



FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE NEWSLETTER #268 — NOV. 13, 2012

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Securing the High Ground

(posted by SandyI and MarthaH, Nov. 13, 2012)

The article below is a very thoughtful piece on how those who supported Romney are feeling now. I believe it is important for those of us who supported Obama to reach out to them, not gloating but letting them know that we know how we would feel if Obama had lost, that the election of Obama is not a vote to change their way of life but a vote to let others "be free to be you and me". In this way, maybe, just maybe we can work together to move the country forward and dampen down the divisiveness and rhetoric started by those who would profit by continued divisiveness. We must let Romney supporters know that we can disagree on many things, but we need to work together to find good solutions to our problems. In this way everyone can win. —SandyI

"GOP's Red America Forced to Rethink What It Knows about the Country" by Eli Saslow, *The Washington Post*

Nov. 11, 2012, (http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/gops-red-america-forced-to-rethink-its-image-of-country/2012/11/11/3bb15fb8-2ab0-11e2-bab2-eda299503684_story.html)



(HENDERSONVILLE, Tennessee) She arrived early to take apart the campaign office piece by piece, just as she felt so many other things about her life were being dismantled. Beth Cox wore a Mitt Romney T-shirt, a cross around her neck and fresh eyeliner, even though she had been crying on and off and knew her makeup was likely to run. A day after the election, she tuned the radio to Glenn Beck and began pulling posters and American flags off the wall.

Her calendar read "Victory Day!!" and she had planned to celebrate in the office by hosting a dance party and selling Romney souvenirs. But instead she was packing those souvenirs into boxes, which would be donated to a charity that sent clothes to South America. Instead a moving company was en route to close down the office in the next 48 hours, and her friends were calling every few minutes to see how she was doing.

"I will be okay," she told one caller. "I just don't think we will be okay."

Here in the heart of Red America, Cox and many others spent last week grieving not only for themselves and their candidate but also for a country they now believe has gone wildly off track. The days after Barack Obama's reelection gave birth to a saying in Central Tennessee: Once was a slip, but twice is a sign.

If, as Obama likes to say, the country has decided to "move forward," it has also decided to move further away from the values and beliefs of a state where Romney won 60 percent of the vote, a county where he won 70 percent, and a town where he won nearly 80.

Among so many Romney voters, perhaps none had been as devoted to the cause — as indefatigable, as confident, as prayerful — as 44-year-old Beth Cox, a member of the school board and a volunteer who had committed to Romney early in the Republican primaries. She had run the small GOP campaign headquarters in Sumner County by herself for six days a week during the last four months. She had been the first in line to vote on the first day of early voting.

Now it was left to her to clean up the aftermath. She stood next to a space heater in a small building in the exurbs of Nashville, taking inventory of what supplies they had left and packing up boxes of red-white-and-blue streamers. She put away the pink Romney shirts, the white Romney-Ryan hats and the GOP bumper stickers with the Tennessee logo. Down came the sign that read: "We Built It!" Down came the elephant flag and the George W. Bush commemorative emblem. Down came the signed picture of Romney, with a typed inscription that read: "This is a great time to be a Republican."

But now Cox was wondering: Was it?

She had devoted her life to causes she believed were at the heart of her faith and at the core of her Republican Party. She counseled young married families at church, spoke about right to life in area schools and became a stay-at-home mom with two daughters.

Now, in a single election night, parts of her country had legalized marijuana, approved gay marriage and resoundingly reelected a president who she worried would "accelerate our decline."

While she took apart the office, a dozen friends and neighbors stopped by to share the same concerns.

"I just don't get it," the county sheriff said.

"I'm worried we won't see another Republican president in our lifetime the way it's going," a GOP volunteer said.

"What country would want more years of this?" asked the newly elected alderman.

Cox shrugged back at them. "I don't know anymore," she said. "What the heck happened to the country? Who are we becoming?"

She turned on her computer and pulled up an electoral map that she had filled out a few days before the election. She had predicted the outcome twice — once coming up with a narrow Romney win and once more with a blowout.

