

ROUGH TRANSLATION

Thomas Buchanan Analyzes the Warren Report L'Express...5-11 October 1964...p. 26

The Warren Report puts forward the thesis that no one helped Lee Oswald assassinate the President of the United States. Is it convincing?

The report indicates that one of the shots fired missed and that the bullet has not been recovered. It mentions the point of impact of the bullet on the asphalt and gives the name of a witness hurt by the ricochet. Also the President has been struck by two bullets, the Governor Connally by one bullet.

The Commission has chosen the thesis that ~~there are no grounds for believing that there were two assassins: consequently,~~ there are no grounds for believing that there were two assassins: consequently, the Commission states that one bullet from the sixth floor struck President Kennedy in the ~~neck~~^{neck}, exited from the ~~throat~~^{throat} via a new horizontal trajectory, struck Governor Connally in the back, changing its trajectory again to a descending angle, broke the fifth rib of the Governor, exited from his chest, its speed barely slowed, penetrated his wrist and finally lodged in his thigh.

158.6 "grains" ~~xxxx~~ After this, the bullet was recovered, practically intact. Ballistic tests indicated in effect that it weighed 158.6 "grains" (one "grain" equals 0.0648 gram). This type of bullet has an original weight of 160-161 "grains."

Of all the explanations given ^{by the investigators} ~~of the inquiry~~, this is the most difficult to accept. And ~~witness~~^{TESTIMONY} before the Commission itself raise questions as to its credibility.

Governor Connally has told the Commission that he heard two shots strike the President, and that he himself was wounded during the time which elapsed between those two shots.

The inescapable implication of that testimony is that the three primary entry wounds were caused by three ^{different} bullets. But the bullet that missed: that would make four.

The conclusion reached by the Commission: that it is reasonable to suppose that the Governor had a delayed reaction between the time that the bullet actually struck him and the time that he testified he felt the impact, despite the fact that the bullet struck a glancing blow to a rib and penetrated his wrist bone.

Perhaps. But Governor Connally's testimony is confirmed by his wife ~~(whom I have not seen since the shooting)~~ who states that he was not struck by the bullet until after the President's hands clutched at his throat.

2.3 Seconds The Commission has estimated that the time lapse between the President's two wounds was between 4.8 and 5.6 seconds. It has also established that it is ~~now~~ impossible even for the greatest expert to fire the Carcano in less than 2.3 seconds.

If the testimony given by Governor Connally and his wife is correct, if the Governor was struck in the interval~~s~~ between the two shots that hit the President, if the three shots were fired within the time estimated by the Commission, one must conclude that only one of the greatest marksmen in the world could have accomplished this exploit.

All the testimony given to the Commission tends to indicate that two shots were fired in less than 2.3 seconds, the time-limit fixed by the Commission to determine whether one or two shots were involved. If one takes into account also the fourth bullet, which missed and was not recovered, the theory of a solitary assassin cannot be maintained.

The rest of the report consists of the enumeration of an accumulation of minor details obtained by the Commission in order to refute objections which have been raised. For example: (1) a second gunman could not, according to the Commission, have fired from the railroad bridge (overpass) without hitting the Presidential car. The proof cited: that spectators were present on the overpass and that police officers stationed there had verified that those spectators were "authorized" to be there. Consequently I retract my ~~error~~ statement that the overpass had been left unguarded.

The report indicates that no unauthorized persons were found on the overpass other than employees of the railroad. It does not say why those employees are less suspect of being involved in a conspiracy than any other category of persons. The fact remains that reporters did see a man and woman running away from the bridge (overpass) immediately after the shooting, and that neither of the policemen stationed, said to be stationed there, attempted to arrest them.

(2) Oswald's print was found on the rifle. The Commission regards this as proof that the rifle belonged to Oswald. That has never been contested.

The report indicates that the print was found on a part of the rifle that Oswald ~~could not be able to touch~~ ^{only} ~~it~~ ^{IN DISASSEMBLING} it. And that, according to FBI experts, the other prints (fingerprints) on the rifle were "without value."

~~if~~ That the owner of the rifle has left his prints on its interior is not ~~proof of guilt~~ ^{surprise}. But what of the fingerprints ~~left during the crime~~ ^{murder} on the rifle? The FBI is not able to ~~identify~~ ^{account for} (explain) them.

Preliminary Opinion: the report of the Commission has not provided conclusive proof of the official thesis.

Questions remain unanswered.

Thomas Buchanan.