NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

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Neighbors scoff at theory crash was accident



PEOPLE who live around Rockaway's own ground zero are not swallowing the story that this was an accident.

Kevin McKeon, who has an engine in his back yard, puts it this way:

"I feel, and I've felt it is terrorism. When investigators make my house a crime scene, and I see [fighter] jets screaming overhead, I tend to think they have really got us scared.

"I'm asking my daughter, Shannon, to give me a kiss and a hug, and then I hear this sonic boom, and I'm terrified about my family."

McKeon, who was blown out of his kitchen chair, gave a glorious, defiant salute as he revved his motorbike across the street — but admitted, "They have really got us scared. I feel this is all about terrorism."

Down the road, Rod McHale, who lives a baseball pitch away, said:

"I keep on hearing people or authorities talk about an engine falling off the plane and an explosion.

"That's not what I heard and saw. There was an explosion, and then the engine fell off. I am not an expert, but I am convinced it's terrorism. An act of terrorists."

John McCabe said: "I am a cop, but I have my own thoughts about this ... an accident? It just seems too pat."

Teacher Carol Geler said of the slaughter of her neighbors:

"Even if they tell me it was an accident, I'd be highly suspicious.

A friend of mine, Johnny Marlen, a very successful businessman in Montauk, pointed out, "The terrorists tell us we're going to be attacked again, the government even tells us we might be victims of a terror attack, and then on the Veterans Day holiday, something happens.

"With great respect to those innocent people who lost their lives, let's put it in real terms.

"What bookie in the world would bet or take a bet, it was an accident? Promised by terrorists, cautioned by the government, and on Veterans Day, in an American Airlines plane. Please give me a break."

If the plane went down because of an accident, then we should know real quick.

They've got two flight-recorder boxes from the plane right now.

I'll bet my bottom dollar, in a bet that shouldn't be made because people were lost, these flight recorders won't show anything wrong with the plane.

Remember what McHale said: *There* was an explosion, and *then* the engine fell off.

And remember what Kevin McKeon said: "They have really got us scared." Kevin, like every New Yorker, only gets scared for his children, not for himself, and I have an idea that Kevin is major p---ed off.

Partners, he's not alone.

And at the end of the day, Mike and Tom Knott, 10-year-old twins, found a charred piece of paper, apparently from a book.

Their mother, Barbara Knott, said:

"It still smells from oil fumes. It was in our back yard only half a block from where it all crashed. It can't be more awful than that, having your kids find a parched page of a book that must have belonged to a decent human being."

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