



L. B. Namier (letter)

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L. B. Namier (letter)

Encounter 28 no. 1 (January 1967), 92



TO THE EDITOR, *ENCOUNTER*

The City University, New York

In my article on Lewis Namier, published in your November 1966 issue,¹ I attempted to describe Namier's reaction to a version which appeared in a gossip column in one of the Beaverbrook newspapers of a characteristic comment on abstract theorising which he had made in a private letter to me. I assumed (and so did Namier) that the ultimate source of this information was our common friend, Mr E. H. Carr, and said so in my article (p. 40, paragraph 8).

Mr Carr has now assured me that my assumption was wholly mistaken. Since I can well imagine what I myself would have felt if I had been charged with communicating the contents of a private letter, however harmless, to a newspaper, I realise how much and

¹ 'L. B. Namier: A Personal Impression', *Encounter* 27 no. 5 (November 1966), 32–42; repr. in PI.

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how justly this must have annoyed Mr Carr. I am therefore happy to exonerate him from all responsibility in this matter, and to add that I am extremely sorry not to have checked the facts with him, and consequently to have caused him embarrassment.

The culprit remains unknown, and the matter is not worth pursuing.

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