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Bob's 9/11 post from 20 years ago — To a Man With a Hammer

Some things are worth reading again. For the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, here — unedited — is my column originally published September 13, 2001.



My smarter and handsomer brother was in Northern New Jersey on Tuesday looking across the water at what was for just a moment longer the single remaining tower of the World Trade Center. A cold front had passed through the night before, leaving the day startlingly clear. The carnage was easy to see even from a distance. Only the rising cloud of smoke and ash marred the sky. And then that tower, too, was gone. The magnitude of this disaster and its sister at the Pentagon in Washington is too great to ponder, so we are left wondering what we could have done to prevent it, and what we could do to keep it from happening again. I'm a longtime pilot, and a guy who used to

work in the Middle East. Twenty-two years ago, I was a Fed investigating the Three Mile Island nuclear accident, so I have some experience of how governments approach disasters. It's not pretty.

The point of terrorism is to leverage the efforts of a small group in an attempt to modify the behavior of a much larger group. I worked long ago as a reporter in Northern Ireland, and left that gig specifically because I began to feel like a pawn of the Provisional Wing of the Irish Republic Army. That 300-member organization was using my stories about their acts to influence people all over the world. I was probably just as much a pawn of the Ulster Defense League, the folks on the other side, but I didn't want to be a pawn of anyone, so I left. The most important reaction to terrorism that a free society can show is to not give in to it.

But not giving in takes many forms, and I fear that some of the official reactions to the events of this week will take the form of effectively giving in if they also mean that we give up our freedom.

"To a man with a hammer, everything looks like a nail," wrote Mark Twain. In the current, context this means that the organizations charged with reacting to this catastrophe will do so by doing what they have always done, only more of it. Congress, which controls the budget and passes laws, [will want to pass laws](#) and to allocate more money, lots of money, forgetting completely about any

campaign promises. The military, which is the nation's enforcer, will want to use force, if only they can find a foe. The intelligence community, which gathers information, will want to be even more energetic in that gathering, no matter what the cost to the privacy of the millions of us who aren't thinking of terrorist acts. And agencies like the Federal Aviation Administration, which regulate, will want to create more stringent regulations. Now here is an important point to be remembered: All these parties will want to do these things [WHETHER THEY ARE WARRANTED OR USEFUL OR NOT.](#)

In 1956 two airliners collided over the Grand Canyon and the regulatory response was today's air traffic control system. The FAA felt that by keeping most planes under positive control — telling them where to go and when — they could avoid future collisions. Yet collisions continue to happen. In 1978 a Pacific Southwest Airlines plane smashed into a small Cessna over San Diego despite the fact that both planes were flying under instrument rules and were under positive control. The FAA response that time was to carve up even more finely the sky over nearly every metropolitan area, controlling the airspace even more stringently with the intent of keeping instrument and visual traffic apart. There was no visual traffic in the San Diego accident, yet we still live with rules that arose from that accident even though those rules would not have prevented it.

So how will the FAA react this time? They will do what they have always done, pass new and stricter rules, and they will do so because it makes them feel better, not because it will actually help.

There is already a restricted area around the Pentagon where planes have never been allowed to fly, yet that didn't stop this week's attack. Should we make the restricted area larger? How much larger is large enough? Will we mount anti-aircraft guns atop office buildings? It won't help. Would creating a restricted area over the World Trade Center have kept a hijacked airliner from entering that space? No, it wouldn't. New rules will follow, and some of those rules won't help, either.

It's not just the government that is guilty of this over-reaction. Tuesday morning, I was speaking to eighth graders at the Pleasanton Middle School in California. The school was abuzz with news from the East Coast, but even more abuzz the next day when the kids had been through a full evening of re-run explosion footage and talking news heads instead of "That 70s Show." I'm not saying we shouldn't cover the news, but sometimes the extent to which we cover it creates problems of its own. There has been much made of the terrorists choosing New York as a target because it is the heart of the world financial community, but what made it an attractive target was more likely the city's role as the very center of world media. That Peter Jennings could grab a shower at home and get right back on the air wasn't by accident.

And I, too, am just another man with a hammer. My gig is technology, and I keep thinking there must some way to use it to prevent this kind of thing from happening again. The terrorists grabbed Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft because they are very different aircraft, yet share a single type certificate from the government. This means that the cockpits are identical. Learn to fly a 757 and you can fly a 767 too, making for a much larger pool of available aircraft with enough fuel capacity to take out the towers. But having a common type certificate also means the planes have the same autopilot systems, both of which include auto-landing capability.

Why, I find myself thinking, can't we build a system that takes over control of the autopilot, locks out flight crew and hijackers alike, and lands the plane at the first sign of trouble. Well, we could, but it opens a whole new area of vulnerability — hijacking autopilots. Forget I said anything.

So there are no answers, just more questions, and nobody is right. But we can't give in, because to do so is to become less free, to be no longer ourselves. And above all, what defines us as Americans is our need to be ourselves.

By [Robert X. Cringely](#)|September 10th, 2021|[2021](#), [Government](#), [history](#), [law](#), [Privacy and Security](#), [terrorism](#)|[643 Comments](#)

643 Comments



1.

Scott Schrader September 10, 2021 at 9:34 am

we started off right, in that we hunted down the evildoers we could and offed them.

then it mestastised into ground wars against religious zealot guerillas, in Afghanistan, ones we trained. that lesson we failed to learn in Vietnam. sorta failed to learn in Korea, that is still stalemated, and the anti-religious zealots there now have nukes and missiles.










and oh, the invasions of privacy.

this is what systems do... react. we build lots of wonderful systems that jump into action afterwards.

I lost 3 hours of work yesterday when the computer protective systems my employer uses started biting each other in the little crystal bits.

lockdown? buy all the toilet paper you can! dry beans! clear out the cookie shelf!

the systems are no better than the people. we... just... react. maybe later, we think.

2. 
Todd Mentch September 10, 2021 at 9:37 am
Thanks for reposting, Bob. Hope you and your family are well.
3. 
Chuck Moore September 10, 2021 at 9:37 am
Bob,
Thank you for the thoughts. I remember reading the original post.
4. 
Russ September 10, 2021 at 9:55 am
With 20/20 hindsight your column is still good.
5. 
"The point of terrorism is to leverage the efforts of a small group... | Dr. Roy Schestowitz (田伊) September 10, 2021 at 10:10 am
[...] "The point of terrorism is to leverage the efforts of a small group in an attempt to modify the behavior of a much larger group." <https://www.cringely.com/2021/09/10/bobs-9-11-post-from-20-years-ago-to-a-man-with-a-hammer/> [...]
6. 
Gnarfle September 10, 2021 at 10:17 am
<https://www.quora.com/What-is-meant-by-the-Mark-Twain-quote-To-a-man-with-a-hammer-everything-looks-like-a-nail>
- o 
jim October 19, 2021 at 9:06 am
Every unit of government will use whatever tools it has to try to solve the problem, whether or not they have the correct tools. Worse yet, they will insist that their tool is the best tool.
7. 
Edmund September 10, 2021 at 10:54 am
I remember thinking about 9/11 after we had all calmed down and wondering if we would start seeing lots of ways to track people by recording where they were, what they were spending, and who they were communicating with – I considered a few ways to do this but thought that it would not be good behavior so I did nothing, in part because I had been reading read Bob's posts for years.
But now everyone is tracked everywhere and the police treat shoplifters, or anyone smoking a joint, as terrorists ... so the 9/11 attack has been very successful in destroying the world we used to live in. America's response has probably made the attack far more successful than it was originally planned.
- o 
wwwpirate September 11, 2021 at 3:55 pm
<https://www.fastcompany.com/90675207/ron-wyden-9-11-mass-surveillance-legacy>
8. 
granville September 10, 2021 at 11:00 am

Is there a single biographical detail in the first two paragraphs that is true?



o

John Light September 10, 2021 at 11:40 am

Another Kickstarter refugee?



■

granville September 11, 2021 at 3:07 am

Not at all, but someone that knows how much he's exaggerated both his importance on the TMI investigation and at Apple thanks to previous comments here, and I question if any of this is true either. The chronology makes no sense. He claims he was born in 1953, spent at least a year in high school in the UK, then graduated from college in Ohio in 1975 and got his masters from Stanford in 1979. The Wired story claims he "raced off to Northern Ireland and Beirut to cover foreign wars" between Wooster and Stanford, but had returned by 1977.

He says he was Apple Employee #12, though as Jeremy has pointed out, Daniel Kottke was Employee #12 and started full time at Apple in 1977. So we have to assume this would have also happened after 1977 too. The president's commission on Three Mile Island (which Cringely served as part of the "Public's Right To Information Task Force") was created in April 1979, right around the time of graduation. (This later turned into Cringely's claim of "writing a book about Three Mile Island." He is one of more than a dozen people with that title and one of more than 50 staff credited, many with far more senior titles. He is not the credited author of the report.)

This timeline makes no sense, and nobody who recycled the details of it, such as the Wall Street Journal or Wired seemed able to verify very much of it. ("Mr. Stephens's real life, meanwhile, at times reads almost like a novel," the WSJ wrote in 1996. "He says he began writing obituaries for an Ohio newspaper at the age of 14 and freelanced from Lebanon and other hot spots in his 20s. He claims a doctorate in communications from Stanford University; it says its records show only a master's degree.").

Here's an alternative: a kid in Ohio had a inferiority complex thanks to an overbearing father. At the first opportunity, he pulled up stakes for San Francisco where he smoked weed for a year, lost his virginity, and "found himself" before attending Stanford for his masters in "communication research." That sounds like the kind of degree you'd have if you worked in PR or politics. Cringely worked in a bit of both. So after Stanford he went to DC through a family or faculty connection, got shuffled around a bit, then returned to California where he participated in the godgiven right handed out to every migrant to California and "reinvented" himself. And reinvented most of his past, too, giving himself a doctorate, an employee history at Apple and the journalistic bona fides of being both a government investigator and a war reporter.



■

Jeremy Reimer September 11, 2021 at 2:52 pm

Quote: " (This later turned into Cringely's claim of "writing a book about Three Mile Island.""

Unlike many of Cringely's boasts, this one is actually true. He did write a book about Three Mile Island after the fact:

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/676245.Three_Mile_Island

But I do agree that the timeline for Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) doing all the things he claimed to be doing from 1977 to 1979 is a bit sketchy.



■

granville September 11, 2021 at 4:02 pm

Oh wow, I missed this. So that starts to clear up what he was doing between 1980 and 1987.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 11, 2021 at 4:41 pm

The book was published in 1980, if that helps.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 11, 2021 at 2:57 pm

One small addendum: Not only do we know that Daniel Kottke was actually Employee #12, but folks have tracked down and provided evidence for a full list of the first 20 Apple employees, and Cringely isn't among them. So we know that claim is absolutely not true. Maybe that leaves an opening for some of the other things to be happening in the 1977-1979 timeframe, but maybe it doesn't.



Frank September 13, 2021 at 7:56 pm

He did do interviews with Steve Jobs, who appears to have lied alot himself. Cringely was around there which is most important if you are interested in that period. Apple was a sketchy company early on. Did they really keep a list of employees in the order they were hired? This is before various forms. They didn't have to pay any taxes before the next year. Jobs probably told him he was hired and number twelve without knowing if Woz hired someone. Yes, it does appear cringely is slightly made up but only slightly. His biggest problem is that world has moved along. Especially with globalization and visas it's all different.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 13, 2021 at 10:51 pm

Quote:

"Did they really keep a list of employees in the order they were hired?"

They did, and it happened fairly early on, as soon as Mike Scott was hired as Apple's first president. Coming up with the list and the employee number thing was one of the first things Scott did. It led to an argument, because Scott (who assigned himself as Employee #7) wanted Wozniak to be #1, but Jobs wanted that number. Jobs lost the argument and ended up Employee #2. By the time they got to Dan Kotte, Employee #12, the company already had an accountant and a secretary to go along with the hardware and software engineers. They were already a real company, albeit still in the early stages.

The important thing to note here is that many of the early employees can and have provided proof in the form of their employee badges. Not that they really need to, as they all remember each other and back each other up.

But the only source for Cringely being an Apple employee is from Cringely himself.

And we know that Cringely lies.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 13, 2021 at 11:15 pm

Here's a neat article about the first ten Apple employees (at least the first ten "numbered" ones)

<https://www.businessinsider.com/the-first-10-apple-employees-2016-12>

From the article: "The Apple employee numbers aren't the order each person joined the company. When Scott came to Apple, he had to give out numbers to each employee to make life easier for the payroll department."

And there's this snippet from Dan Kottke from an interview:

"But by the spring of '77, Mike Markkula had arrived, who was really the third founder of the company. They incorporated in January. He took a look at the situation and said, 'we can make money here.' Steve didn't know what to do. But Mike Markkula put in 90k to get the company going, so they could rent an

office space, incorporate, get the board of directors and write a business plan, hire a president, Mike Scott, all the things that make a company."

Markkula was Employee #3. By the time they got to Employee #10, accountant Gary Martin, Apple was already a proper company with an office, a secretary, and employee badges.

It just doesn't make any sense that they would, at this point, hire Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) as Employee #12 to, as Bob said, "move things out of Jobs garage". They has already long since moved out of the garage!



Jeremy Reimer September 14, 2021 at 12:09 pm

Here's a neat video of Steve Wozniak deconstructing the myth of the Apple garage:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIM4AtmC9nc>

"The garage is a bit of a myth... **we did no designs there, no breadboarding there, no prototyping, no planning of products, we did no manufacturing there.** I designed the Apple I in my cubicle at Hewlett Packard.. we would drive the finished products to the garage, maybe half a day a week was all we needed. We'd test them, make them work, and drive them down to the store that paid us cash. The business was done by Steve Jobs in his bedroom, in the same house. He would make calls to get parts, sales, and publicity. We outgrew that garage very quickly. **It didn't serve much purpose** except it was something for us to feel it was our home. It wasn't like a whole company, you walk in and a whole bunch of people sitting at their desks... **there were hardly ever more than two people there**, and most of the time they weren't doing anything productive."

