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with William Turner, of *Ramparts*, he compiled information for an "official history" of the case.⁴⁴ Edward Jay Epstein and Jones Harris, a New York buff, also had access to all the files, as well as to Ferrie's belongings.⁴⁵ Penn Jones, with Allan Chapman, who believed a worldwide conspiracy of intellectuals controlled the television networks, reported on developments in Texas. Harold Weisberg pored over the Warren Commission volumes, while Raymond Marcus and Richard Sprague concentrated on the films and photographs taken at Dealey Plaza (the Zapruder film was not yet available). Vincent Salandria, Richard Popkin, and comedian Mort Sahl gave general advice. William Gurvich, Garrison's chief investigator, later said, "His true investigative staff . . . [when] I was with him were not the police officers, but the authors of the books that are critical of the Warren Report."⁴⁶ Garrison dubbed himself "the wagon boss of the buffs."^{47*}

Once the investigation was public, Garrison began to put more pressure on Ferrie, calling in more of his associates for questioning. When he learned that Ferrie had known ex-FBI agent Guy Banister (who died of a heart attack in 1964), he extended the probe toward Banister and the anti-Castro Cubans. So far, Garrison had found only one person willing to testify. He was David Lewis, a shipping clerk who claimed to have seen Oswald, Ferrie, Banister, and anti-Castro activist Carlos Quiroga at a meeting in New Orleans. The only problem was that Lewis was adamant it was in early 1962, when Oswald either was in Russia or had just returned to Texas.⁴⁸ But Garrison was so desperate to build a case

*When Garrison's investigation ended ignominiously several years later, most of his supporters backed away from him. Some, like Harold Weisberg and Edward Epstein, even condemned him. However, in the beginning, most were convinced Garrison was on the right track. "The case has been solved," said Popkin (Anson, *They've Killed the President*, p. 111). Weisberg wrote, "He and his staff are dedicated, and sincere and, I am convinced from my own work, right" (Weisberg letter to editor, *Playboy*, October 18, 1967). Lane boosted both himself and Garrison, saying, "Besides Jim Garrison, I am perhaps the only person in the world who knows the identity of the assassins" (Bob Katz, "Mark Lane Fingers the Dead," *Mother Jones*, August, 1979, p. 27). Closer to the trial, Lane predicted, "When it is presented in court it will shake this country as it has never been shaken before" (UPI).