Florida: red.

Colorado: red.

Virginia, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin: all red.

Everything in her version of America had confirmed her predictions: the confident anchors on Fox News; the Republican pollsters so sure of their data; the two-hour line outside her voting precinct, where Romney supporters hugged and honked for her handmade signs during a celebration that lasted until the results started coming in after sundown. Romney's thorough defeat had come more as a shock than as a disappointment, and now Cox stared at the actual results on her computer and tried to imagine what the majority of her country believed.

"Virginia went blue? Really?" she said. "Southern-values Virginia?"

"And Colorado? Who the heck is living in Colorado? Do they want drugs, dependency, indulgence? Don't they remember what this country is about?"

It was a country that she had thought she knew. As a kid, she had seen it from the back of a station wagon, traveling to 40 states in a blur of peanut butter crackers and Holiday Inns with a mother who taught U.S. history.

"I am not naïve. I'm not ignorant," Cox said. She had graduated from the University of Kentucky and lived for a few years in California before moving to raise her family in Tennessee. But suddenly the map on her computer depicted a divided country she could barely recognize.

She blamed some of the divisiveness on Republicans. The party had gotten "way too white," she said, and she hoped it would never again run a presidential ticket without including a woman or a minority. The tea party was an extremist movement that needed to be "neutralized," she said, and Romney's campaign had suffered irreparable damage when high-profile Republicans spoke about "crazy immigration talk and legitimate rape."

But many other aspects of the division seemed fundamental and harder to solve. There was the America of increased secularism that legalized marijuana. And there was her America, where her two teenage daughters are not allowed to read "Harry Potter" or "Twilight," and where one of them wrote in a school paper: "God is the center and the main foundation of my family."

There was the America of gay marriage and the America of her Southern Baptist church, where 7,000 came to listen on Sundays, and where church literature described marriage as "the uniting of one man and one woman."

There was the America of Obama and her America in Tennessee, where last week Republicans had won 95 percent of local races and secured a supermajority in the state legislature.

She could sense liberalism creeping closer, and she worried about what Red America would look like after four more years. Nashville itself had gone for Obama, and 400,000 more people in Tennessee had signed up for food stamps in the last five years to further a culture of dependency. The ACLU had sued her school board for allowing youth pastors to visit middle school cafeterias during lunch. Some of her friends had begun to wonder if the country was lost, and if only God could save it.

She closed her computer.

"God put us in the desert," she said. "We are in the desert right now."

Later that night, she left her two-story house in the suburbs and headed to a church a mile outside of town. It was her place of comfort — the place where she always found an answer. She drove onto the church's sprawling

campus, past the children's center, the volleyball courts and techno-lit recreation room for teenagers and parked in front of a small building. Then she walked up to the second floor to lead her weekly prayer group of 25 women.

It was a demographic that, in so many other places, would have voted for Obama: white women, college-educated and in their early-to-mid-20s, most of them upper-middle class. But here they had almost all voted for Romney, and they consoled each other as they entered the room. Cox joined them in the circle and bent her head in prayer.

"Yes, Lord," she said. "We are saying yes to honoring you, but no to the junk of this world, to the wickedness, the self-gratification, the path that we are just saddened by. We choose your path, Lord."

It was a path that had worked for her, providing strength and stability during her parents' rocky divorce, and then helping her transform from a stubbornly independent woman — the "feminist, I-am-woman, hear-me-roar type," she said — into a mother and a wife who respected what she called the "natural order of the household." She had two beautiful daughters who earned A's and a husband who took time off from his job as a pastor for annual family "playcations" to museums and amusement parks. Local Republicans were encouraging her to run for state office, but she didn't want to give up her volunteering, her scrapbooking, her weekend getaways with her daughters — her "Godly life," she said.

It was the same life she wanted for the women in this room — newly married, new to motherhood and beginning to sort out priorities of their own.

"The world will tell you to be so many things," she advised them, and on this night she talked to them about the importance of preserving life, the sanctity of marriage, the advantages of raising children at home and the importance of "relying on family, and on your core values, and not on the government."

