald staff writer

A "60 Minutes" report about convicted killer Henry Lee Lucas and McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell is nearing completion, according to newsman Harry Reasoner, who was in Waco Wednesday.

Reasoner, who filmed a segment inside the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame for his report, said he has been in Waco three times gathering information. He said the report should be completed within three weeks.

Reasoner, the gray-haired veteran television newsman, declined to reveal completely the nature of the report, but indicated it will be concerned primarily with Lucas, his murder confessions, and how Feazell initiated a grand jury investigation that cast doubt on many of Lucas' confes-

sions.

"Lucas is a man who was generally believed to have been the biggest serial murderer in American history, or at least the biggest known serial murderer. And there have been some questions about how much of a murderer he really was," Reasoner said.

"It's a controversy that I think will interest people. It interests us," he said.

Waco became the center of the Lucas controversy last summer when Feazell and state Attorney General Jim Mattox conducted a three-month-long grand jury probe into confessions made by Lucas, a one-eyed drifter who is currently on Texas' death row.

Lucas at one time claimed to have killed

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## Reasoner report to include Feazell

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more than 600 people during cross-country travels between 1975 — when he was released from a Michigan prison — and 1983 — when he was arrested in Montague County on a weapons charge.

While in Montague County Jail, Lucas began confessing to hundreds of murders. But after being sentenced to die for one murder conviction and accumulating several other lengthy prison terms, Lucas' story changed.

Lucas said he had lied about the confessions, and told *Dallas Times Herald* reporter Hugh Aynesworth

he killed only three people.

During a series of lengthy reports, Aynesworth was able to document that Lucas could not have been involved in many of the murders attributed to him.

During a press conference in Waco, Lucas told reporters he had killed only one person: his mother. Texas Ranger Bob Prince labeled Lucas' claims "absolutely absurd."

Feazell said that although Lucas had at one time confessed to three unsolved McLennan County murders, he (Feazell) was never satisfied Lucas was guilty. Feazell said he contacted Mattox, and the attorney general also voiced skepti-

cism.

Reasoner said Wednesday he decided to film a bridge (a short stand-up segment used in television to move from one subject to another) for his report, "and I need something that said Texas and the Texas Rangers."

He chose to film the segment in the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame, in front of a series of paintings of famous Texas cowboys, outlaws and lawmen.

Reasoner said he didn't know when the report would air. But he said it would be sometime during the current television season.