

**What They Said
and
What They Said to Themselves**

By

C R Krieger

AMANDA POTTS—Welcome Back to *Break Point News*. The election returns are now fairly solid, except for the West Coast States and Hawaii and Alaska, some seventy-four Electoral College votes, but even with Illinois, with twenty Electoral College votes, still up in the air it looks like Mr Trump has locked in the election. How do you see it, JJ?

JEREMY JONES—Yes, it looks like Mr Trump, against all odds, has pulled off an upset. He is currently sitting with fifty-three percent of the popular vote, much to the surprise of the pundits and pollsters. Although, if you had been listening closely you would have heard Mr Nate Silver, of the Five Thirty Eight blog, hinting that there might be an upset. He did that mostly by alluding to the polling being done by *The LA Times*, which was the only poll to show Mr Trump ahead.

AMANDA POTTS—Yes, this is a surprise to many, if not most who have been following this race. It was a surprise even to those of us here at *Break Point News*, where we had predicted Hillary Clinton to win handily.

The way the numbers break down at this point: Donald Trump has three hundred and five Electoral College votes and Hillary Clinton has one eighteen. The polls have yet to close on the West Coast, so there are seventy-four undecided Electoral College votes there, almost all of which we expect to go to former Secretary of State Clinton, Alaska's three being the exception. The race in Illinois seems very close, so those twenty votes are still up in the air as well. And, for the first time since 1948, a Third Party has won states. Governor Gary Johnson won Colorado and New Mexico, for fourteen Electoral College votes.

JEREMY JONES—It looks like Governor Johnson's hopes of throwing the election into the House of Representatives has been thwarted by the strong showing of Donald Trump. If the race were closer, it could have been decided by the newly elected House of Representatives. That would have given Governor Johnson a second bite of the apple, if you will.

AMANDA POTTS—JJ, we do have reporters at several locations, ready to report reaction from those involved. First up is Mike Barnett, who is in Boston with Governor Charlie Baker. Mike?

MIKE BARNETT—Thank you Amanda. I am here with Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, who has been against Mr Trump since before the Convention.

Governor Baker, what is your take on the election results?

CHARLIE BAKER—My congratulations to Mr Trump. It was a hard fought election and the People have spoken. While I was opposed to Mr Trump as our Nominee, it is obvious that the issues he has raised, such as illegal immigration, jobs, world trade, and the place of Blacks in our society have resonated with the Voters. I, of course, wish Mr Trump the best of luck, as do all the People of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and we will all work together for a better America.

MIKE BARNETT—Amanda, JJ, there it is, quick and concise. Governor Baker, who has opposed Mr Trump for months, has come forward to congratulate him on his surprise victory over Hillary Clinton.

CHARLIE BAKER—What the heck does this jerk think? I am going to denigrate the Office of the Presidency? This election of Trump is not good for America. We would have been better off with Gary Johnson, or even that crook, Hillary Clinton. Although Trump is right about her being a crook. But she wouldn't be the first crook elected to the Presidency. And we have survived other crooks. Congress just needs to get off its dead bottom and do what it is supposed to do. And we need to take back the Party before it's name and reputation is destroyed by Trump. The problem is, not only is he going to be coming after me, for one thing as a rival in 2020, but also because I opposed him this time. It is like those Republicans in Lowell, who wanted a Primary opponent against me and backed Mark Fisher. I showed them. I have met with all sorts of people in Lowell, Democrats and Independents, but I have stiffed the Lowell Republican City Committee, and Trump will try that on me. Only thing is, Massachusetts is a sovereign state and thus we have clout, while the Lowell Republicans have nothing. I need to think about this.

AMANDA POTTS—Now we turn to Ralph Bellamy, who is with Kellyanne Conway, of the Trump Campaign, in Mar-a-Lago, Florida. Ralph?

RALPH BELLAMY—Yes, Amanda. Mr Trump, one of the wealthiest Presidents since Franklin D Roosevelt. We have with us Ms Kellyanne Conway, Trump Campaign Manager.

KELLYANNE CONWAY—From the returns that would be President Elect Trump.

RALPH BELLAMY—Yes, from the returns that would be three hundred and five, maybe three hundred and eight Electoral College votes for Mr Trump, President Elect Trump. What is the mood in the Trump Campaign, the mood down here in Mar-a-Lago?