"It's not an easy road to be a Christian, and if it was, everybody would be on it," she said. She passed out blank white note cards and asked each woman to write down a worry to surrender to God. Then, before closing, she asked what they wanted to pray for.

"Our president," said one, and the women in the group nodded.

"Our values," said another.

"All people in our country who are lost."

"The soul of America."

"Amen," Cox said.

She came back into the Romney office again the next morning. The moving truck was waiting outside.

"It's so depressing," she said, walking into the office. "Let's just get it done."

They threw out yard signs, hauled office supplies into storage and donated some furniture to Goodwill. Cox swept the floor and then came outside to watch the mover climb on top of his trailer to take down the "Sumner County Republican Party" banner that had hung on the front of the building. Four months of dedication and work — the sale of 1,600 signs, 500 bracelets, 1,200 buttons and a few hundred hats — reduced to nothing in 48 hours.

She stood in the cold and stared at the two-story building. It had belonged to a doctor's practice that had closed, and then to a newspaper that had downsized, and finally to a campaign that had failed to win office based on its vision of America.

She took out her phone and snapped a picture.

"So that's it," she said. "It's all gone."

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20121112-19	23:59	SteveB	Photo: Toucan

20121112-05	11:40	Pam	Re: Securing the High Ground (reply to SandyI, above)
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Well said, Sandy. Those folks are genuinely afraid and feel very defensive. Here's another irony: conservatives carry on about the individual, yet what they fear most is an attack on their community, ie., church, family, geographic location. Progressives are ALL ABOUT individual freedom, yet see the value and need for communal action. When I was teaching, I had many, many far-right students. You all know I'm about as liberal as they come, but I tried hard to model a caring, accepting, mellow persona. My conservative students liked me, but I don't think I ever changed anyone's mind. Who knows? I never pushed an agenda in class and tried to let them figure things out for themselves, based on the evidence at hand. It is important that we all see each other as human beings. I find it strange that conservatives hate liberals way more than liberals dislike them.

20121112-06	12:34	SteveB	Re: Securing the High Ground (reply to SandyI, above)
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You're completely right, Sandy.

And, after all the bashing and lies I received from the right this past year or so, I fully intend to work with the assholes to solve our problems as soon as I'm finished gloating!

I'm not convinced they have anything to contribute once racism and sexism are taken off the table.

I guess I don't sound too hopeful...

Besides, we all know the Democrats and Obama rigged the election and committed massive voter fraud, so his presidency has no validity.

20121112-07	14:18	SandyI	Re: Securing the High Ground (reply to SteveB, above)
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And had that darn Hurricane Sandy hit just at the right time for him to ride up on his white horse - mmmmm should that be a horse of a difference color?

"Change will occur in almost every aspect of our lives,
We can learn to embrace it while releasing the past with grace." —Daily OM

[20121112-14](#) 18:44 Art Re: Securing the High Ground (reply to SandyI, above)

Well, this is all very disconcerting.

[20121112-01](#) 08:54 SteveB "Mitt Romney Had Every Chance to Win—But He Blew It"

Are any parts of this untrue? I guess it's hard to deny the guy was fake, fake, fake...and didn't turn out to be extremely competent either (not in running a campaign, certainly).

I guess nobody had much confidence in Mr. Mittens "Lying" R0mney.

No one ever took my \$10,000 bet. Not that I really blame them...

"Mitt Romney Had Every Chance to Win—But He Blew It" by Michael Hirsh, *National Journal*/Yahoo News

Nov. 9, 2012, (<http://news.yahoo.com/mitt-romney-had-every-chance-win-blew-150005282--politics.html>)

Mitt Romney could have won. By Tuesday night, it was certain that 48 percent of the country no longer believed in the portrait of hope and change that Barack Obama offered up in 2008—if any ever had. Like the picture of Dorian Gray, the reality had grown somewhat repugnant to vast numbers of voters unhappy with a stagnant economy, even as Obama continued to portray himself as the good-guy savior (from George W. Bush, that is) in the White House.