Now, somehow we are expected to believe that this garage, which was used only half a day a week to test small batches of Apple I computers (the original order for the Byte Shop was 50 computers, and the Apple I never sold more than a few hundred units in total), this barely-used garage which never had more than two people in it, somehow was *so full of important stuff* that Apple then **hired Mark Stephens as a full-time employee #12 to move things out of the garage and offered to pay him in stock?**

No. It's ludicrous. The garage was already a legend in Silicon Valley when Cringely did *Triumph of the Nerds*, and it's a historic site today. Bob had talked to a bunch of early Apple employees and had sort of figured out what employee number and timeframe would sound most plausible for him to be involved in it.

But it never happened.



granville September 14, 2021 at 3:27 pm

Frank: "Yes, it does appear cringely is slightly made up but only slightly."

lol dude he claims to have bought every F-104 jet in existence, not 20 or 30 years ago but barely a year ago.



Questionable_PhD September 13, 2021 at 4:12 pm

> reinvented most of his past... giving himself a doctorate, an employee history at Apple...

And doubled down on the (re)invention, bluffing, stonewalling, and denigrating journalists who dared doubt him: "I don't care about this, and why should I bother to show you my [nonexistent] diploma? I worked for 31 years as a reporter and I don't care about your story."

https://archives.stanforddaily.com/1998/11/11?page=12§ion=MODSMD_ARTICLE1#article
(That was 20 years ago too)

Highlighting this not just to Mark-bash, but, rather, to draw the clear and very distinct line between "someone who gets swept up in the moment and tells (over)emotional whoppers" (like, say, Al Gore) versus "someone

who consciously deceives, snaps back angrily when the deception is found out, and heaps on further lies, convoluted half-answers, and non-answers rather than admitting wrongdoing" (laptop fire, F-104 jets, PhD).



■ **Gnarfle** September 15, 2021 at 9:09 am

Euphoric recall.



○

Roger Slnasohn December 3, 2021 at 10:40 am

Well... perhaps that his brother is smarter and better looking?



■ **Gnarfle** December 16, 2021 at 8:51 am

Why yes! Yes I am!

9. [Links 10/9/2021: liveslak-1.3.10 and PipeWire 0.3.35 | Techrights](#) September 10, 2021 at 11:03 am

[...] Bob's 9/11 post from 20 years ago — To a Man With a Hammer [...]



10.

Scott September 10, 2021 at 3:49 pm

Imagine if we had reacted to 9/11 by spending 20 years and trillions of dollars eliminating the use of fossil fuels in America.



11.

Chris September 10, 2021 at 5:05 pm

After 20 years here is what I think I learned. Your lessons may be different.

We should never consider nation building until we have completed nation destruction. We should have obliterated Afghanistan. Too bad about the civilians – but then no government can exist without the complacency of the people, so in a sense they deserve to share in the destruction. Also – never send a soldier to do a job that a nuclear warhead can do. A glowing "Lake Afghanistan" would serve as a good reminder to never piss off the USA – assuming we ever have the nerve to use them. We created the greatest superpower in the world but never learned how to act like one.



○

Cognominal September 11, 2021 at 4:05 am

@chris After 20 years, you have not learned anything.

What talibans have done to you ? They are not related in any way to 9/11. Who are you to say they should be bombed ? Or to think America is legitimate or can still get away bombing or destroying countries for «spreading démocratie». US can delude itself because it will be the leader in soft power for yet another decade or so. So what ? More to the point, it has decredibilized itself as a reliable partner in anything for many decades. After the Nuland induced disaster, and the building of Nord stream 2, it is now letting Europe down which will soon discover Russia is a better partner. Same continent. Next will be Japan. Russian build bridges. Literally. Next bridge, within 20 years, probably 10, will be from to Sakhaline Islands to Hokkaido. Russian build bridges. US bombs. Transitive and intransitive. China will give to the world a taste of unequal treaties. Its turn. Who do you think the rest of the world will want to deal with ?

Thx to Curtis Lemay ant it's successor, US was a one trick poney with its « Bomb the hell out of them ». It lasted more than 70 years. It is over. See you in 20 years.

« America is the only country that went from barbarism to decadence without civilization in between.»



o

Gnarfle September 11, 2021 at 5:06 am

You can't bomb them back to the Stone Age when they're still living in it.



▪

Cognominal September 11, 2021 at 6:27 am

You try to be snarky. But that would mean the almighty land of the free was just humiliated by a bunch of Stone Age men.

Joke is on you.

Anyway the American military industrial complex is still there and will bring the US down. Not even need to drop a bomb for that.



▪

Gnarfle September 11, 2021 at 1:47 pm

Tell it to the Viet Cong!



▪

Gnarfle September 14, 2021 at 4:16 am

You musta been BOMBED when you typed this!



12.

trashtalk September 10, 2021 at 9:49 pm

How surprising Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is hiding behind the flag to disguise lying (again) about the Mineserver update.

Personally I preferred Die Hard but I get you hearing the bodies smack into the ground like confetti had it's moments. Watching American square jawed hero types blubbing like babies because 'Merika had been slapped? All the highlights on a loop? Real Journalists (not Stephens) wetting themselves that their moment had come? President moron plus scowly sidekicks delivering presidential addresses? The Disneyland remembrances every sodding year. Rows of \$100K facelifts with their hands on hearts staring up to the sky like they were gazing at Jesus and sniveling away like their pet cat died? Yeah yeah we get it. Now can you lot just STFU up about it?



o

Gnarfle September 11, 2021 at 5:04 am

Back in the 1970s, when I was a teen on the periphery of nothingness, a group of friends got together and created Star Trek Fans United. They held a few mini-conventions at the Salvation Army Citadel and I got to see an episode of Star Trek in color for the first time. They used a 16 mm projector. It was awesome. I bought a 13 year old copy of Famous Monsters of Filmland for 5 bucks.

But years later, I realized they had pulled an amazing joke. They paid for a couple of commercials on local TV to advertise the mini-cons and actually slipped the phrase STFU into the dialog. HAHA!



o

[Roger Slnasohn](#) September 14, 2021 at 9:51 am

"How surprising Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is hiding behind the flag to disguise lying (again) about the Mineserver update."

Not that I'm one to EVER cut crookely any slack, but when he posted back in April(? March?) about his next columns being a book report and then a Mineserver update, I figured the implication was that he was talking about the next columns *he wrote*. Given that this is a copy-and-paste of an old one, I don't count this against him.

Which doesn't mean he isn't a lying liar or that I really believe he'll ever address the Kickstarter fiasco (either here or where it belongs, on Kickstarter).



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) September 14, 2021 at 10:59 am

This isn't really related to anything, but I'm slightly sad that the September 11 anniversary prompted a Cringely repost, bumping the book review off the top slot.

Why? Because I had *just* finished reading the book (Einstein's Fridge) and wanted to post a quick mini-review, but there's no real point in doing that now because all the conversations have moved to this post instead.

Anyway, the TL;DR is that it's a good book, falls slightly short in a few places, but worth picking up if you're interested in the history of science and how we learned to understand our universe. Take that for what it's worth.



■ **big bill** November 24, 2021 at 3:34 am

So what?...where did all your bitcoins come from dude? you are a mere "plif da tom" a Pentagons slurry curry de turd....have you tried Albert Smith Mi6 at "Google UK" prompt youll find its right up your street...and hes a bigger liar than you hoo olde chap.



■ **pitbrad** November 24, 2021 at 3:45 am

LIES,LIES,LIES,SPYS,SPYS,PIES
Ru 4 real dude?



13. **Craig** September 11, 2021 at 3:54 am

That post just as valid as when I read it 20 years ago, it seems nothing has changed in gov procedure or response in that time unfortunately



14. **trashtalk** September 11, 2021 at 5:05 pm

I've been avoiding 9/11 coverage as I usually do but had a peep. It's the same old stuff with photographs of square jawed heroes like they are John Wayne winning WWII on their own with a grease gun and grenade. Then there is all that guff about "the day the world changed" and, bizarrely, foreign countries joining the US in a day of mourning. At least officially.

It's bullshit. A building fell down. People died. Boo hoo.



○ **Gnarfle** September 15, 2021 at 10:46 am

A building fell down.
You're confusing Champlain Towers South with commercial aircraft weaponized against a specific target.
I recall hearing a commentator referring to it as HIGH concept – LOW tech.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surfside_condominium_collapse



15.

Bazz September 11, 2021 at 7:22 pm

When I saw the photos of USA solders killed in Afganastan the other day I thought they were underage. The kids of the 1950's and earlier looked mature at 15yrs. Why? Women!!

I love Robert X (what does X stand for) so insightful so Leonard Zelig.

To fight others we have to remove the Geneva Conventions (which were for European wars) not in bits like having torture.

The MOST IMPORTANT FACT of Usama is not his ideology but his biology. He had 20+ kids when he died. His DNA is safe for the future.

I would have killed all his kids and then castrated him just like we did to Small Pox, Polo and other diseases. The Ideology of Islamist is a is a Delta variant of Covid19 — Islam. Both should be exterminated!!

When I studied Islam I found it to be a capitalist advertising system.

Mahomed in the years in the wilderness robed silk road caravans. He died with the most camels in Arabia. If you dissect the 72 virgins given to Islamic Martyrs after 72 days they are not virgins for billions of years. Alah would have made a better deal if he gave the martyrs memory loss and revirginification to the woman — a single virgin forever — the perfect male ideal.

The 72 virgins is an advertising coupon to the ignorant.

The problem of the West is that they believe all religions are allowable. I would reintroduce human sacrifice to make rain put out fires grow crops. Nobody wants to die so where does the cut of start. Catholicism say Christ dies daily for us.

Soon after Joseph Smith started Mormons the Company Board got rid of him so that they ran the religion. Guess what — so too islam.

We are not allowed to say the emperor has no clothes!

Make fun of idiots is the best attack!

Oh and give back to them what they believe in.



16.

trashtalk September 11, 2021 at 8:07 pm

I was bored so went on went on cam which I do once in a blue moon and got chatting with an Iranian man of all people. I think you will find most ordinary people all over the world are no different to anywhere else. It's the headbangers which you get everywhere which make things shit.

I've had Muslim clients in the past. They're no bother at all. In fact by and large the ones who have seen e at least are really nice and they get stiff like they've never seen a woman before. But like I said it all depends whether they're just an ordinary person or a headbanger.



o

Edmund September 13, 2021 at 7:21 am

Blaming people who do bad things by accusing their religion does nothing – the Proud Boys are all Christians but so were the Crusaders who spent years slaughtering Muslims. In both religions everyone worship the same God – they just believe in different ~~politicians~~ prophets.



17.

trashtalk September 14, 2021 at 3:46 am

<https://phoenix-blue.medium.com/why-and-what-are-we-remembering-b3b4cd9b799f>

It's been 20 years almost to the day since Sept. 11, 2001. Why are we still flagellating ourselves over an event so long ago when 1,500 Americans are dying per day from COVID-19? And why aren't we paying more attention to what happened on Jan. 6, 2021?

This essay covers what Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) didn't say.



o

wwwpirate September 14, 2021 at 7:36 pm

September 11 is a great day for politicians of both parties to come in front of tv cameras for some free publicity and say how they are tough on crime and terrorism but the other party sadly is not.

There is a saying – Never underestimate the power of stupid people especially if they are in large group – and it is just strange to see how many stupid people there are around who believe those publicity stunts.



18.

CROOKZY September 15, 2021 at 1:19 pm

<https://16458824.webador.co.uk/>

<https://www.imagebam.com/view/ME3LXWH>



19.

trashtalk September 16, 2021 at 2:16 am

Where it is at today is Space. Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is notably absent from hosting the Netflix series covering the new SpaceX all civilian launch. The same SpaceX who don't return his calls.

This show is syrupy! The Disneyfied hand on heart soft focus emoting? You can tell it's American. Pass the sick bag. As for the mission having the largest ever window in space it doesn't look very secure does it? It looks like it will just pop off like a lid from a can.

The billionaire who paid for this jolly owns his own fleet of jets unlike Mark Stephens who only had a big lie and a photoshopped cop of a picture someone else owned.

SpaceX will also simultaneously have three craft in space. Meanwhile Mark Stephens has yet to ship three mineservers.



20.

Gnarfle September 17, 2021 at 11:39 am

@ Trashay!

Funny you ask about Jan. 6, 2021.

I went to a Home Depot yesterday. There was a group of folks waving U.S. flags and yelling their support for Donald Trump standing near the highway. It was pouring rain. They had a big SPEAKER truck playing something incomprehensible. A LARGE SIGN displayed the name TRUMP. But beneath TRUMP, someone had painted a line through PENCE. So . . . Recycle! Reuse! Repurpose!

This is what happens when you have too much time on your hands.

Idle hands and all that.

Satan Claws is coming to town!



21.

trashtalk September 18, 2021 at 12:00 am

@Gnarfle

There's a few things happening which may make some people wake up and realise they have been used. Cynical people exploit ignorance and fear which explains why they are always in a hurry to force something through by hook or by crook.

I hate cam work but did some today for an old cam client. Most of everything else I ignored. It doesn't matter whether it is a Pilchard waving a sign or a random holding their throbbing member. Yes clients pay in advance and yes trust is involved but I don't see much point in ripping anyone off.

I'm always on the look out for feedback and picked up on one detail the client liked and it was pretty much what I thought or rather hoped it might be. I'm not giving away trade secrets but will say it is very satisfying when clients perceive something as being sexy. It's a detail I noticed with another escort who is popular and it's nice I created the same effect. I was also studying other material by another escort. That was a curious one. I may pinch a few of her tricks. They will be useful for cash rich time poor clients.

Speaking of Home Depot a fair number of my clients are tradesmen. I've never met a tradesman who couldn't get it up. If I was over there I'd be parking a stealth camper van outside! I'm sure I could tease an interest. Now the funny thing is a few construction projects I know of have suffered from holes in their accounting. That's money disappearing because of corruption. It would be interesting to look at Trump's accounts. We know they are dodgy and he got off in the past because a family member was a judge. I wouldn't be surprised if more than a few legitimate looking payments was money going out the back door. That's money rich people like Trump scam off everyone. It's in my interests cash money heads in my direction but it's not fair on society or his own employees or customers. That's a lot of nookie tradesmen aren't getting because Trump is scamming them out of discretionary income.



o

Mr. Bear September 20, 2021 at 11:30 pm

There's no question (about Trump & graft). It's endemic in large NY real estate business. I don't mean to single him out, but just about the only difference between him and all of the other big RE developers in New York, is that they don't like to hire sky writers to detail all of their business dealings 24/7. They like to keep it on the down-low so they don't get caught.