KELLYANNE CONWAY—The mood is excellent. President Elect Trump is upbeat and already thinking about putting together a cabinet from individuals under consideration. And he is thinking about what are going to be his first moves come Inauguration Day, one of which will involve moving forward on the issue of illegal immigration. Yes, we are

pretty happy with the results. The American People have spoken. From Maine to Florida and out across the Country to Idaho and Utah and Arizona. We do still have six states to report in, but Mr Trump has captured the heart of America, and of all Americans, as exit polls are showing. Yes, the mood here is excellent and we are looking forward to four years of making America Great Again.

RALPH BELLAMY—Thank you Kellyanne and savor your victory and good luck to Mr Trump over the next four years.

Back to you in the studio, as the Trump Team looks forward to a new dawn and a great sunrise at Mar-a-Lago.

KELLYANNE CONWAY—Thank God we are over the top in Electors. With a Candidate like Donald you are never sure how the secret heart of the American voter will break. Now we just have to beat back an army of Democrat lawyers trying to find every technicality that could result in overturning the results in this or any other state. This is going to be a catfight to the bitter end. For sure.

JEREMY JONES—We now go to the Clinton Headquarters and our Reporter John Swayze, who is standing by with Ms Huma Abedin.

JOHN SWAYZE—Thanks, JJ. I am here with Ms Huma Abedin, who has agreed to talk to us for Hillary Clinton. Ms Abedin, is Mrs Clinton, at this point, going to concede to Mr Trump, or does she still hold out hope?

HUMA ABEDIN—We have no concession speech scheduled. Mrs Clinton does still hold out hope that the results will change over night and believes it is too early to concede to Mr Trump or anyone else.

JOHN SWAYZE—So, what is the thinking in the Clinton Camp?

HUMA ABEDIN—It has been a tough race for Mrs Clinton and she is just relaxing with her husband and daughter at this point. While the newspapers are rushing to crown Mr

Trump, we believe a number of races may turn around after we examine and litigate the results in certain states. We are sure to win the West Coast and Hawaii, which will give us 71 additional Electoral Votes. Then there is Illinois, for 91 total. That gives us 209, so, with exposing the fraud in several states, and the suppression of votes, we expect to be at 280 by the time the Electors cast their votes, on 19 December. This election isn't over by a long shot.

JOHN SWAYZE—Ms Abedin, that seems a little thin. Do you have anything else to improve your chances?

HUMA ABEDIN—Well, John, we do think that Mr Trump will not be able to pocket all those Electoral Votes. Surely even among the Republicans there is a realization that Mr Trump would be a terrible President and their innate Patriotism would cause them to vote for someone else.

JOHN SWAYZE—Wouldn't that make them "Faithless Electors", in violation of the law?

HUMA ABEDIN—Yes, John, it would but their Patriotism, and the circumstances, would excuse the offense.

JOHN SWAYZE—Who are they going to vote for? Surely not Ms Clinton, or Gary Johnson, so Jeb Bush or Ted Cruz?

HUMA ABEDIN—Yes, I expect it would be someone like that.

JOHN SWAYZE—But, that would probably drive out Gary Johnson and leave the House of Representatives to choose among Mrs Clinton, Mr Trump and maybe Jeb Bush.

HUMA ABEDIN—Is there a question there?

JOHN SWAYZE—Sorry, yes, Ms Abedin. Going into the election the Republicans controlled 33 State Delegations and the Democrats 14, with three evenly split. Mr Trump could afford to give up 7 states and still win. What is your path.

HUMA ABEDIN—We just believe that when we have dissected the voting and talked to the Electors that we will be able to get the needed state votes in the House of Representatives. Twenty Six votes.

JOHN SWAYZE—And that is the word out of the Clinton Campaign Headquarters, Amanda and JJ. Hillary takes a licking and keeps on ticking.

HUMA ABEDIN—We are so screwed. We are so screwed. I am so screwed. Hillary won't accept this defeat. She will be on a rant for weeks. I don't even know what to say to her anymore. Maybe I would be better off going back to Carlos Danger and trying to make that work. It can't be as hard as fixing Hillary after this. We were thrashed. No doubt. AW and I could go to Kalamazoo, zoo, zoo. Start over. I bet I could run for Congress and beat that Republican, Fred Upton. He is worthless. Yes, I need to think about that, for the sake of Jordan, if nothing else.

JEREMY JONES—Turning now to the White House, we have our reporter, Hans Kaltenborn.

HANS KALTENBORN—Yes, JJ and Amanda, there is consternation here at the White House and the Press Room is active. The President's Press Secretary promised us two minutes. Here is Press Secretary Josh Earnest.

Josh, what is the mood in the White House tonight?