But in the end, Obama secured a second historic election victory—in the face of staggering unemployment—largely because the alternative portrait that Romney presented to the country was far too incomplete. By failing to fill in critical details that would have fleshed out both his personality and his policies, the Republican challenger gave the American people a mere pencil sketch of a candidate. It wasn't enough, and it was much too abstract. Too many voters couldn't figure out which Romney would show up in the Oval Office. Would it be the Massachusetts-moderate redux they saw in the last six weeks of the campaign, or the right-wing ideologue from the Republican primaries who embraced a small-government zealot, Rep. Paul Ryan, as his running mate?

That's not to underrate the savvy, and very savage, campaign that the Obama team ran, one that ruthlessly exploited all of these Romney weaknesses and cost the GOP candidate critical blocs of female and Hispanic voters who didn't buy the reality of Moderate Mitt. For all of the fretting about how \$5 billion in campaign spending left the nation with something close to the status quo ante—a Democratic president and Senate, a GOP House—perhaps the most successful chunk of advertising money ever spent in modern American political history was the initial \$50 million or so the Obama team devoted last spring to defining Romney as an exploitative, job-exporting Wall Street plutocrat.

In a dynamic that played out much like 2004, when Democratic challenger John Kerry failed to respond to the Republicans' "Swift Boat" attacks, Romney never responded effectively to the fat-cat charges. And he never overcame that image, as a blanket of Obama ads kept up the attack through Nov. 6 in the battleground states. "I think they were very smart in defining him early. The early ads paid off," says GOP strategist Rick Tyler, who helped Newt Gingrich defeat Romney in the South Carolina primary by portraying him similarly. "I don't think he ever really recovered."

The Obama attack successfully neutralized Romney's main argument that as a businessman and numbers whiz, he was best suited to fix the economy. Postelection polling suggests that even though Romney had slightly higher numbers on economic performance than Obama in some polls, his advantage there was eclipsed by doubts about the soundness of his policies and his evenhandedness. According to pollster John Zogby, while most voters on Tuesday cited the economy as their top issue, as expected, 52 percent said that Romney's policies would favor the wealthy, while a plurality of 43 percent said that Obama's policies more greatly benefit the middle class.

In addition, despite Romney's impressive fundraising record, the Obama campaign was always ahead in organization, especially in maintaining its superb precinct-level ground game from 2008. This produced high turnout in the battleground states, even in the face of economic disillusionment. "It's very tough to take out an incumbent president," Tyler says. "Obama's team just created a firewall in the battleground states." The Obama campaign's computer models also appear to have read the electorate far more accurately than Romney's did.

Finally, Romney kept committing unforced errors, and Obama made very few. Romney's gaffe-strewn tour of Britain and Israel in July; his callous exploitation of Ambassador Chris Stevens's killing in Benghazi, Libya, on the day of his death (Sept. 11, no less); above all, his mind-boggling videotaped dismissal of "47 percent" of the country as bloodsucking government dependents—it all played into the Obama team's portrait of him as a clueless, not-ready-for-prime-time player. By the time the Republican nominee regained his footing with a powerful performance in the first debate on Oct. 3 and began to run a fairly smooth campaign, it was too late to overcome an image of incompetence, aloofness, and lack of definition.

All of this best explains how Obama set a postwar political record by getting himself reelected despite a 7.9 percent jobless rate (no president since FDR had done it with the jobless rate above 7.2 percent), favorable ratings barely hovering at 50 percent, and a majority of Americans saying the country was headed in the wrong direction. The president squeaked into a second term by persuading critical pockets of voters in battleground states who appeared to appreciate his efforts on the economy (especially in the industrial Midwest, which was grateful for the auto bailout), and weren't as bad off as the nation as a whole—such as Virginia, with its 5.9 percent unemployment rate, and Ohio, a big beneficiary of the auto bailout, with a 7.2 percent jobless rate that was well below the national average.