■

granville September 22, 2021 at 12:31 pm

Apparently Eliot Spitzer also came from a "real estate family" and is back in the business. I'm not a New Yorker so this was sorta news to me and I found this piece published last year about the Permanent Government and how the city has "built its way out of crisis" pretty interesting:

<https://www.curbed.com/2020/10/future-of-real-estate-nyc.html>



22.

granville September 19, 2021 at 1:11 pm

Guess we'll have to memorialize Clive Sinclair in the comments. Incredible how he squeezed every penny out of those machines to make them so cheap for consumers. A mature industry is something we benefit from every day (I'm writing this on a 7 year old desktop and it does everything a brand new one does) but so lacking in the romance of an emerging one, when eclectic inventors and parts salesmen could put together a machine and build a company around it.



o

Jeremy Reimer September 19, 2021 at 7:13 pm

RIP Sir Clive.

The BBC made a great fictionalized documentary about the rivalry between Sinclair and his protégé, Chris Curry, who went on to found Acorn computers, which eventually brought about the ARM chip that is now in every phone and tablet in the world. It's called [Micro Men](#) and is definitely worth a watch.

And for a bit of fun, have a listen to a great tribute song to the era of the Sinclair Spectrum, [Hey, Hey, 16K](#)



■

Dr John September 20, 2021 at 8:36 am

Growing up during the height of that rivalry between Sinclair and Acorn was interesting. The ZX81 was cheap, and very limited with 1k. You could type a program in using the terrible touch pad keys and eventually get a very basic and slow program to work. You weren't just typing in a word, but having to look for the key which had that instruction associated with it. It was a nightmare. And if you bumped the power socket you lost all your work!

A 16k RAM pack would go on the back. In theory this meant that you could use bigger programs and that meant you needed to add a tape recorder to store and load them again. Plus you could buy programs on tape too. Typing after you added 16k became even slower as it seemed refresh the entire 16k, slowly. I added another to the back of mine just because a friend had one that had that extra port on his and I borrowed it. Then it was chronically slow...

Acorn got the BBC contract to support a series of TV shows they were producing. This machine also found its way in to schools as the main machine (my school before that had a scattering of different computers that they didn't teach, but had a "computer club" at lunch times until the teachers went on strike! It wasn't until later did they try to teach computing.). But the "BBC Model B", the one you wanted unlike the cut down Model A, was expensive.

Sinclair came out with the Sinclair Spectrum. It was cheap. That was the main thing about it – cost. But the keyboard was a big improvement on the ZX81.

Then the two companies were seen in a different way. Sinclair for games, Acorn for education. In many ways the BBC B was the better machine. Better keyboard, better graphics (I say this because the Spectrum always looked smudged), better external hardware with disc drivers? I'm not sure that the Spectrum ever had a disc drive? But cost and games were what made the Spectrum popular.

But the Acorn BBC B can even claim a huge games win over the Spectrum. "Elite". It was a game like no other before it. Space trading and combat with 3D graphics. You really can not under appreciate just how revolutionary that was. It seemed impossible when all other games were just blobs on the screen moving around that this had something you could fly in 3D!

But you look at what Sinclair did afterwards. His C5 is what mobility scooters are today. His Zike is the electric bike that people are using. He was definitely ahead.

What happened to Sinclair's computer division? They were bought out by Amstrad. Amstrad makes cr*p.



23. **trashtalk** September 19, 2021 at 5:39 pm

Oh how I miss those days too. The excitement! The romance! I watched a video today on his Zike, an electric bicycle, and it was amazing. Much more civilised than those e-scooters we're tripping over. Oh my word I've been given literal pearl clutching moments by those. Not only that if your attention is on dodging one of those it's very easy I imagine to miss a car running you down! They are going to have to put a zingy thing on them so you can hear them coming!

Thinking of which Christ I made a racket today for one client as I braced myself over the end of the sofa. Slap, oooh, slap, oooh, slap, oooh. Then he held on to my waist to get leverage and I went oooh oooh ooh, as you do. I'm not joking that sofa moved at least a foot.

I also read Sinclair hosted amazing parties and had an eye for a good thing. He had quite the life by the sound of it.



24. **Tom** September 19, 2021 at 9:07 pm

To a man with a nail problem, sometimes the hammer is the best tool. Sadly we did not truly put down the hammer back then.



25. **trashtalk** September 20, 2021 at 5:53 pm

The BBC (when it was good and not a government mouthpiece) had a show called Tomorrow's World. There's a Youtube with Clive Sinclair and Judith Hann demonstrating his Zike bicycle. Oh wow her 1980's trouser suit with power shoulders. I have a classy 1980's satin blouse with padded shoulders I wear occasionally. It's too good to throw out and the quality is really hard to find nowadays unless you pay well into three digits.

The IEEE page on Clive Sinclair is a real eye opener. He not only made the Zike but a convertor box which would turn an ordinary bicycle into an electric bicycle. It would be very competitive even today with the hot new projects producing these kinds of things.



26.

Mark September 23, 2021 at 10:23 pm

Such a disappointment. I come here for crookely's tall tales. What will be the next yarn?

—

Will he take credit for designing some apple product? Will he tell us space x was originally his idea?

—

Here is your minserver update. Mineserver is long dead and will never be updated. The point of minserver was to collect some easy cash, then make excuses for a while. No actual work was ever done.



o

Jeremy Reimer September 27, 2021 at 1:30 pm

I mean, *some* work was clearly done on Mineserver. The actual updates page on Kickstarter (the one that hasn't been updated since 2016) has pictures of a "complete shipment" of "almost ready" boards, and if you do a rough counting you can see that there are only about 40-50 of them, not the complete shipment of 388.

What I think happened is that Cringely ran out of Kickstarter money due to wasting it on a bunch of useless stuff (laser cutters, lawyers, mobile app foolery etc) and couldn't afford to purchase more than 45 boards. He expected that new orders from mineserver.com would cover these costs, but then there were technical difficulties, so he just... gave up. Kind of like what he did in Plane Crazy, really.



o

Questionable_PhD September 28, 2021 at 9:39 am

> The point of min[e]server was to collect some easy cash...

I'm in no way defending Stephens — lots of bad behaviors there — but the truth goes a bit deeper than this. He seemed to jump on the "OMG 3D MAKER FAIRE SMALL BIZ COMING TO CALIFORNIA" band-wagon, perhaps spurred by Obama's local speaking engagement during that same timespan, and thought it would be a good idea to grab some of that 3D-maker-biz publicity, and, as a crowning gesture, decided to put his not-yet-highschool-aged kids at the helm of the enterprise, as a resume-builder, or as a publicity stunt, or both.

There is a tale told about John D. Rockefeller — semi-apocryphal, but apparently rooted in (some) truth — that, one day, while having his shoes buffed and receiving stock tips from the shoe-shine boy, he realized "When the shoe-shine kid is giving you investment advice, the market has become oversaturated with players," and returned to his penthouse office suite, issuing a sell order, just barely dodging the 1928 collapse.

The same conventional wisdom would seem to apply here: when the tech-entrepreneurship bubble has gotten to the point where trendy hucksters and "businesses run by kids" are grabbing headlines, it's probably time to move on to another bubble.



▪

granville September 28, 2021 at 4:52 pm

I still remember reading the post where he mentioned that the Cringelys were going to launch a kickstarter for their new business, but not because they needed the money, but because they wanted the PR and to use it as a "sales channel":

"My three sons, for example, have an idea for a summer business. It's a great idea they came up with all on their own and you'll hear more about it here after school ends on June 5th. But the amount of capital required to do their business isn't actually that great. In fact it's well within the investment capability of their old Dad after he's had a few drinks. Yet still they are considering a crowdfunding campaign, in this case as a sales channel. People come to KickStarter and IndieGoGo looking for projects to spend money on, which in the view of my sons identifies those folks as customers. So the boys plan to launch a campaign with modest funding goals they are sure to reach, but mainly they want to be noticed by their ideal customers, who happen to be crowdfunding junkies. Smart kids."

It's amazing to me this part isn't copy/posted in the comments of every post:

"From the Pebble smart watch to Veronica Mars, crowdfunding success stories are legion and crowdfunding failures quickly forgotten. I've been thinking a lot about crowdfunding because my boys are talking about doing a campaign this summer and I have even considered doing one myself. But it's hardly a no-brainer, because a failed campaign can ruin your day and damage your career."



■ **Jeremy Reimer** September 28, 2021 at 10:39 pm

Great catch. I believe this was the article where Bob was talking about his Startup America TV series, which he claimed was already committed for several episodes with a channel deal and a corporate sponsor, but he was mulling over a Kickstarter so that he could get extra episodes in the season, which is... not something you do. His exact words:

"The series will be carried next season on PBS, the producing station is WNET in New York, and our main underwriter is Salesforce.com (thank you, Marc Benioff). Where the dilemma arises is PBS, being risk-averse, has only ordered a certain number of episodes (not a full 10-show season)."

What happened to that series is another big mystery. There was some footage shot, and some outtakes of Bob on a bus with Cringely's name and URL painted on the side, kidding around with the crew. So there was at least *some* money involved at that point, and then suddenly... nothing.

In the mean time, there is this show, [Start-Up](#), hosted by Gary Bredow, which was apparently on PBS for nine seasons? It seems oddly similar to Bob's show, although it's not focused on tech startups. And it started in 2013? Cringely's show was supposed to premiere in 2016. None of this makes any sense to me.



■ **granville** September 29, 2021 at 1:56 am

Hm, I missed that part. "Startup America" was previously the name of a "39 episode PBS series, look for it next Spring..." by which he meant the Spring of 2012. That was when he was on the "Cringely Not In Silicon Valley Start Up Tour." He did get in a bus and travel around interviewing people, some of them wrote press releases about it or local newspapers were on hand. It was sponsored by the Kaufman Foundation and, later, Blackberry.

By 2015 it was already 4 years old but the project was still "coming soon." In the same timeframe as the epost you mention is when these videos were made:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fB6b8mbL1s>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHjOktlbH_k

Both videos are unlisted and it seems not very well known.

So sometime between 2015 and the present, it's not just Mineserver that imploded but a TV series somewhere between 3 and 6 years in development?



■ **Dr John** September 29, 2021 at 6:03 am

@granville,

I've got to say the videos you've found are superb. If only he'd released those as a TV series – or someone picked them up to show. They genuinely look great viewing and one which would explain the entrepreneurship process better than other shows. Actually showing the process, rather than sharks trying to rip off inventors!

For all the criticism that is rightfully directed against Cringely for the Mineservers, he's also done a lot of good reporting in his time too. Giving a left-field view on technology, and then this program which looks that it should have been the one which lit the candle under every new start up. Helping them avoid pitfalls that only those who go through the process know how damaging they can be.

That's the Cringely we need. And if he has to admit that his Minserver is also one of those failures, then let others learn why!



Jeremy Reimer September 29, 2021 at 9:43 am

@granville, those videos are absolutely fascinating, excellent find! They look like they were put up by a video production company that does documentaries. If you freeze frame on the Cringely bus, it indeed has the Kauffman and Blackberry logos, indicating the source of funding.

The rest of the bus is weird, though— it's basically a giant banner of the same image that's on the header of this site, along with a bunch of words about Cringely and a now-defunct URL (startups.cringely.com), as well as a NerdTV logo. There's no mention of PBS anywhere.

What I'm theorizing is this: Bob got enough money together from sponsors and connections he had at PBS to fund the bus (which he was driving himself!) and the cross-country trip, plus a modest video crew. This would have been around 2012. The idea was that this was going to be Bob's big comeback on TV. PBS liked the idea but passed on his implementation, and ended up making their own startup show (<http://startup-usa.com/>) a year later.

Bob was (understandably) frustrated because he wanted to make his show happen, but he needed more money for production. That's when he started musing about Kickstarter (around 2015). But he was hesitant. Then his kids told him their idea about Mineservers, and he got excited. A successful Kickstarter would jump-start his own business, he could make tons of money, and then he'd be able to fund his own Startup TV show himself, maybe as a web series, maybe pitch it to PBS again, but in any case, this was his path back to glory!

We all saw what happened next. Now Bob needed money to bail out Mineserver so that he could bail out Startup America. So he "started" Eldorado Space with his friend Tomas Svitek. And we all know how *that* turned out.

It's a shame, because I agree with @Dr John that the TV show actually looked really interesting. I wanted to hear more about those entrepreneurs. I wanted to know what that giant radio dish was doing.

There's a line in one of the videos where Cringely says: "I've done lots of startups myself, most of which have failed, some of which have been very successful!" He doesn't go on to name the startups he did that were "very successful" of course, since they don't exist. It's almost like the bus tour is like Cringely himself in his later years: unrealistically hopeful, tinged with pathos, held back by lies, and forever searching for amazing success that will never come.



granville September 29, 2021 at 11:43 am

It was interesting because all the footage that Cringely posted looked pretty grim — low rez, outtakes that weren't especially funny or interesting. I was never compelled for a second by what he posted on his YouTube channel. But people shooting this were really good and this was compelling.

I found some kind of document on AWS that lists Start Up America as a show "in production" and with no date or schedule as of 2015. That had to have already been a re-tooled version of the original Start Up America, because he was interviewing people all the way back in 2010. Remarkably some of these companies are still around: <https://i.imgur.com/TCwcZiK.png>

It'd be interesting to go back and see which ones were successful and why, but interesting only to Bob because nobody else has seen the footage or knows the story. It's also interesting that the show itself is almost a study in failed small businesses. 2015 or 2016 is when a whole confluence of factors started to come together — YouTube, Patreon, etc. — that would have made this entirely feasible to post on the internet for considerable (and ongoing) profit. Legal entanglements? Start from zero. You don't actually have to go to South Dakota to find interesting small start-ups, nor film the whole thing before you launch, and 15 minutes per week would probably tickle people's interest.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 29, 2021 at 12:05 pm

Digging a little bit deeper into the timeline, it seems like Cringely and his family did his Startup America tour in his bus/RV in 2010, when all the footage we've seen was filmed. Then he planned a "second tour" in 2011 to go back and revisit all the companies. Then he went silent for a year and refused to answer questions about it.

