

Analysis of Remarks by a  
Self-Styled Student of the  
"20" Volumes of Evidence  
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Louis Nizer's Statement on  
the Barry Gray Program  
WMCA-Radio, N.Y., 9/30/66

Let me give you perhaps the most dramatic illustration. Some of these writers and lecturers point to a document...dated two weeks before President Kennedy was assassinated, and which asks the military forces to begin rehearsals for a presidential funeral...Obviously, if there were any plot to kill the President you wouldn't advertise it through such a notification. Nevertheless, this document is used in some quarters.

Nizer

Let me give you another quick illustration...The argument has been made that the glass in front of the car...was pierced from the front, therefore the bullet must have gone from the overpass ...not from the rear of the building where Oswald was.

Nizer

There was some of the silver plate from the bullet, or whatever it was --metal...

The Facts

Barry Gray had asked Nizer to comment on "the books that are appearing now." Not one of those books (Inquest by Epstein; The Oswald Affair by Sauvage; Whitewash by Weisberg; Rush to Judgment by Lane; The Second Oswald by Popkin; Forgive My Grief by Penn Jones, Jr.) even mentions the so-called funeral rehearsal.

The only publication to dignify that rumor by mention is the Warren Report (WR 668). So much for Nizer's "most dramatic illustration," which serves to illustrate only his dramatic ignorance of all the published criticism.

The Facts

Richard Dudman of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch wrote an article which appeared in The New Republic in December 1963 in which he reported that he had seen what appeared to be a bullet-hole in the windshield of the Presidential car.

Not a single critic has raised questions about the windshield damage since the Warren Report was published in 1964.

The Facts

It was lead. Silver bullets are used only to shoot vampires, as any child knows.

### Nizer

There was a theory that this gun could not have been fired within the time.

### Nizer

Experts in these guns took that very same gun up to the 6th floor of the Trade Mart building...

with a skull of the President's size and of the same strength...

and bullets were fired from that same gun, from that same distance, within the time specified, and struck that skull and split it open in precisely the same way...

### The Fact

True. As all or most of the critics have pointed out, the Warren Report itself indicates that Kennedy was shot between frames 210 and 225 of the Zapruder film; and Connally, not later than frame 240. There is a minimum of 15 frames, or a maximum of 30 frames, between the wounding of the two men. The Report states that the camera operated at 18.2 frames per second; that it required 2.3 seconds to operate the bolt of the Carcano rifle, or 42 frames between two separate shots. Since the maximum delay between the Kennedy and Connally shots was 30 frames, the rifle could not have been fired twice within the time available. This led to the formulation of the ingenious single-missile theory--now so discredited that even convinced advocates of the Warren Commission like Professor Alexander Bickel of Yale are searching frantically for alternate explanations which will preserve the finding of a lone assassin.

### The Facts

FBI experts took the Carcano rifle to the southeast corner window of the sixth floor of the Depository building.

No; not a skull, but two FBI stand-ins for the President and the Governor respectively.

No; photographs, not bullets, were shot, in the on-site reenactment tests of 5/24/64. Elsewhere and at another time wound-penetration tests were conducted at Edgewood Arsenal. Still other tests were conducted (by the FBI, and by 3 master riflemen at the Aberdeen Range, under conditions of great advantage in comparison to the feat ascribed to Oswald), which completely failed to duplicate the feat attributed to Oswald, whose skill as opposed to that of a master fifleman was as far removed as statements by Mr. Nizer are far removed from accuracy.

Nizer

There was a story that the gun was a certain kind of a make--a Carbonieri or a Houser...It turned out not to be that...

Nizer

Anyone who has really read these 20 volumes of testimony could go on for hours, to demonstrate the authenticity of the Report...

Nizer

Now, the Warren Commission...examined every witness.

Nizer

A thread was found on the gun. It was traced to the shirt he was wearing that day by outstanding experts.

The Facts

The rifle was first said to be a 7.6 mm. Mauser (not "Houser") and the next day was reidentified as a 6.5 mm. Carcano (not "Carbonieri;") Nizer seems to have confused the rifle with the Carbonari, an Italian secret society). The Warren Report attributes the mistake solely to Deputy Constable Seymour Weitzman, thus misrepresenting the facts found in the Hearings and Exhibits. The documents indicate that Deputy Sheriff Eugene Boone identified the rifle found in the Depository, in writing, as a Mauser. According to the testimony, Captain Will Fritz also believed the rifle to be a Mauser, at the time it was discovered and picked up by him.

The Facts

Anyone who has really read the volumes knows that there are 26, not 20, of which the first 15 volumes contain the testimony, and the last 11 present the exhibits. Having read the 26 volumes and compiled a subject index to their contents, I can cite repeated misstatements and misrepresentation of fact in the Warren Report. Some were mentioned by me on the Barry Gray program of 10/13/66.

The Facts

Except more than 68 important or crucial witnesses listed and described in the article "Notes for a New Investigation" in the December 1966 Esquire.

The Facts

FBI fiber expert Paul Stombaugh was the only expert witness on this question. He testified that the fibers on the rifle could have come from Oswald's shirt, not that they did (WR 124). Even the Warren Report, which finds that they "most probably" came from his shirt (WR 125), does not (in this instance) plunge so recklessly into Mr. Nizer's pool of irresponsible and unfair declarations.

The Facts (continued)

Even Commission counsel Liebeler said (in writing) that the fiber evidence was extremely "thin" (Inquest page 115). The fact that fibers on the rifle did not match fibers in the blanket possibly indicated that the blanket had not contained the rifle. Yet this portion of the fiber evidence was omitted from the Report (Ibid., page 114).

Nizer

He kept it (i.e., the rifle) in a crib and it was covered with a quilt.

Nizer

When the FBI arrived...only 40 minutes later...

Nizer

He walked up there...placing himself carefully with a microscopic sight --that's what made his aim so good, he was able to place his back against a support...

Nizer

Congressman Kupferman is an able man.

Let him read the 20 volumes and the Report itself...That's what I would suggest to him.

The Facts

And his baby on the floor of the garage?

The Facts

Dallas Police detectives arrived, at least two hours later.

The Facts

I fear it is Nizer's tolerance for facts that is microscopic.

If he would examine page 99 of the Doubleday edition of the Warren Report --the one burdened by Nizer's ecstatic and inaccurate introduction--he will see that the alleged assassin was not thought to have placed his back against a support.

The Facts

Exactly! And he has asked for a re-evaluation of the Warren Report and if necessary a new investigation, because he has read the evidence and the criticism, and found that action is necessary.

Only a man of Nizer's towering ignorance prejudice and effrontery would assume that Representative Kupferman had failed to study the evidence before tabling his resolution. Let Nizer take his own advice, since patently he is unacquainted with the facts as well as insufferably self-satisfied. [Comment on his other numerous inanities is waived, for reasons of space]