To be fair, the jumbled nature of Romney's campaign was not entirely his fault. He was also somewhat boxed in by his party. A "small c" conservative who never completely won over the GOP's restive, tea party-driven base, Romney faced one of the stiffest primary challenges in recent history. As a result, he felt pressured to run to the right of GOP rivals Rick Santorum, Rick Perry, and Newt Gingrich, staking out extreme positions on immigration (when he promised to make life so miserable for those here illegally that they would "self-deport") and social issues (pledging to eliminate Planned Parenthood and overturn *Roe v. Wade*) that later fatally cost him those Latino and female votes. Considering the weakness of Romney's primary opponents, and his considerable advantage in money and organization, his decision to lean so far rightward was almost certainly an error. It made the distance he had to travel to get back to the middle just too great, and he didn't leave himself enough time, delaying his "Etch A Sketch" shift to the center until the first debate.

Whether the party itself will recognize all of that, and make the doctrinal adjustment toward the middle and a greater inclusiveness that eluded Romney, is another question. (The most astonishing number: 71 percent of Hispanics, many of whom tend to be conservative, voted for Obama, according to exit polls.) Some Republican pundits, of course, are already beginning the process of casting Romney into the outer darkness as a candidate who was always doomed to failure because he wasn't a true believer, while GOP pragmatists are beginning to reckon with the reality that their party is no longer in touch with the nonwhite coalition that Obama mastered to win. The outcome of that fight will probably be the next big story in American politics.

But, finally, the biggest mistakes of the 2012 election campaign were made by Romney himself. Party politics don't explain why he refused to produce more than two years of tax returns, or to talk forthrightly about how he made his money at Bain Capital, or to provide any details at all about which tax deductions he would eliminate to close the deficit—based on an economic plan that virtually every economist said would instead explode the debt.

Despite the lack of a clear second-term agenda from Obama, Romney's campaign also suffered from a dearth of fresh ideas. His \$5 trillion tax-cut plan rested on a hoary and largely debunked concept from the Reagan years that

tax cuts for “wealth creators” boost the economy. The evidence is that they don’t. Going back to 1945, the Congressional Research Service says, there is no “clear relationship between the 65-year steady reduction in the top tax rates and economic growth.” CRS concluded: “Analysis of such data suggests the reduction in the top tax rates have had little association with saving, investment, or productivity growth.” Most recently, the giant Bush tax cuts created zero job growth in the “lost decade” of the 2000s, the slowest 10-year growth in the post-World War II period.

Romney also suffered from a credibility gap on many issues—blatantly misrepresenting his opposition to the Obama bailout that saved Detroit in 2009, for example. Indeed, one reason the election was decided surprisingly early on Tuesday night, even though the popular vote was close nationally, was that Romney, the self-described “car guy” who grew up in Michigan, lost key Midwestern industrial states that benefited from Obama’s auto bailout. These included his own native state and Wisconsin, where the jobless rate is only 7.3 percent. Following their near-collapse, the U.S. auto companies have rebounded substantially, adding some 250,000 jobs.

Romney just never found a home in those blue-collar states. Beginning during the GOP primaries, when he awkwardly sought to identify with autoworkers by boasting that his wife “drives a coupla Cadillacs,” Romney was bedeviled not only by his aloof, patrician image but also by his infamous 2008 op-ed headlined “Let Detroit Go Bankrupt.” Candidate Romney sought to argue that he had favored only a “managed bankruptcy” that depended on private financing, not dissolution of the auto industry. But on Tuesday, voters in the Big Three heartland apparently remembered that private credit was not in the offing in those years; only government money was, as Obama argued.

The Republican made yet another serious misstep in the final days of the election, when his campaign aired a series of flagrantly false ads about the auto bailout suggesting that General Motors and Chrysler were sending jobs to China at the expense of U.S. workers. The ads provoked embarrassing rebuttals from executives of both companies.