Then on July 2011, he posted "GREAT news shortly on the Startup Tour. Give me other week or two."

No points for predicting that not only weeks, but *years* went by without any updates after that.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 29, 2021 at 5:06 pm

Apparently Bob was still predicting that Startup America would launch "next year" as late as 2018:

"We're also back at work with the team at WNET in New York on Startup America, which will air next season on PBS. This is familiar company for me because WNET's VP of Programming, Stephen Segaller, produced Triumph of the Nerds and both produced and directed Nerds 2.01. Startup America is being produced and directed by Josh Seftel, who is also very accomplished and goofy in just the right way (look him up). Our main underwriter is Salesforce.com but we have a couple more that are about to sign-up (the more underwriters the more episodes we can make). Four underwriters would be perfect, so if your organization would like to be involved in something that's real (unlike, say, Shark Tank) please get in touch with me."

This was fully *eight years* after Bob took his RV trip and shot all the video. I feel like I'm documenting a man's descent into madness.



Dr John September 30, 2021 at 9:14 am

@Jeremy,
the TV dish looked more like a solar thermal collector, using a parabolic dish to concentrate light to the point where it can boil water.

Same too with the trough like devices he also showed in the video. Essentially both are solar trackers, keeping pointed towards the sun where possible.

Next question is if he was trying to generate power from this, or just a bit of hot water? We'll never know.

Separately, for the TV show, I guess now the model is that if you have a big enough audience you could do a YouTube channel by yourself. If he'd failed to find a TV station to pick up his series it would have been better to release it on YouTube, even if he never got any revenue from that initially. Because now with the YouTube business model he could be the guy visiting start-ups and being the business trouble shooter. Rather than those terrible TV programs pretending to be business friendly, he could have been the one genuine avenue for start-ups to get noticed!



[Jeremy Reimer](#) September 30, 2021 at 11:38 am

@Dr John – that's the other weird part of this whole story. Your point about YouTube is spot-on, and in fact Cringely *did* announce that he was starting a YouTube channel here: <https://www.cringely.com/2012/06/28/why-youtube-isnt-future-tv/>

"In a few weeks I'll be launching a YouTube channel where you'll be able to see lots of shows readers have been asking about including Startup America and even that lost second season of NerdTV. YouTube, as the largest video streaming service anywhere, is the absolute best place for me. But YouTube isn't the future of TV."

Weirdly, comments were disabled for this post, almost as if Cringely didn't want anyone to ever read it. He did end up making a YouTube channel, but only ever posted two things to it: the outtake reel for Startup America, and the super-boring animation for Tomas Svitek's failed lunar probe launch.

But he did make some good comments in the post, basically that a) Making TV is expensive and b) YouTube pays you peanuts unless you're the top of the top. He did fail to predict that *Netflix* would end up being the future of television, but to be fair most people missed that as well in 2012.



■ **Gnarfle** September 30, 2021 at 1:24 pm

@JR,

'There's a line in one of the videos where Cringely says: "I've done lots of startups myself, most of which have failed, some of which have been very successful!" He doesn't go on to name the startups he did that were "very successful" of course, since they don't exist. It's almost like the bus tour is like Cringely himself in his later years: unrealistically hopeful, tinged with pathos, held back by lies, and forever searching for amazing success that will never come.'

Sounds like 90 percent of the people I know. Oooh, it's almost time for Jello and a nap!



■ **Dr John** October 1, 2021 at 8:34 am

@Jeremy,

comments are closed because he never released the programs! Kind of like how he never released updates on Mineserver. He seems to have form...

I'd forgotten he said he'd release NerdTV. We never got it in the UK so I couldn't relate to it.

In many ways he's right about YouTube too, but then there's people who have also done very well off YouTube. They found their niche, and eliminated costs so that it worked in the YouTube business model. There's channels who still employ someone to video what they do, and edit the videos, just that their production costs are far lower than TV.

Certainly after failing to find a buyer for his TV shows, which I think is a missed opportunity for those stations, releasing them and then moving to the YouTube model could have worked.

Although winning on YouTube also seems like gambling too. Hit or miss as to who makes it, who gets the views. Not that there aren't saturated markets there too. But a good insightful business one is something I've yet to pick up on.

It could have been Bob, the man who's always on the cusp of great success.



■ **granville** October 1, 2021 at 2:18 pm

YouTube at the time was sinking time/money/promotion into higher-end programming, it wasn't easy to get their approval (if you're following the carwreck around Ozy Media right now, you know this). I assume he probably tried this (it's right there and it just makes sense) but didn't get in and then abandoned the whole platform except for embedding a couple of videos on his blog. Unfortunate, because YouTube Originals is a tiny portion of the platform and mainly there for prestige and to push their paid service. I probably spend more time on the platform than many people and I've never seen a second of their Originals.

But as we've speculated about the "Cringely Business Model" in the past, success (in terms of audience, views, monetization, etc) really isn't the key factor. A "column" is quick to write, easy to bury and can support projects that the vast majority of readers do not know exist. Imagine, for instance, trying to make a video about Eldorado Space, a post that seemed to have an ulterior motive, intended for an audience outside of his blog readership. Selling a video series would be choice; short of that, it's all side hustle.



■ **[Jeremy Reimer](#)** October 1, 2021 at 2:57 pm

@granville I'm curious on your take on who you think the "Eldorado Space" post was supposed to be for.

I went and checked Tomas Svitek's Twitter during the time period of that post, and he was completely silent. You'd think there would be some sort of coordination, or... *something*.

Right now Svitek's company has done some work creating a propulsion system for a small cubesat that is scheduled for launch into lunar orbit, on the New Zealand company Rocket Lab's Electron rocket. Other companies made the cubesat itself. You can read about it here: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/ames/capstone-s-cubesat-prepares-for-lunar-flight>

Notice that there's no mention of Eldorado, or photoshopped F-104s, or any of that. Maybe Tomas got tired of waiting for Cringely and just found his own ride.



■ **granville** October 1, 2021 at 10:31 pm

@Jeremy All I can do is wild speculation which probably isn't that helpful. Some potential funder? Some potential person he wanted in his network? He was trying to get a meeting at Blue Origin or SpaceX? It's possibly or even likely someone who isn't on the radar of anyone here.

Do you think it was aimed at us? I don't, he doesn't seem to care anymore if his readers hold him in high esteem. So if you're going to tell a big fat lie like that... why? To impress someone? (Again, I doubt that would be us readers.) Throw off a bill collector? Grease the wheels ahead of some kind of meeting or presentation or supplicating phone call?

I cannot think of another reason to falsely claim he bought every F-104 on the planet. If this was in a pitch deck and he received \$1 in funding, it's wire fraud.

Or maybe I'm wrong and he really does want to be Alpha Nerd and impress all of the first 10 people who seem to reply to every post (including that one) with "CONGRATZ BOB LOVE IT STILL THE KING."



■ **Gnarfle** October 2, 2021 at 6:59 am

Ya gotta throw it against the wall to see if it'll stick?



27. **trashtalk** September 24, 2021 at 5:13 pm

Does anyone remember Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) hyping cryptocurrencies a couple of months ago? I said they would be banned within the next three years. There have been modest regulatory actions on cryptocurrencies in the West and China just banned cryptocurrencies. Where is Mark Stephens on this? As silent as he is on Mineserver.



28. **trashtalk** September 28, 2021 at 8:52 pm

@granville

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) ethics makes my stomach churn. Using people like this, and it is using people, really isn't on. It's not just the bragging about it which gets me but I cannot understand how people would want to get behind this. It's like a form of self-hate. They have to boost the con and keep it going because they're all caught in the same game like bar drunks having a good time on the last night before the factory in a company owned town closes down.

I also feel very uneasy about Stephens hiding behind his kids. Like, this excuses anything. You will note by law his kids cannot enter into a contract with Kickstarter and it's Mark Stephens name on the dotted line. He carries all the liability.



29. **trashtalk** September 29, 2021 at 9:24 am

@Dr John

I couldn't care less about Start Up America. Mark Stephen's gave a very lazy account of UK computing with Nerds 2.0. he left out so much and with his American style bragging and swaggering never thought to mention how America played a dominant role in destroying the UK's computing industry and later economy and now society. America also wiped out the European telecoms and IC industries with typical American big cheery grins like America are our friends before pissing on us.



o

wwwpirate September 29, 2021 at 5:19 pm

The great nations have always acted like gangsters, and the small nations like prostitutes. — Stanley Kubrick

It is just way of live — just deal with it.

How did you behave with your colonies ??????

Not only you but Spanish, French, Portuguese and Dutch too — just stole everything and gave them independence when there was nothing else to take out of the colonies any more.



■

wwwpirate September 29, 2021 at 5:28 pm

British Museum has more Egyptian artifacts and more valuable ones than Egyptian Museum in Cairo.
How the hell is that possible ?????????



30.

trashtalk September 30, 2021 at 2:44 am

@wwwpirate

There is a legitimate argument for first world museums holding material. At the same time there are legitimate concerns about ownership. It's not a discussion I will shy away from. Also don't forget quid pro quo. As situations evolve there is a fair dealing argument that less developed nations museums could hold artifacts from first world countries. Then there are things like permanent or long term loans, exhibition tours, and so forth.

While this discussion is being had there is also the issue of conservation. The British Museum is a world leader whereas some of the indigenous museums are reckless and do more damage than good. Some of their conservation and preservation attempts have been woeful to say the least. This is not an argument to withhold things. At the same time there is a responsibility for future generations and if an indigenous museum is not fit for purpose it would be a crime to give them custody until this is rectified. Then there are regional security concerns. You don't want another Baghdad museum incident where looters strip the place.

As for whether historical empires were mostly a good thing or mostly a bad thing that's a discussion too much like capitalism versus socialism.



31.

Howard October 4, 2021 at 7:45 am

Since we're on the topic of revisiting posts, I submit Howard's comments from April 19 and April 21 of the year 2019.

<https://www.cringely.com/2019/04/04/prediction-5-drones-become-pizza-to-the-neighborhood-pttn/>

I'll beg your pardon because, I think, my prediction was far more prescient than Bob's. Sadly I think I fucking nailed it.

—

"2019 is the year when the training wheels come off and the world gets to see what CRISPR can really do for the world in the most positive sense," says Fyodor Urnov

Ugh ...

*Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they **could**, they didn't stop to think if they **should**.*
—Ian Malcom, *Jurassic Park*

... and on September 12, 2019, the WIV database of 22,000+ coronavirus strains was inexplicably taken offline ... and never brought back up. Curious behavior for an innocent party.



32.

trashtalk October 4, 2021 at 8:41 am

@Howard

In some circles CRISPR is being treated as a WMD so you will find access to this technology and academic papers and other data is being withdrawn from public view as well as discussion of all this between legitimate experts taking place behind closed doors. Deep background vetting and other protection options will of course be things actively considered.

This stuff isn't a joke. I imagine if someone nasty got hold of something and was judged as wanting to to create something really bad and you weren't quite sure where they were and they might slip away UN Security Council resolutions authorising a tactical nuclear strike even on an innocent populated city might not be out of the question.

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) with his trademark brainwaves and big mouth might be advised to avoid this topic.



33.

Scott October 9, 2021 at 7:33 am

So.... no Mindserver update?



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) October 9, 2021 at 5:13 pm

Definitely look for a new Mineserver update in a couple of weeks, along with a new marketing strategy you may enjoy.

Wait, did I say weeks? I meant decades.

Anyway, it will be soon, no doubt. Right after the Eldorado Space update.

And the Startup America update.

And the NerdTV Season 2 update.

And the Team Cringely Lunar X-Prize update.

And the electric plane update.

And the tinfoil hard drive update.

Did I miss any?



■

Gnarfle October 10, 2021 at 8:39 am

I seem to recall something about an aviation fuel substitute.



■

Dave October 12, 2021 at 7:31 pm

Don't forget when he was going to revolutionize the mortgage market:

<https://www.cringely.com/2009/03/03/so-thats-why-hes-so-interested-in-mortgages/>

I read Cringely's mortgage blog for a while until it disappeared without notice, along with another enterprise he was involved in in a mysterious capacity



■ **granville** October 13, 2021 at 2:51 am

I must not be reading this right. Did he try to create a service which would charge a monthly fee for a service (refinancing mortgages) that most people would use – at best – once or twice in a decade? And he did so at a time when the housing market had totally crashed?



■ **[Jeremy Reimer](#)** October 13, 2021 at 9:01 am

No, you're getting it right. But digging into archive.org's copy of home-account.com's website, it seems that Cringely wasn't quite as prominent in the venture ("Home-Account was born in my kitchen in Charleston just over a year ago" "Just to be clear, I am a co-founder and shareholder in Home-Account.com") as he said he was.

From the website's "About" page around 2009-2011:

Company Leadership

Mark Goldstein, CEO, is a six-time entrepreneur; current Chairman of Loyalty Lab, a marketing systems provider to banks and brands and the former CEO of Bluelight.com, now a part of Sears. Mark graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where he attended the Wharton School.

Jack Pritchard, Director of Business Development, is a 20 year residential mortgage veteran.

Chintan Shah, VP Engineering, comes from Shopping.com where he led a number of development teams. Prior to Shopping.com, he was a lead developer at online mortgage lender E-Loan.

Nikul Patel, VP Product, was a co-founder of the popular real-estate website, Movoto.com. He has also held management positions at Intel Corporation and has an MBA from the Wharton School of Business.

Jack Guttentag, Board of Directors, Best known as 'the mortgage professor'; Jack is the nation's leading authority on mortgages. His column and site <http://www.mortgageprofessor.com> is highly syndicated and universally respected.

Jonathan Corr, Board of Directors, is EVP Strategy for EllieMae Corporation, the nation's leading provider of software and services for the mortgage industry.

Investors

Home-Account is backed by Charles River Ventures and several prominent Silicon Valley angel investors.

What's more likely is that he chipped in a small investment early on, or that he was paid a flat fee to promote the site by the people who actually founded it.