JOSH EARNEST—Thanks, Hans. We are looking at a number of scenarios to see if Hillary Clinton has a path to victory. As you know, the President truly believes that Ms Clinton is the superior candidate, the person who can lead the United States over the next four years. Mr Trump is not that person.

HANS KALTENBORN—What about the President's earlier comments about Mr Trump being "Unfit" to be President? Will the President recognize this election, join Mr Trump on the West Side of the Capitol?

JOSH EARNEST—This election is far from over. It is like Florida in 2000, but with a lot more states in play. We won't really know the outcome for some time yet. President Obama has been in contact with Attorney General Lynch and has directed that the Department of Justice examine elections in the various states to ensure that Voter's rights were not violated.

HANS KALTENBORN—Would Justice go to court to cause new elections to occur?

JOSH EARNEST—We are exploring various options, which I am not at liberty to discuss at this time. Thank you.

HANS KALTENBORN—And that is the situation here in DC. There is no doubt the President is hoping for a repeat of 1948, when then President Truman went to bed and woke up the winner in the Election.

JOSH EARNEST—We are so screwed. And if California goes for Trump it is game, set, and match. What Federal Judge is going to order a state to run a whole new election? I bet that goes all the way to the Supremes. At least we don't have Scalia to get in our way. And, if we get this election reversed, what are the Voters going to do in 2020. And between now and then it will be more gridlock. The question now is who is going to bell the cat, who is going to tell Hill it is time to pull the plug and concede? Not me. And not the President. He took the office away from her once. Not twice. And what am I going to do as this gig winds down? Rule One: Don't do anything stupid.

Meanwhile, upstairs in the White House...

THE FIRST LADY—So where are we?

PRESIDENT OBAMA—I think Trump has pulled it off. Sure, we can go looking for Voter fraud, or Voters who were denied their vote, but what is that going to get us? It isn't a squeaker in terms of popular vote or Electoral College. The best we can hope for is to force it into the House of Representatives and I don't think we have picked up enough House Seats to offset the GOP advantage. It is one vote for each state, and they control 33 of them. It looks bad, but I don't want to be the one to tell Hillary that she has no path. That's Bill's job. The irony is that that was the job of the voters. She just didn't get it. So, Bill may have to do it.

PRESIDENT OBAMA— We are so screwed. I made it plain he is unfit for the Office of President. So, now what do I do? Cheerfully welcome him to the Oval Office? Stand on the platform with him on 20 January? I should have kept my mouth shut, but who would have thought the voters would actually elect him? Unbelievable. Our allies are alternately laughing and sobbing. China and Russia and North Korea are thrilled. Four years of bad road ahead. The problem is, we can't just walk on by. I need a solution. I wonder what Ben Rhodes has in mind?

JEREMY JONES—The results are holding steady, with Mr Trump having the Electoral College Votes to win. Next up is our panel of experts.

AMANDA POTTS—And on that note we are going to a Commercial Break and will update the numbers when we return.

UNNAMED PRODUCER—And you are off.

AMANDA POTTS—This turn of events is embarrassing. How did we miss this? Are we all Pauline Kaels tonight?

JEREMY JONES—Pauline who? Oh yes, the "I can't believe Nixon won. I don't know anyone who voted for him" woman. Well, I don't know anyone who voted for Trump, unless you did.

AMANDA POTTS—Not me. He terrifies me. On the other hand, I was not all that happy with Hillary. That whole classified EMail issue was a disaster. She was either totally ignorant, totally spaced out or flat out lying.

JEREMY JONES—And, she is tone deaf. She is just another coastal liberal and doesn't understand there is a hinterland at all. And the hinterland starts pretty early. Look at the returns for Lowell and Worcester. And Maine and New Hampshire.

UNNAMED PRODUCER—We are back in five, four, three, two, one.

JEREMY JONES—Welcome back. Amanda and I are following the election returns and expect the West Coast numbers to be appearing shortly.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

News Reader 1.....	Amanda Potts
News Reader 2.....	Jeremy Jones
Interviewer, Boston.....	Mike Barnett
Mass Governor.....	Charlie Baker
Interviewer, Mar-a-Lago	Ralph Bellamy
Trump Spokesperson	Kellyanne Conway
Interviewer, Clinton Hq	John Swayze
Candidate Clinton.....	Huma Abedin
Interviewer, DC.....	Hans Kaltenborn
Obama Spokesman.....	Josh Earnest
First Lady.....	Herself
President Obama	Himself
Pauline Kael	Pauline Kael, filtered
Unnamed Producer	Kilroy