That aside, Romney was a very effective campaigner in the final six weeks, even taking the lead in some national polls. Yet his lurch to the middle was so dramatic that his perennial problem of definition came back to haunt him. In the final debate, on foreign policy, after 18 months of ultra-hawkish rhetoric, Romney suddenly began making a case for restraint (typically vague) that was all too Obama-like, saying he would steer clear of military involvement in hot spots such as Iran and Syria. Again and again, Romney retreated from hard lines he had drawn during the GOP primaries. He even appeared to endorse Obama’s policy in Afghanistan, saying, “The surge has been successful,” and, “We’re going to be finished by 2014.” But in making this strategic shift, Romney rendered almost moot any serious differences he might have with Obama over foreign policy. And that raised the question: Why replace the man in the Oval Office?

In the final days, Obama was also helped by chance and Mother Nature. The “October Surprise” of this campaign was delivered up by Hurricane Sandy, which helped Obama look very presidential and remarkably bipartisan in the closing days. With New Jersey taking the brunt of the storm, Americans were treated to the remarkable spectacle of Gov. Chris Christie, the keynote speaker at the Republican convention and one of Obama’s fiercest critics, embracing and thanking the president in effusive terms.

The so-called superstorm also dramatically resurrected the campaign’s buried issue of climate change and reminded voters of Romney’s smug mockery in his convention acceptance speech of Obama as the president who “promised to begin to slow the rise of the oceans and heal the planet.” Given the role that the rise of the oceans appeared to have played in Sandy’s devastating impact, even New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a former Republican and no fan of Obama’s, publicly abandoned Romney after that.

In the end, however, the most compelling argument in the president’s favor was that neither his opponent’s personal profile nor his campaign promises added up to a compelling picture. Despite a powerful performance in the first debate that reassured many people—and produced a huge surge for him in the polls—it came far too late for Romney to lay to rest a legion of doubts about his character and views.

(This article appeared in print as “He Blew It.”)

20121112-02 09:04 Thomas Re: FotM Newsletter #267

Please take me off your list. This kind of tripe from weak people is the most discouraging thing a thinking person can read. As I read this week, "In a land of children, Santa cannot be defeated". People like you are sheep ready to be lead and shorn by anyone with a glib tongue.

20121112-03 09:10 SteveB Re: FotM Newsletter #267 (reply to Thomas, above)

Ah, yes, the old glib tongue trick...

No problema.

Yes, we are the "weak sheep"...we who are not led by Rush, Glenn, and Fox News...and we should be ashamed of our weakness.

How discouraging our weak tripe must be to every thinking person. Oh, you already said that...

Well, anyway, we'll keep stumbling around out here in the wilderness, electing presidents, and sending ignorant Congressional candidates like Mourdock and Akin to the woodshed.

And good luck keeping the illegal immigrants, Africans, Muslims, gays, users of contraceptives, and such riff-raff out of America in the future.

Take care. Wishing you the best in your future efforts at communications.

20121112-04 11:30 Ben "PlaceRaider: Virtual Theft in Physical Spaces with Smartphones"

And so many phones come with cameras on both sides...

"PlaceRaider: Virtual Theft in Physical Spaces with Smartphones" by Robert Templeman, Zahid Rahman, David Crandall, and Apu Kapadia, Cornell University

Sept. 26, 2012, (<http://arxiv.org/abs/1209.5982>)

ABSTRACT: As smartphones become more pervasive, they are increasingly targeted by malware. At the same time, each new generation of smartphone features increasingly powerful onboard sensor suites. A new strain of sensor malware has been developing that leverages these sensors to steal information from the physical environment (e.g., researchers have recently demonstrated how malware can listen for spoken credit card numbers through the microphone, or feel keystroke vibrations using the accelerometer). Yet the possibilities of what malware can see through a camera have been understudied. This paper introduces a novel visual malware called PlaceRaider, which allows remote attackers to engage in remote reconnaissance and what we call virtual theft. Through completely opportunistic use of the camera on the phone and other sensors, PlaceRaider constructs rich, three dimensional models of indoor environments. Remote burglars can thus download the physical space, study the environment carefully, and steal virtual objects from the environment (such as financial documents, information on computer monitors, and personally identifiable information). Through two human subject studies we demonstrate the effectiveness of using mobile devices as powerful surveillance and virtual theft platforms, and we suggest several possible defenses against visual malware.