■ **Gnarlfe** October 13, 2021 at 9:22 am

UL102 (formerly 100SF Swift Fuel)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avgas>



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 13, 2021 at 10:29 am

@Gnarfle: good find on the aviation fuel substitute. But it looks like Cringely had no involvement in that whatsoever, apart from mentioning it on his blog, so I won't add it to the list of his failed (and never updated) ventures. Also, it seems like the company is still a going concern.



■ **Gnarfle** October 14, 2021 at 5:45 am

Sadly, the link included at the end of the Wikipedia article is DEAD. PBS no longer warehouses the original column. Might could find it on the Wayback Machine.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 14, 2021 at 3:49 pm

testing reply...



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 14, 2021 at 3:49 pm

Okay, something about my reply triggered the invisible banhammer.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 14, 2021 at 3:52 pm

PBS?



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 14, 2021 at 3:53 pm

Trying to find the right banned word is hard. Was going to say that all of Cringely's old columns are gone.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) October 14, 2021 at 3:55 pm

I wonder if Cringely leaving that job was as cordial as he says.



34.

world October 11, 2021 at 11:12 pm

<https://xoyondo.com/mb/NGiy0UOs3H6EVje>



35.

yutwo October 11, 2021 at 11:13 pm

interesting byyutang



36. **rohoo** October 11, 2021 at 11:19 pm

<https://pastebin.com/FcypRZ9e>

oh but day r.....

911 all over again and it only takes a tiny pirce of data code likr hiss !!!!



37. **yutanf** October 11, 2021 at 11:20 pm

yutang ...ahhh yes i c lika diss is da towers and.....



38. **Rocketsam** October 11, 2021 at 11:23 pm

hey you go take another walk for another ten yearswere working on it and yes the russians really can reverse engineer on enflish pound notes, and will it be Trump all over again???? hoo knows .
and we love mr Cringley because he gives us back our freedom of speech!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!1



39. **ruskydare** October 11, 2021 at 11:25 pm

have a nica 10 years paul and dont mess in the swap shop....scarry is it?? thats for the Clinton foundation sweetie



40. **Jeremy Reimer** October 19, 2021 at 1:54 pm

Looks like we've reached the nonsense spamming section of the comments a bit early, so let's finish off with a short history of Mineserver:

.
2015

.
September 29: Mineserver announced

.
October 21: Mineserver Kickstarter campaign closes

.
December 14: "All these Mineservers will ship this week"

.
2016

.
January 28: "Better late than never! 425 units burned in and ready to go"

.
March 17: "Sorry to have gone so long without an update. We won't do THAT again."

.
November 10: "We'll finally start shipping the week after Thanksgiving." LAST POST EVER ON KICKSTARTER

.
2017

.
May 22: "This is our 25th update on the Mineserver project. That's a lot of updates for people who don't do enough updates."

.
May 22: "The pitch must have worked, because we've found just enough investors to move on to the next level, which is shipping our current orders."

.
2018

.
May 21: "Every supporter will get their Mineserver before the end of the year."

2019

January 28: "We have a good product and a great marketing plan... if it weren't for those darned pitchforks."

2020

January 23: "So unless YOU want to step up, that means I will have to earn the matching money on my own, which is what I have been trying to do with my other startup, Eldorado Space."

2021

January 15: "The last of these prediction columns will be an update on my Mineserver project that, but that will be 7-10 days from now."

March 21: "My next column will be, believe it or not, a book review, which is something I don't do very often but this book is important. And the column after that will be my long awaited Mineserver update."

August 20: [Posts Book Review]

September 10: [Reposts 9/11 post from 2001]

Present day: October 19, 2021



o

Gnarfile October 19, 2021 at 6:48 pm

Playing with the keyword ban-filter to see what will and won't make it through.



■

Gnarfile October 19, 2021 at 7:02 pm

Antihero. Flippant. Maladjusted. Narcissist. Status Notifications. Trustworthy.



o

Questionable_PhD October 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm

That 2017 snippet is irksome. It exhibits that flippant, maladjusted reflex — "Yeah, you all ding me for not doing enough updates, but this is the 25th update, so saying I don't do enough is pretty dumb, even though I've gone radio silent on official channels"

Hard to categorize the impulse. Like, it's part "performance art" and part "antisocial, rules don't apply to me." Plenty of people exhibit these behaviors, but they're not generally trusted with business or money. There's a research paper lurking in here somewhere.



■

granville October 20, 2021 at 10:37 pm

That seems to be the standard issue reply when he gets into trouble. When the journalist was calling him out on his fake PhD, his response was "I've been doing this for 20 years, why should I talk to you?" Later, when he was speaking to someone he deemed a "peer" (and someone who would take the story national) he struck a very different tone. "I've learned a lot, mainly that you don't claim a PhD unless you have a PhD."

That story itself never bothered me, none of them do, he's a hustler and he's always been one. It's the reaction when the narcissistic bubble is punctured. Like Axl Rose flipping out on poor airport workers screaming YOU ARE ALL LITTLE PEOPLE.



■ **granville** October 21, 2021 at 12:25 am

Shit, he actually said 31 years, didn't he? He said that in 1998, which would have meant he'd been working as a reporter since 1967, hahaha, you have to admire the chutzpah. At a certain point, people like this would have gone to Los Angeles to reinvent themselves but Stephens was smart enough to realize that in the Randian dream of Silicon Valley nobody looked too closely at anyone's CV (until they did).



■ **Questionable_PhD** October 22, 2021 at 8:26 am

Mark — repeatedly — claims to have been working as a reporter since age 14. I can't really sharpshoot him on that — not hard to imagine his writing in to a local school and/or small-town periodical — but it sort of corroborates this "I'M THE PEERLESS EXPERT, I'M SO ADVANCED AND ERUDITE YOU UNWASHED PEONS ARE LUCKY TO EVEN SKIM MY BLOG LEFTOVERS" undertheme.

I have been consulting (and interviewing) with a number of "high-ranking" Internet professionals recently. A small percentage of whom — five percent, eight percent, ten percent? — are genuinely humble, helpful, self-effacing, outwardly-focused individuals. They are rare, and precious, and wonderful to work alongside. I wish there were more. I wish I could count myself among their number.



■ **Roger Sinasohn** October 25, 2021 at 9:53 am

I did a kickstarter project not long before (Sep 1 2014 – Oct 1 2014) and by January 2015 (5 months) had done 21 updates. My next update wasn't until 2020, but that's only because all the rewards and stuff had be sent out and I was just letting backers know about another project.

So, 25 updates is *not* a lot of updates, especially over the course of a year and a half.



○ **granville** October 19, 2021 at 10:53 pm

I just noticed that we've had 3 US presidents and 3 UK prime ministers since this project launched. And the vast majority of those have been peaceful transitions of power!



○ **Gnarfle** October 20, 2021 at 9:52 am

Should I be flattered at the continued impersonation?
Or have I finally slipped into Dissociative identity disorder?
The world may never know.



■ **Gnarfle** October 20, 2021 at 9:54 am

And I'm reasonably certain that no one but 'granville' cares.
Still open all hours?



41. **trashtalk** October 19, 2021 at 9:25 pm

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) raised approxiately \$30,000 from Kickstarter. Then he claims a technical glitch with networking

and to have spent a further \$30,000 of his own money on a contractor to fix the problem. There is no indication the problem was fixed. I'm beginning to doubt Stephen's spent that money. At best it may have been Hollywood accounting in his fantasies or an outright lie.

Lack of updates is a breach of Kickstarter's T&C's. It's against Kickstarter's T&C's for children to use their service so it will be Mark Stephen's name on the contract. Given the interstate nature of Kickstarter fund raising can Mark Stephen's be done for wire fraud?

Let us not forget his "done deal" insurance claim which was declined.

There's also Mark Stephen's China connection. Remember his claim to save the world by being able to supply millions of masks? Is this the same connection which supplied Mineserver components at what Stephen's claimed was a bargain price nobody else could match? Wasn't it around half price? Then that supply mysteriously dried up and he claimed to be looking for another more improved model.

Then there's Mark Stephen's writing dodgy financial columns and because sources of income dried up his "prosperity tour" where he was peddling a financial but not financial advice travelling speech show which also seemed to dry up.

It's a long way from Stephen's boosting a colourful potboiler by his partner in crime but recently I stumbled across a couple of very dodgy journalists and programme makers. This kind of thing used to be unheard of in the UK. I think it goes to show that who you are dealing with matters. There are people who shouldn't be in the job.



Scott October 21, 2021 at 7:56 am

Mark used his wife's name on all the Mineserver Kickstarter project information. Mary Alyce Neader Stephens



42.

Jeremy Reimer October 20, 2021 at 11:21 am

"Wasn't it around half price?"

No, Cringely said specifically that Mineservers were delayed because he was waiting on suppliers to provide "90% discounts". This statement is ludicrous at face value— literally no electronics supplier offers that level of discount to anybody, ever. Not only was it a lie, it was a ridiculous one that served no purpose.



Gnarlle October 21, 2021 at 5:39 am

' he was waiting on suppliers to provide "90% discounts". '

Perhaps his tone of voice intended the statement to be ironic?



Jeremy Reimer October 21, 2021 at 8:39 am

"Perhaps his tone of voice intended the statement to be ironic?"

I don't think so. Cringely, for all his faults, is still a decent writer. Nowhere in Accidental Empires does he leave any doubt about whether he's being ironic.

And that tone wouldn't fit with the rest of the post anyway. The entire post's tone is one of whining and boasting: complaining about fate while predicting a massively successful future. There's no room for irony in there. Nor would it make any sense given the rest of the post.

The *really* ironic thing is that anyone can figure out the cost structure for Mineservers very easily. The original board is discontinued, of course, but its replacement is still on sale for \$50 (at least the last time I checked). That's QUANTITY ONE. Plastic cases are about \$5 in bulk, but let's be generous and say \$10. Add a SD card, which is about \$10. The software is open source and free. So without ANY discounts, the maximum cost (not including shipping, which generally the buyer pays for) for a Mineserver would be \$70, allowing a nice \$30 profit on each one.

The only reason for Cringely to talk about "90% discounts" is because he believed his readership was too dumb to figure out cost structures or how electronics distributors worked, and because he needed the kind of excuse that would somehow make a 2.5 year (at the time, now going on 6 years) delay on shipping sound plausible.



43.

trashtalk October 21, 2021 at 8:44 am

@Scott

The only people I have heard of who use their wife's name on a contract are A.) Tax dodgers or B.) Bankrupts.



44.

Raul X. Garcia October 21, 2021 at 9:00 am

As I have said before. Jim Morrison had it right all along.

Bob states "So there are no answers, just more questions, and nobody is right." In reality there are solutions for all of our problems on this planet. Perhaps we should focus on disrupting the rich and insane power mongers who intentionally divide us; while keeping us from finding and implementing those solutions.



45.

Jeremy Reimer October 23, 2021 at 11:45 pm

I found one more thing that Bob promised that never came to fruition. He was supposed to be writing a book in 2013 that was due to be published by a "major publisher" and was supposed to come out in 2014.

<https://www.cringely.com/2013/04/07/cringely-comes-back-from-the-dead-again/>

The book never came out. (It wasn't the IBM book, which he self-published, and announced a couple of weeks after this announcement.) I wonder what happened to it?



o

Jeremy Reimer October 24, 2021 at 12:01 am

Ah, never mind, a little more Googling gave the answer:

<https://www.cringely.com/2014/06/04/decline-fall-ibm/>

The explanation was that his publisher didn't want him to spend any time on the Decline and Fall of IBM book, so he paid them back all their money from the "big contract" for the mystery book because self-publishing the IBM book was too important to him.

The explanation makes zero sense (he could have just delayed publishing his IBM book and not had any problems) so I suspect it's a lie to cover... something.



granville October 24, 2021 at 11:56 am

You can also tell it's a lie because there is no way he spent any time at all writing that book.



■

Jeremy Reimer October 24, 2021 at 4:09 pm

Yeah, the IBM "book" was really half a book at best, with the latter half just useless blog post comments, and the first half mostly recycled blog posts. But it was only \$4, so I didn't mind that much. I felt it was a good deal,

even if it was no Accidental Empires.

Incidentally, in the post announcing the IBM book availability, Bob says he had to sell 100,000 copies just to make up for having to pay back his publisher's advance for the mystery book. If you know anything about the publishing industry, you'll know that number is complete nonsense. Nobody gets \$400,000 advances for a book unless you're Stephen King or J.K. Rowling or equivalent. For someone who hadn't been published since 1993, a typical advance would be between \$5,000 and \$20,000.

Anyway, it's one more "tall tale" to add to the very long list. I suspect that he was trying to get traditional publishers interested in his IBM book from the beginning; they passed on it almost immediately, and so he had to backtrack and invent this weird story where the mean old publisher wouldn't let him self-publish his dream.



granville October 24, 2021 at 4:41 pm

As it turns out I do know about publishing, and didn't even consider the \$400k advance because I was blinded by how ridiculous it is to believe you can sell 100,000 copies of a book that isn't by Stephen King or Dan Brown. 5,000 copies gets you close to the NYT bestsellers for a week, so we're talking about book (never mind the cut-and-paste quality) that would sell the equivalent of appearing on the NYT bestseller list for 20 straight weeks.

Catalog sales wouldn't make that up, particularly not from word-of-mouth. And no publisher saw this manuscript in its final form because legal would never approve a book made up mostly of other people's words. I actually popped it open again for the first time since I read it. My ebook reader has it at 295 pages at my page & font size (probably about 200 pages in print). The actual book itself is the first 117 pages of this. The last 178 pages make up perhaps the longest "Afterword" in literary history consisting entirely of unedited blog comments and forum posts from other people, including the parts that say "Great post, Bob"... organized not by subject, but in chronological order.



granville October 24, 2021 at 4:47 pm

^ meant to finish with: There's nothing remotely transformative about what he did here. 60% of his book is literally copy-and-pasted comments from other people, forming a block of text at the end, arranged in the order they were posted by their authors.

