

THE INVESTIGATOR

rifle³³⁵," but fails to mention that an M-1 was semi-automatic and required no bolt operation. Posner adds that Oswald "had practiced to become equally effective with the Mannlicher-Carcano." First of all, it is not possible to be "equally effective" with a Mannlicher-Carcano as with an M-1, as a semi-automatic rifle is a more effective weapon. Secondly, the Warren Commission found no evidence that Oswald practiced with the Carcano in any other way except to practice operating the bolt; it dismissed testimony that he practiced at rifle ranges, proving each time that he had been elsewhere. The diagram of the fingerprints leaves one wondering how Oswald put his right index print on a box as part of his "sniper's nest" activities, as opposed to normal work on the 6th floor. In fact, Posner misplaces the boxes in the "sniper's nest," relying on Warren Commission exhibits which misrepresent the scene³³⁶, instead of the more accurate photographic exhibits³³⁷ which are consistent with photographs taken just before and after the shooting from outside the building.³³⁸

FAILURE ANALYZED: He discusses Failure Analysis Associates as if their findings were uniformly supportive of his arguments.³³⁹ He refers only to the work of the team headed by Dr. Robert Piziali, and ignores the work of the team headed by the firm's President, Dr. Roger McCarthy, which was used in Oswald's defense in a 1992 mock trial. As to Dr. Piziali's commitment to Posner's position, Piziali and McCarthy decided which team would work for which side by the flip of a coin. But for chance, Posner would be citing Dr. McCarthy and ignoring Dr. Piziali. Posner again incorrectly refers to "computer enhancements of the Zapruder film"³⁴⁰, when he is talking about computer analysis done, in part, using frames from the Zapruder film as a basis, not "enhancement" of the frames themselves. It sounds impressive that they "fixed the position of the limousine and the postures of Kennedy and Connally at the precise moments of impact," except they fixed the positions at the "precise moments" they were told were the frames of impact. If that information was inaccurate, so is the analysis. Of course, Posner states this is based on "careful analysis," but fails to note this analysis was not done with a computer. Finally, there is one more, somewhat subtler, falsification in the graphic of the Book Depository: it shows only one open window, the "sniper's nest," and that open all the way to the middle. In reality, the window was only one-third open, as shown on the previous page, and was only one of at least 12 open windows in the building at the time of the shots.³⁴¹

MISPROVING THE SINGLE BULLET THEORY: The alert reader will note that the frontal graphic places the back wound to the right of the President's head, while the overhead graphic places it at the edge of the neck.³⁴² The relevant autopsy photo, perhaps too gruesomely inconvenient for Posner's readers, shows the back wound even farther toward the President's left, inconsistent with both graphics. One would think this might have an effect on the trajectory path, but perhaps the graphics were simply intended as a new "cartoon version" of the bullet's path.³⁴³ The overhead view also places the throat wound toward the right side of Kennedy's throat, rather

³³⁵ p. 475.

³³⁶ CE 733, CE 1301

³³⁷ CE 724 (Dallas Police), and the photos taken by journalists Jack Beers and Flip Schulke, and an uncredited UPI photographer. There is, by the way, another manipulated version, in addition to the one used by Posner: it appears in CE 509.

³³⁸ Jack Weaver photo, Robert Hughes film just before; Tom Dillard and James Powell photos just after.

³³⁹ p. 477.

³⁴⁰ p. 477.

³⁴¹ As can be seen in the Dillard and Powell photos, it was one of four open windows on the 6th floor; there were also 4 open on the 5th floor, 2 on the 4th floor, and at least 1 each on the 3rd and 2nd floors. Dillard is particularly important, as it shows an unidentified man in the west end 6th floor open window. Elsie Dorman was shooting movies from one of the open 4th floor windows.

³⁴² pp. 478-9.

³⁴³ The attorneys who presented the Failure Analysis graphics at the 1992 mock trial themselves referred to them as "the cartoons": "Trial of the Century," op. cit.