[Kinda scary. -SteveB]

No time to write about it, but the sweet and sour shrimp were a great lunch choice. Never thought of pomegranates in the sweet and sour context before, but the idea worked really well! Wish my iPhone 1 had been better able to reproduce the subtle shade of the fruit.



Sweet and Sour Shrimp

20121112-09 17:28 SteveG CIA Hellfire Missiles Hit Indianapolis?

Found posted on Facebook...

A chilling report circulating in the Kremlin this afternoon released by the Aerospace Defence Forces (VKO) states that Kosmos 2479 detected the firing of two AGM-114 Hellfire missiles from a MQ-1 Predator drone yesterday being operated by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) over the United States city of Indianapolis that resulted in a massive explosion [photo 2nd left], and from local US media reports resulted in at least two deaths.

Kosmos 2479 is an early warning satellite launched in 2012 as part of the VKO's Oko programme and monitors the US from geostationary orbit for all possible threats, including the tracking of American airspace for US Air Force and CIA fighter jets, bombers and drones.

The CIA's MQ-1 Predator drones, equipped with two fearsome AGM-114 Hellfire missiles, have been described as President Obama's "*weapon of choice*" and are currently most noted for bringing to Pakistan the same horror that Hitler's doodlebugs inflicted on London during World War II.

According to this report, after the firing of these drone-missiles, two distinct trajectories were recorded which were "*near simultaneously countermanded*" by countermeasures employed by an AN/ALQ-99 airborne electronic warfare system aboard a US Air Force EA-6B Prowler electronic warfare aircraft that had been dispatched from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to track this CIA drone that had, apparently, deviated from its assigned flight track.

Most ominous in this VKO report is its stating that the "*intended targets*" of these Hellfire missiles were the US Army Resource Services (PPBES) and the US Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), both located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

20121112-10 17:32 Pam Re: CIA Hellfire Missiles Hit Indianapolis? (reply to SteveG, above)

What's the source for this? I know there was a big gas explosion in Indianapolis yesterday. Is this supposed to be what that really was? Unless I hear differently from a reliable source, I'm not going to believe a Kremlin rumor.

20121112-11 17:48 SteveG Re: CIA Hellfire Missiles Hit Indianapolis? (reply to Pam, above)

Scares me that people are posting this on Facebook and that reportedly they have 20+ years experience in the military and others are taking it as gospel.

20121112-12 17:55 Pam Re: CIA Hellfire Missiles Hit Indianapolis? (reply to SteveG, above)

Art, you're our military expert.

20121112-13 18:41 Art Re: CIA Hellfire Missiles Hit Indianapolis? (reply to all, above)

Sorry been playing golf all day. This is utter BS. Kind of stuff the Tea Party conspiracy wackos love to float out every time something happens.

Come'on, folks.

Or was it a UFO???

"UFO Shot Down in Indianapolis! Two Die in Inferno." posted by Anonymous Coward, GodlikeProductions

Nov. 12, 2012, (<http://www.godlikeproductions.com/forum1/message2048408/pg1>)

This is just the beginning.... They have been chasing them all around the US for days now..Col, CA,

This aerial photo shows the two homes that were leveled and the numerous neighboring homes that were damaged from a massive explosion that sparked a huge fire and killed two people, Sunday. Yahoo News story: <http://news.yahoo.com/deadly-blast-devastates-indianapolis-neighborhood-220044324.html>.





20121112-17

23:57 Tom

There, I Fixed It! #5 (Disc Player Enclosure)



20121112-18

23:58 GaryF

Photo: Trust Me, I'm an Engineer... #5 (Car Door Handle)



<http://www.animalgalleries.org/Birds/Toucan/Toucan+Toucan2007+Ramphastos.jpg.php>



—Friends of the Middle,
Steven W. Baker (SteveB), Editor/Moderator

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