The first part? It's not bad! It's written well, some of his conclusions are wrong, I think, but that's why we read books. The fact that he reworked all of these old blog posts in the first part into a coherent read, and then padded it with dozens of internet comments is maybe the most Cringely thing ever.



granville October 28, 2021 at 12:07 am

I have to amend this. I read it again over the last couple of days. It's not good. I knew little about the subject at the time (IBM has not been an interesting company if you don't work there or own it in some time). Bob's argument is nearly non-existent. Maybe the most absurd part is when IBM sells its networking division to AT&T for \$5 billion and Bob is incensed that he didn't sell it to someone else, because the customers were unhappy with service from AT&T. The key points here:

1. Bob admits, even in retrospect, that selling the division was correct,
2. AT&T paid THE MOST for the division, and apparently it really wasn't close. IBM got much more than they thought they would, according to the CEO's memoir.

Bob is angry at IBM's "disastrous" decision to sell a division to the highest bidder.

This is just one of the many weird maze-like arguments that lead into brick walls.

Interestingly it's edited by Bob's ex-Katie, featured in Plane Crazy (which I hadn't seen at the time). But given how poorly the book is edited I'm not sure this is a great item to have on your CV.



o

Mark October 26, 2021 at 7:43 pm

This seems to be the crookely pattern. Make big promises. Take money up front. Then do nothing. All intentional.

It's not just the mineserver scam. It's the PBS series. The books. Everything this con artist does. Buyer beware — you are dealing with a sociopath.



▪

Gnarlfe October 27, 2021 at 2:16 pm

I'm reasonably certain Roger would insist that one CAPITALIZE Crookely.



▪

Gnarlfe October 27, 2021 at 2:17 pm

In retrospect, isn't that what politicians do?



46.

Gnarlfe October 27, 2021 at 12:26 pm

I guess the joke here is that Cringely hasn't changed, but everyone else certainly has.



47.

trshtalk October 27, 2021 at 12:52 pm

Uuuuuh. I just want to hit the bar. We could talk about interesting things and cook up schemes and get rich. Squeeze my tits and you can buy me a drink. Like you think I'm paying for it?



o

Howard November 5, 2021 at 12:21 pm

Squeeze my tits and you can buy me a drink.

Um ... shouldn't it be the other way around? I'm thinking you've hit the bar already!



48.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) October 28, 2021 at 7:01 pm

@Gnarlfe "I guess the joke here is that Cringely hasn't changed, but everyone else certainly has."

I mean, kind of, yeah.

That's not to say that we're amazing people or anything. We're just people. Most of us were fans of Cringely's writing at some point, because he was a good writer. Accidental Empires was a great show. It still is!

There are times, believe me, when I wonder why I spend so much time here, being an unpaid amateur Cringelyologist. There are times when I feel I should just leave poor Cringely alone.

But then he posts again, and it's like... dude... you never addressed all those things you just flat-out lied about before. And now there are newer and bigger lies.

It's possible that he feels like we've all backed him into a corner, and there's no way he can admit to anything NOW, because it

will unravel the whole edifice of his life. But I don't think that's true. Even after everything, I still **want** to hear more from him. Just... the truth. That's all I want.



o

Dr John October 29, 2021 at 3:34 am

I've got to echo your comments here. I didn't come here because of Bob's failed enterprises, but rather for his left-field view on technology.

Rather than getting the same news from different sources, at least what you read from Bob was different in so much as few others covered it or gave an alternative view of future technologies.

But I also think there is a major difference when Bob is talking about his own investments and punts at new businesses, and when he asked you for help with Mineservers. Once he did that he has to open up and explain the successes and failures of that project, even if they're his own failures. He has to because he asked you for the money for this little adventure.

Ultimately, however, it comes down to integrity. Integrity is being honest with people, even when it hurts you. And when you have to admit failure, as I think Bob has to with Mineserver, it doesn't just let everybody know but it's cathartic to the person too. Then you can rebuild and improve yourself. And if you keep your integrity people will more likely give you another chance, and perhaps that vital bit of advice to help you avoid repeating the same mistakes again.

For Bob there is only one option — A full disclosure of what happened with Mineserver, and how it failed. Even if that is to admit he himself was the cause of that failure. After all, he's a journalist who's supposed to find the truth, not a corrupt business person who tries to hide.



o

Howard November 5, 2021 at 12:20 pm

After all these years, does anybody really expect Cringely to change?

The answer should be a resounding "no". Therefore, what's the point of having expectations that he'll address ____ or ____ or ____, and then be repeatedly disappointed with each (rare) new post that doesn't meet these expectations?

We're here because we've enjoyed his writing in the past. He's certainly built up expectations ... and he's also repeatedly managed to not live up to them. But his writing's interesting all the same. When he gets to it.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) November 5, 2021 at 1:39 pm

@Howard: "After all these years, does anybody really expect Cringely to change?"

Honestly, I think the probability is very very low.

But it's not zero. I think there is a small chance for a Cringely redemption arc, and I think it would be great to see. That's why I keep pushing for it. Even though the odds are small, it's still worth trying.

And if it doesn't happen, then most of the comments from now until when Cringely stops posting forever will be reminding him of his obligations. That's at least changed the narrative around Cringely, even if he probably will never change.



49.

Gnarfle October 29, 2021 at 8:02 am

David Gerrold in his War Against the Chtorr series addresses this. He has a character speak about integrity. To paraphrase, your integrity is like a balloon; it has to be complete. There can't be any holes in it. It doesn't matter how good the rest of the latex is, the air still goes out the hole. Or something like that.



o

Mr. Bear November 7, 2021 at 10:47 am

Still waiting for book five after...30(?) years



■

Gnarfle November 7, 2021 at 11:07 am

Ha!

I contacted him via gmail more than 10 years ago. I mentioned that my son had asked if there was more after reading the first 4. He gave me a non-committal answer. Something about being too busy raising his own son. I was really annoyed when he published HELLA. How can you be working on something else when your life's work is still waiting to be finished? He'll probably die first. Or I will. And so it goes.



■

Mr. Bear November 15, 2021 at 11:26 am

I remember reading a comment on a website (Engadget or something) back in 2011-12 where someone claiming to be Gerrold said that he would get the book out if/when Obama was re-elected.

I also heard that he was saying that he was busy "raising his son." Might have been the same comment thread. And he was understandably snippy about someone asking for a book when he's taking care of his kid. I don't want to demean or question someone who is raising a special needs child, but he wrote "The Martian Child" in 1994, so by 2010, the kid was in his 20s. He may still need supervision or care or whatever, but at that point, it isn't "raising" or a "child" anymore.

And his website is pompously vague on Chtorr progress.



■

Gnarfle November 15, 2021 at 12:13 pm

Now his distraction is a grandchild. Sean has grown up and become a productive member of society. A taxpayer. And a father. And so it goes.



■

Mr. Bear November 18, 2021 at 9:23 am

Please leave Kurt Vonnegut out of this ☺



50.

trashtalk October 29, 2021 at 10:29 am

Some people enjoy watching a busted flush twist in the wind.



51.

Gnarfle October 29, 2021 at 1:57 pm

I, myself, prefer a flushing bust. Cleavage now! Cleavage tomorrow! Cleavage forever!



52.

Gnarfle October 31, 2021 at 1:02 pm

So. Is McDonald's going to save IBM? Or is IBM going to kill McDonald's?



53.

tfourier November 6, 2021 at 12:24 pm

@granville (and the other cranks)

You admit you know nothing about the subject.. "I knew little about the subject.." and yet you pontificate at length at how bad the book is. Well I know a lot about the subject. Even before I first read Delamarter's book as a proof copy back in the mid 1980's. The book about the IBM anti trust case where all the dirty laundry about the previous sixty plus years was first made public. Even more embarrassing stuff came out during the IBM anti trust trial in the 1970's than during the the MS anti trust case twenty years later.

Just had a quick look through the recent IBM book. Looks like a good summary of the train-wreck. And the comments in the afterword add real value to the story. To those of us who are very familiar with IBM since the days of Tom Watson Jnr.

I've been in the the business as long as Robert. Been reading him since the early days in Infoworld. Never met him but we have known quite a few of the same people over the decades. Robert knows what he writes about whereas you and the other cranks who have infested the comment threads here the last few years seem to know sh*t about the business. Despite all the bellyaching I have never seen the slightest indication of any informed comments from the posters who turn every posting into a minecraft b*tchfest.

When I first read the original Minecraft post I thought it was a terrible idea. Going to end badly. An opinion based on four decades of shipping product. Robert made a big mistake not cutting his losses when the project went south very early on. But the single biggest mistake Robert made was not deleted all comments here on the subject once the project failed. I would have.

There again part of my day job over the decades has been telling people that the project they have been working on for a year or two (or more) is never going to work. Either shut it down and start again. Or write if off to experience. Most people dont want to hear this but I've got a perfect score so far in spotting walking dead projects. Projects that will never ship. No matter how many millions of dollars were invested. No matter how many man years.

So my advice to Robert is either kill the project completely or failing that delete all future comments here that mention the subject. By this stage no one cares what you guy think. You are just trolls. A bunch of losers, cranks and in at least once case a clinical sociopath. Robert needs to shut you all down, block you and clear out all your worthless trash comments. I'd even volunteer to moderate you guys off this site. You are almost as bad as the a**holes on The Well back in the early 1990's.

To be blunt. Those of us who work in the business and have been reading Robert for many decades dont care what you minecraft obsessed losers think. We dont care what your opinion is. It is utterly worthless. Get back to us when you have a relevant comment about the posting subject that shows some insight or knowledge on the subject. Until you cranks turned up this used to be quite a good place to exchange information and opinion with people who actually knew what they were talking about. You need to be blocked and removed. You are just noise. Little better than the white noise generated by a dud diode..

Trolls.



o

granville November 6, 2021 at 2:47 pm

My comment on the book was pretty short and specific. I assume if you had anything to do other than brag about being a 70 year old man screaming about clouds and kids in their grass, you would have mentioned them. Instead you mention:

"Even before I first read Delamarter's book as a proof copy back in the mid 1980's. The book about the IBM anti trust case where all the dirty laundry about the previous sixty plus years was first made public. Even more embarrassing stuff came out during the IBM anti trust trial in the 1970's than during the the MS anti trust case twenty years later."

of which Bob covers exactly ZERO in his book. It's short, and I'd encourage you to take a little longer than a "quick look" next time.

There is a reason that books do not include 100 pages of comments from the internet in chronological order. The reason is – well, your screed about "internet comments" itself is a good start. I paid Mark Stephens to write a book, not copy/paste employee comments from an ex-IBMer message board. But that wasn't even the main point. And when you take a little more than a "quick look" here, you'll see that my point about the comments began by stating that no publisher would accept a book manuscript when 50% of its content consists of uncleared writing by people other than the author, another point which strikes at Mark's credibility and which you wave away by shouting about your CV.

Bob's fanboys are always amusing, though a little sad given how long in the tooth they are to still be engaging in hero worship. Let us know when you get around to the jet plane, would love to hear how being a 20 year employee of DEC or NCR provides some secret insight into entrepreneurs that just lie about their latest business for the sole purpose of reeling in more credulous marks in the comment sections that cause you such psychic pain.



54.

Jeremy Reimer November 6, 2021 at 2:13 pm

@tfourier – Well, that's certainly a wall of text. A tip: you can add paragraph separators with ALT-255 on PC, ALT-space on Mac, or a single period on mobile.

Let's respond to your main points:

1. As far as granville not knowing about the subject, you didn't actually refute his criticism of the book. He pointed out that it didn't make sense for anyone to care *who* IBM sold its networking division to, as long as they got a good price for it, which they did.
2. Every comment being a "Minecraft bitchfest" – this is demonstrably not true. There have been tons of non-Minecraft comments. Even in this post!
3. Bob should either kill the project or delete all comments about it. I agree! But he has refused to do either for, oh, about five years running. That's kind of why we still talk about it. And about other non-Minecraft things, such as his many ongoing lies (eg: claiming to have purchased all the Mach 2.2-capable aircraft in the world)
4. I was never on the Well, but I had friends who were, and they all thought it was a great place for discussion. I've never heard people complain about "a**holes" on there.
5. I'm not sure who you're calling a "clinical sociopath", but you should know that it's foolish to even attempt to diagnose anyone based on anonymous Internet comments.

Hope this helps!



o

granville November 6, 2021 at 3:06 pm

I don't play RPGs much anymore but I like reading about them. Funding on Kickstarter became a major theme of most new RPGs – some indie companies, every product they have is funded on Kickstarter.

Remarkably, Bob is not a unique case, though I doubt he'd like the company he's in. One guy has a STILL ACTIVE crowdsourcing from ten years ago. It was fully funded in 2011. Like Bob, he claims he's still working on it, and still giving contributors shipping dates even now (he posts elsewhere about it now, since the Kickstarter page has too many "people with pitchforks," as Bob says). There are a ton of parallels.

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/Adamant/far-west-western-wuxia-mashup-adventure-game/comments>



55.

trashtalk November 6, 2021 at 3:30 pm

I'm really not one for talking about toxic masculinity and Dunning-Kruger syndrome and shouty old men with one foot in retirement and the other foot on a slippery plank consumed by their own projection and tailgating the blind luck of being in the right place at the right time and survivor bias but that broadside by "tfourier" speaks volumes.

I've even gone off Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) "Triumph of the Nerds". Looking back I view it as a gift wrapped con.



56.

Gnarfle November 6, 2021 at 7:47 pm

Back in my day, ISTR saying something about throwing good money after bad but I could be mistaken.



57.

Gnarfle November 7, 2021 at 12:50 pm

Ha!.

Watching Dexter marathon.

When did Apple become the hardware supplier to serial killers?



58.

Gnarfle November 14, 2021 at 5:14 am

What do you call someone who pretends to be motherly?
A mother faker?



59.

Dr John November 18, 2021 at 8:01 am

Quoting Bob from the 15th January: "The last of these prediction columns will be an update on my Mineserver project that, but that will be 7-10 days from now. You'll just have to wait for it, because that story is still in some flux."

This is November the 18th. 10 months, 3 days, from that statement.

307 days from that statement that a Mineserver update would be in 7-10 days.

Still no update. How much flux is there? Maybe he needs a flux capacitor to go back in time and do an update in a timely manner?



o

granville November 19, 2021 at 2:23 am

Bob's next blog post: "I HAVE CREATED COLD FUSION IN MY SOCK DRAWER, ONLY TO PAY FOR MINESERVERS."

Comment #1: Amazing Bob.

Comment #2: Keep up the great work

Comment #3: Kickstarter is a risk. You cannot complain when &tc.



60.

Wikishitz November 20, 2021 at 12:57 am

Hello Sir (Mr Cringely) I be your servant and man with the warrant, I owe you my free speech oh ya oh ya oh ya, as of the knights Olde the ray of the Grail does illuminate across the void, for it is written that knowledge and the empowerment of the Grail shall be set as a destiny.



61.

Wikishitz November 20, 2021 at 1:08 am

Behold for it is written hereby my judgement and order that a warrant shall be served on those that affect our minds and souls to those listed upon wikispooks-wikifreaks a curse shall be set upon you worse than the fleas of a 1001 Kamalis for they harris our wellyn being. They are judged and so a warrant shall here be ordered the likes of which E Ral leader "Biggat" (man) has never seen before..... We shall see the wrath of a million and one sneths and Yims.



62.

Wikiscoops November 20, 2021 at 6:58 pm

Bobs and Bills

Over the years 911 has become a cunning stunt a theatrical affair certainly written that way, or so some would have you believe, but back in their day so to speak there was no mass android devices to watch 911 on...or when it was first "etched". 911 marks a turnaround a burst of energy a release to be precise a Destructive Distraction.

We have to come to terms about who really created the man himself, a clever jew!! WE know this much that certain Arabs at that time where part of the Grand mec part of the fighting wing of the CIA whom themselves have no interest in right or wrong just containment and that is exactly what your cheap Android Gizmo is all about it contains with its circuits as powerful as those found within former Apollo Rockets. It's the people around the time of the "Big Bang" theory that where waiting and watching for the "mass android" that used the cannon fodder as their eyes and ears that where behind hit all.

Redistribution of Oil, drugs and Government money that's where it's at....read the book Terror Inc VERY CAREFULLY (or die imperviously!!) and you will find the FOUNDATION stones and real culprits behind 911 and of course the blueprint left behind. Often in history they use violence and courts and police activity to prevent the unfolding of forbidden knowledge and should you wish to remain blind to such activity and others like JFK, Iraq war then perhaps you might consider adding the 5 million dollars worth of bitcoins to the "Bill" that where destroyed in Flerland by British Government agents working for CIA coordinator Dennis Obrien which eventually brought down the entire Enda Kenny regime to the list of Failed CIA Operations. May Allah save your soul should the Russians net 1 you first Mr wHEELybinMAN you 2bad Kamal U, with hugs, slugz and luv from the window cleanerz at the embassy or youra fedman. Wikisheeta2??.



63.

Burneire2 November 20, 2021 at 6:59 pm

Dude.....your writing kex



64.

Gnarfle November 21, 2021 at 6:03 am

@wikiscoops . . .
R U A Man from Mars?



o

WIKIHOO November 22, 2021 at 12:37 am

<https://0000001.onepage.website/> you can get all thr scoops and poops here dear!!



o

MARTIAN November 22, 2021 at 12:43 am

NO A FED FROM SCARY!! and your a fedman



o

Steve November 22, 2021 at 12:52 am

WE got a new name for BIDEN by the way as hes always stumbling out of aircraft weve codenamed him the "FALL GUY"
see him in action here!!!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gcQrFsUFzQ>

Go on ya fruitball.



■ **Gnarlfe** November 22, 2021 at 7:02 pm

Geralf Ford beat him to it!



65.

THAK>>>ED November 22, 2021 at 12:23 am

<https://0000001.onepage.websites/>



o

FOS November 22, 2021 at 12:41 am

this one dont work try the ONE below.....have a nrce day yall



■ **Jeremy Reimer** November 22, 2021 at 2:12 pm

Don't worry. We won't be trying any of them.



■ ?? November 23, 2021 at 11:18 pm

No really we wish all at I cringley and the "Fanz" the best ! We hope you all receive thousands of bitcoins in your wallets (but please make sure you guys use Tangem and coldcards) and live in peace.
The thing is we have to set the record straight coz1 nobody else will.

History is about ONE and that is DISPLACEMENT,nothing else, there are obviously parts to the equation,war,religion,money,power etc etc.Go away and ponder we have for decades and thats our decree take it or leave it.911 was a decoy and a ransom demand go study illegal immigration laws and UN resolutions.Russia Ukraine,China Tawain.

- 1.Israel and the US will obliterate Iran if it persists.
- 2.The UK will eventually become a Russian based Gas satelite Muslim Narco Police state.
- 3.America will desend into an illusive never ending civil war.
- 4.People of the world are generally stupid as they do not understand why planes dont fly into buildings more often.
- 5.The world or most of it really will be destroyed by something like Planet X,virus,or thermal nuke/poison .
- 6.Ask Gatman or the guys who discovered COVID they will agree with \$US about all of hiss 1!
- 7.We genuinely LUV I Cringley and Americans for their freedom of speech, in Europe they slowly kill people who talk freely -no joke,killing joke
- 8.Most sane people will eventually flee to Russia as its probably the last place on earth where people can live without fear of arrest for being American,Anarchists/socialists or totally sane persons.



■ **granville** November 24, 2021 at 2:58 pm

I miss Time Cube so much.



■ **Jeremy Reimer** November 24, 2021 at 6:16 pm

Timecube was awesome. These modern-day trolls are pale imitations at best.



66. **THAK**>>>ED November 22, 2021 at 12:35 am

<https://0000001.onepage.website/>



67. **JIM** November 22, 2021 at 12:40 am

911 – ONE WORD !



68. **A.Poodle** November 24, 2021 at 2:36 am

Former Retired Ex-serviceman (Royal Navy) (1964-1984)

I'm not sure what kind of medication you are on – but I'd stop taking it immediately. Or, if your question is due to poor education, have a word with the authorities or start evening classes to improve it. There's as much chance of the UK becoming a Muslim country as there is of me, at the age of 75, being selected as an astronaut for a trip to Mars.

The UK will NEVER become a Muslim country!



o **Ali** November 24, 2021 at 4:08 am

It has absolutely nothing and we mean nothing to do with how quickly people make babies ...what a clown, the UK is a target for foreign agents they will bring reversed engineered UK sterling with them, the UK is not part of the EURO currency that's why Russia, China, North Korea can print British money...believe they already do it and dump the money in Arab banks LOOK HERE>>>>>>

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20200715-billions-in-fake-libya-currency-printed-in-russia-to-support-haftar/>

and here>>>>>

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-libya-usa-banknotes-idUSKBN2360NA>

here 2!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_Gbt3HYt7Q

Muslims will arrive in their countless millions to a new free "Oasis" they will just keep spending counterfeit ...it's already happening....but you're too coked out to see it



69. **John Herity** November 24, 2021 at 2:38 am

John Herity

Managing Director at Fireland Insurance Brokers (1983-present)

Whilst it is theoretically possible for a population of 4 million to create an army capable of taking over a country, the number of radical Muslims who would form such an army are pretty small (thank goodness) and those that have shown such a tendency are pretty well monitored by MI5 and suspicious activities of the others would almost certainly be spotted by the population at large.

The UK may eventually become a Muslim country but that will take decades and there will be a period of civil disturbance well before the end.

John Herity

Managing Director at Fireland Insurance Brokers (1983-present)



70. **Anonymous** November 24, 2021 at 3:06 am

A 2021 national survey by pollster John Zogby found a plurality of Americans (46%) believed a future civil war was likely, 43% felt it was unlikely, and 11% were not sure. War seemed more likely for younger people (53%) than older ones (31%), and for those residing in the South (49%) and Central/Great Lakes region (48%) relative to those in the East (39%).



71.

RETURN OF THE GAT!! November 24, 2021 at 3:10 am

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/coronavirus-china-wuhan-lab-pompeo-trump-a9496856.html>

Coronavirus: Pompeo says there is 'enormous evidence' Covid-19 originated in Chinese lab

Secretary of State says he believes coronavirus was man-made, contradicting US intelligence community
Griffin Connolly
Washington
Monday 04 May 2020



72.

Oh my Gawd he shot the dog November 24, 2021 at 3:11 am

A2021 national survey by pollster John Zogby found a plurality of Americans (46%) believed a future civil war was likely, 43% felt it was unlikely, and 11% were not sure. War seemed more likely for younger people (53%) than older ones (31%), and for those residing in the South (49%) and Central/Great Lakes region (48%) relative to those in the East (39%).



73.

Morph. November 25, 2021 at 12:04 am

Interesting finding out that Cringley was working in Ireland this story below will help with Intel!
Albert Smith (Irish Independent newspaper) is a racist journalist and was involved in this incident

5,000,000 Dollars in Bitcoins ILLEGALLY confiscated and destroyed by Government Agents. WIKILEAKS/WIKIFREAKS.

<https://www.blogger.com/comment.g?blogID=2336394467865715231&postID=6121829002800385399&page=1&token=1633195361172&bpli=1>

(Hissa like a big one you know?!)

Wikileaks and Julian are connected to the "Wiki" syndicate of servers,there are many "Wiki" based sites with different "Wiki" names that are part of a family tree ,Assange is himself also more than aware of the Wikileaks ** Bing and Google ** entry sites.

Today wikileaks have many undercover members, anyone can write and call them selves a freak of "Wiki" although their are obvious political rules!.Wikileaks are left and oppose and fight racism,antisemitism and captilist ideology,although realists that accept money is still needed in modern day life to survive todays "Freaks" are cautious and are found within Arts,writing,music and of course computer publishing (an area the state and far right are affraid of!!).

Its upon the subject of free speech and publishing not to be confused with the Americans tainted expressionism that we focus upon,more to the point how far the far right will go to put ;Wikifolk" out of business as Mr Assange himself will undoubtedly agree with.Julian isnt of course the only "Wiki" martyr and it is here by clearly stated as evidence that an undercover British Governmen agent working with the police used violence and firearms to Confiscate/destroyed over (130 Bitcoins coins) 5 million dollars worth on a hard drive to be precise.It happened some time ago and the incident is linked to Bill Clintons top man(Dennis O Brien richest person in Ireland),Clinton of course having connections with the CIA through the Clinton foundation of which O Brien is a trusted member who has on previous occasions personally paid Clinton many hundreds of thousands of dollars as gifts, and as we know Craig Murray accepted Hilary Clintons emails from a source that stated they had a dislike of the Clinton foundation.

Evidence of the funding of the Bitcoin transaction found here.....and its the real thing be assured!! in family law you dont need to prove anything once you have the bank and police records.... and its not going away either until the debt is paid in full by the Americanized/Irish Government.



74.

Richard November 25, 2021 at 12:14 am

At Google uk Albert Smith mi6 or Albert Smith Irish Independent research shows that this culprit works with convicted racist David Irving yet despite this the NUJ cant remove him from their ranks...now if this was the case in the USA a racist would be removed straight away,Albert Smith is found inside of Gorings Biography which cost Irving 2.5 million in court costs ,Smith appears in the digital version describing the nook as a "good offering" apparently he freely admits to being a British

Government agent who was also paid to work for the Irish Police.



75.

Sneeths November 26, 2021 at 7:57 am

wikifreaks May 22, 2021 at 11:03 am

1 COMMENT

By Aninyymous, May 22, 2021

1 comment:

Anonymous 22 May 2021 at 10:42

Dr Moayyad Al kamali AKA the "Tripoli Bad Grass" is known to the Russian federation as a Government employee (agent) vetted by both the FBI and CIA (who politically endorse the torture and killing of Palestinians), before he worked within US territories. Allegations made against this Doctor include espionage, torture, money laundry, sexual abuse, false imprisonment, kidnapping, extortion and connections to drug cartels. The Government (Biden's only friends) refused to comment on why one of their agents was found holding down three jobs at the same time!! one as the President of St Andrews College Alumni Association in Dublin, another as the Dead Doctor in a hospital and finally found double parked next to Mr Putins London Embassy, with over 20 Million Gross hidden in various bank accounts around the world!! Hotels are somewhat synalominous places and Emmigrating radio signals are unfortunately for Doctor Kamali in his absence hour an excepted form of evidence in court trials. THE WEDGEWOOD HOTEL IS SITUATED A 3 MINUTE WALK FROM THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON. MR MOAYYAD AL KAMALI is a Medical Doctor from London. This person was born in April 1967. MR MOAYYAD AL KAMALI is Irish and resident in Ireland. This company officer is, or was, associated with at least 2 company Doctors roles. Companies associated with this officer had at least £6,888,675 shareholder value and £2,434,017 cash in recent accounts. Wedgewood Hotel Management has been in this business field for at least four years. Started under 09092355, this company is classified as a Private Limited Company. there have been three directors: Mohammed Al Kamali, Moayyad Al Kamali and Majid Al Kamali.....Wikiwritz



76.

Darebear November 26, 2021 at 8:05 am

CIA warns Russian spies of 'consequences' over mysterious Havana syndrome

Russia in hot water: CIA warns of 'consequences' as mystery illness strikes 200 diplomats

RUSSIA is in hot water as the CIA warns of the "consequences" facing the Kremlin after 200 ...
Daily Express · 6h

Dr Kamali is a lying fascist military agent.....thats what they say but then Clinton didnt believe OZ anyway!!!!
Cops dont walk up to people and ask them if they have dpne something, if you have evidence or a warrant you arrest ...just ask around...and the NUJ well come on guys....dont fo crying to the secret service and the judges where here turnin states paul...you know the score street...



77.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) November 26, 2021 at 9:50 pm

I guess it's "normal" for all Cringely posts to eventually devolve into unintelligible babbling from random spambots as the regular discussion dies out, but it's still weird to see it happen each time.

Mr. "tfourier" complained about Mineserver comments not being deleted, but seems strangely quiet about the lack of moderation for these ones.

The truth is that Cringely doesn't really care. The site is set up this way deliberately. More comments are always better, because a higher number is better. It doesn't matter what they are. He's not engaging with them anyway.



o

Dr John November 29, 2021 at 3:00 am

We'll soon be celebrating the anniversary of the promised Mineserver update, without actually having the Mineserver update.

That shows that Bob doesn't care.



VOTE *1 December 2, 2021 at 7:21 am

So whats in going to be America??
Biden and Kamalis dung coins or Gatman and starebear Tangem cards!!

MAKE AMERICA FART AGAIN !!☹



eamdot! December 2, 2021 at 5:36 am

Hi J,we completely support you and Mr Cringley on providing FREE SPEECH for what its worth!! ,actually its worth more than mere words its what makes America Great like Gatman and Starebear!.You may soon have a new friend America Julian Assange if he arrives safely give him lots of hugs and kisses from hall of \$US at Snowmen....spy 4 now.



78.

Gnarfle November 30, 2021 at 3:39 am

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PECmjB9df0w>



Ronc December 1, 2021 at 8:53 pm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fabiBsQWDTY&list=PLzJ2D8f51wW-H40q3dMB0evI7iJ0dmRdT>



Gnarfle December 2, 2021 at 3:35 am

So . . . you're a popstar in disguise?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idnJnjV_8rg



unclespambot December 2, 2021 at 5:42 am

Na....Im a Security operative for the meek!!...lets make America Fart again!!



Dumper truck on Kranx and mineware December 2, 2021 at 6:59 am

A short political statement on Ballet and Coldcard (Canada?)

When we are not fiddling wiv kidz we are exclusively planting bitcoin code in shedz on chinese minecraft servers >>> Please not to kindly respond to this message as it is designed to (eventually) self destruct ,Justin like our Tangem cards that E,Musk assures OZ can in no way be replicated....hmmm? Tangem cards AKA BITNOTES can be purchased at your local Singapore deli or your local vindaloo van driver care of buckaroo!!....ahhh yes! or directly as blank cards from Tangem...now on your bikes (whilst there is still time).



79.

wikisneakz December 3, 2021 at 1:46 am

5,000,000 Dollars in Bitcoins ILLEGALLY confiscated and destroyed by Government Agents. WIKILEAKS/WIKIFREAKS.

Wikileaks and Julian are connected to the "Wiki" syndicate of servers,there are many "Wiki" based sites with different "Wiki" names that are part of a family tree ,Assange is himself also more than aware of the Wikifreaks ** Bing and Google ** entry sites.

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Snowmen (Compleley Controlled Copyrighted Protection.)

Thanx for eavesdropping!!!! it worx two ways SHMUX

Reply



80.

Gnarfle December 3, 2021 at 6:19 pm

Every man for himself!
And GOD against all.



o

wikiworldviperz December 5, 2021 at 4:05 pm

Na so....Dedman tell no tails....look if you wanna know what it is...its python code...come on guys wake up why is everything we trust (and we genuinely mean this) held on American servers??? work it out.Youd think the chinese would offer cheaper more secure solutions,perhaps they are but we cant sure as hell see them on our radar screens GOD BLESS YOU SERVER PEOPLE>>>> and s*8 E\$\$ SFFE



o

wikiwordvindaloo December 5, 2021 at 4:21 pm

You should see the way the Muslims operate in our "hood"...just be carefull when one talks of Allah,by the way im sure you know that Muslims recognise the jews which is a really dumb thing to say, some Arabs claim that is why the Dollar is really the property of God....now dont tempt me on this...however when it is in God we trust some say their is no God but Allah...what were explaining is simple you can buy a chinese laptop or maybe a watch or a chinese phone or something however their Governmemet will claim its still their property,bit like some banks once your money is in them they own it but you can still spend it ...now where getting real close again to 911,how does one say thismy laptop.....



o

WWV As long as a piede of December 5, 2021 at 4:38 pm

Money must be connected to purpose

Everything God does or creates has purpose and meaning. Money is no different. God has a purpose for giving financial blessings to His people.

"When wealth is divorced from mission, it becomes destructive."
Pastor Caleb Adams | Christian Life Tabernacle | Memphis TN

Money is amoral. It isn't good or evil in and of itself. Just like a brick can be used to beat someone up or it can be used to build a hospital,.....

PERHAPS THEN YOU WILL BE WIKISHEETA BRICKS DR MOAYYAD AL KAMALI OWNS A HOTEL NEXT TO THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON THE WEDGEWOOD HOTEL,he had 3 jobs at the same time in different companies and there are 3 persons in the company not related with the same name ..listen we can ,tell you alot more.....the math dont add up along with the 20 million in his bank account and our fees are 5 million.....Ruddy,



81.

Tex. December 7, 2021 at 5:18 am

Anonymous7 December 2021 at 05:15

We like Dark Politricks ,they give \$US Freedom of speech,although sometimes sharing different view points,I personally dont drink weed or smoke Pork.....

Reply

Anonymous7 December 2021 at 05:07

****STOP PRESS RUSSIA AMERICA CRISIS DRAMATICALLY ESCALATES*****

TODAY AT 3.00 PM LONDON BECOMES A NUCLEAR TARGET.

President Joe Biden will personally videocall Mr Putin this afternoon,this historical "incident" will most certianly become a future landmark.In Biden mind hes is obviously acting as a Global mediator aswell as having his countries own interests at heart ,however other countries will state that Ukraine is not Americas concern.

The UK has played a powerful move in what is seen as a strategic war game between Nato aligned countries and Russia,the decision to send British troops to the Ukraine is a costly price to pay.What would happen if British troops where to be fired upon during any proposed invasion?? in essence Britain would immediately declare this as an act of war and so London would become an immediate Grey Nuclear zone.

Three web sites placed here prove Israel and Jews have been brought into play into this affair.Iran and countries like Afghanistan,Syria,Lebanon,Libya might perceive the "trigger" effect of todays proceedings as a catalyst,watch very carefully what <https://www.aljazeera.com> news agency has to say as this incident unfolds.

Sneakz publishing....12/2021

Reply

Anonymous7 December 2021 at 05:11

Please leave Israel alone!!

<https://www.ft.com/content/b403898a-0dfb-41b3-a8c6-a53866ff0859>

<https://cepa.org/russia-plays-the-antisemitic-card-in-ukraine/>

<https://www.jns.org/opinion/putin-plays-the-anti-semitism-card-in-ukraine-crisis/>



o

sneakz December 7, 2021 at 5:20 am

We welcome any video call from Biden at any time,issues such as bitcoin payments very welcome...



82.

Zacharanai December 7, 2021 at 6:09 am

Thats an impressive deal

By Nick Wadhams and Josh WingroveBloomberg
Published On 7 Dec 20217 Dec 2021

The U.S. and European allies are weighing sanctions targeting Russia's biggest banks and the country's ability to convert rubles for dollars and other foreign currencies should President Vladimir Putin invade Ukraine, according to people familiar with the matter.



o

TekTalk December 7, 2021 at 6:15 am

Hes obviously talkin about the Russian made dollars as opposed to the chiese prop dollars bought through Amazon and dingbat enterprise.scam.com

Thats not a bad dale at all really?? Putin gets Ukraine and the US gets lots of chines made prop dollars,even Biden could get reelected on that one.....see how IT worx!



83.

w.w.v December 7, 2021 at 6:45 am

Thats all folks ! (4now)
You know the fees and da rules ...and you know the "score street" 2
See ya!!!!!!



84.

qegs not qax December 7, 2021 at 7:07 am

by the way....does anybody noah aboat the alleged tunnels between china and North Korea?? it soundz oh so bizare,claims that Russian made nuclear ballistic missiles are being taken via china to North Korea in deep underground complexes buried in Kims backngarden....

"Conspiract theories you can trust".....



85.

?? December 8, 2021 at 9:43 am

Anonymous8 December 2021 at 09:41

Its highly unlikely that NATO wont allow Ukraine to join,infact they have already given indications,the problem and it is a real danger is that the Kremlin wont back down on any of their statements made earlier this year regardin red lines being drawn.This situation is now SERIOUS and LONDON IS NOW A NUCLEAR TARGET as now compromise over the REDLINE ISSUES where drawn up between the US and Russia in the videophone link on the 07/12/2021.Wikifreaks arent here to express opinion or offer consolidation just bear metal.



86.

Darebear2 December 8, 2021 at 9:45 am

Over and OUT london tap water is no longer fit to drink.....test it for yourselves



87.

Gnarfle December 9, 2021 at 4:22 am

Call National Whores Direct!
We bring the Whore to your door!



88.

HAL 9000 December 11, 2021 at 7:33 pm

Bob go kiss a** of you friend Kim Young-Il. You started prohibiting people to post here.



o

Jeremy Reimer December 11, 2021 at 8:52 pm

First of all, it's Kim Jong-Il, and it's not even him because he died in 2011. It's Kim Jong-Un. Get your Kims straight.

Secondly, Bob hasn't ever stopped anyone from posting or banned anyone. The site literally lets anyone post under any name with no registration or verification. It's set up that way deliberately because Bob likes lots of comments because higher numbers are always better.

Thirdly there IS a "shadow" list of banned words that will cause any post to fail silently. The list is arbitrary and updated sporadically and randomly. Bob may or may not have access to the list and may or may not remember how to edit it. Nobody knows why this list exists because it doesn't do anything to stop stupid spammers or anything else.

Consider yourself informed.

**HAL 9000** December 11, 2021 at 9:55 pm

Read after I had posted it that WordPress had a huge outage so that might be the reason but I had same experience before and I don't trust Bob (pretty much Roger is right about that). He should become friend with Dennis Rodman and go to visit their friend together (and hopefully never come back).



■

Jeremy Reimer December 11, 2021 at 10:01 pm

Bob uses a self-hosted, custom version of WordPress so an outage wouldn't affect this site. But the custom code is frequently broken in stupid ways (can't use a blank line to leave a blank line, threading was broken for years, the idiotic shadow banned word list, lack of user registration, etc.)

All this could be fixed, but that would require money and Bob doesn't have any.



■

HAL 9000 December 11, 2021 at 10:03 pm

Bob you need to start playing Powerball ASAP.



o

Jeremy Reimer December 11, 2021 at 8:52 pm

First of all, it's Kim Jong-Il, and it's not even him because he died in 2011. It's Kim Jong-Un. Get your Kims straight.

Secondly, Bob hasn't ever stopped anyone from posting or banned anyone. The site literally lets anyone post under any name with no registration or verification. It's set up that way deliberately because Bob likes lots of comments because higher numbers are always better.

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Consider yourself informed.



89.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) December 11, 2021 at 8:53 pm

Also, I don't know why that double-posted. I swear I just clicked once. The site used to prevent that automatically. Like Bob himself, the site can't do what it once did.



90.

HAL 9000 December 11, 2021 at 9:57 pm

Bob get your friend Denis Rodman and go to visit your friend together (and hopefully stay there forever).



91.

HAL 9000 December 11, 2021 at 10:01 pm

Well it seems that HAL 9000 is not what he used to be either.



92.

granville December 14, 2021 at 8:36 pm

Guess we'll just mingle here until the 30th anniversary. I wonder what the children of 2031 will think of "That '70s Show"?



93.

trashtalk December 15, 2021 at 12:00 pm

It's amazing how well Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) fits the profile of a bad escort client. Mineserver falls very firmly under "no show" and "timewaster" with his whiny none apologies trying to work his way back in so he can continue indulging his pestering and sucking you into being co-dependent with his emotional issues on your time.

I've been wondering for some months now whether Mark Stephens has been on the receiving end of a divorce. His parenting and social attitudes are odd to say the least. The man is a clutch of red flags which scream "get out".



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) December 16, 2021 at 9:42 am

I don't think Cringely is going through a divorce. Here's why.

Men going through a divorce (in my observation) tend to start behaving very differently. They'll be a lot more visible online and offline, and they'll do things they never did before, no matter their age.

Currently, Cringely is:

- a) Procrastinating about posting a Mineserver update, and
- b) Spending his time posting replies to random airplane questions on quora.com.

So in other words, *exactly* what he was doing before.



94.

[Roger Slnasohn](#) December 15, 2021 at 3:42 pm

So, which scenario is most likely?

- 1) Crookely's next post will be the long-awaited Mineserver update (which was supposed to be the next one after the book

report)

2) Crookely will post something and pretend like he never said he'd post an update (aka business as usual)

3) Crookely is never heard from again as he's hiding out in his barn, hoping his pitchfork-wielding Kickstarter backers won't be able to find him

#2 seems like the obvious choice but I wouldn't rule out #3.

I will say I'm a little sad I missed the 6 year anniversary of the Mineserver project.



o

granville December 16, 2021 at 12:33 am

#2, and it will be an announcement of something completely ridiculous, like he bought mining rights for an asteroid, and the first five posts will be congratulating him on his new venture.



■

Gnarlfe December 16, 2021 at 9:03 am

Actually, he's holed up at Mar-a-Lago brainstorming a comeback!



o

Jeremy Reimer December 16, 2021 at 9:45 am

I think he'll hide out for a few months, and maybe some time in January or February he'll start with his annual predictions thread, where he claims to have been 70% right about everything as usual.

Being profoundly bored myself, I have anticipated this and I have already calculated his *actual* hit rate, which is 33% (and that's if I'm being extremely generous).

So we have that to look forward to, possibly.



95.

HAL 9000 December 15, 2021 at 5:59 pm

In the meantime while we await MS update some adult entertainment :

<https://sports.yahoo.com/nancy-reagan-trending-allegedly-being-233659120.html>



96.

trashtalk December 16, 2021 at 2:05 pm

As for the adult entertainment thing speaking as a professional escort... Word filter was playing up and I'm not playing hunt the offending word. That article pretty much says everything anyway.



97.

Tina Hinse December 21, 2021 at 5:06 am

Dies ist keine gewöhnliche Dating-Website – es ist ein soziales Netzwerk und eine Dating-App, die ganz auf die Bedürfnisse, Wünsche und Sehnsüchte der LGBTQI+-Community ausgerichtet ist. Es gibt sowohl kostenpflichtige als auch kostenlose Optionen, die Sie je nach Ihrem Budget ausgleichen können. Mit über 50.000 aktiven Nutzern pro Woche und mehr als 250.000 Nutzern allein in Deutschland ist dies eine riesige Dating-Plattform für transsexuelle Menschen, die vor allem jüngere Menschen mit unterschiedlichen sexuellen Orientierungen zusammenbringt. In nur fünf schnellen Schritten können Sie ein Profil erstellen, und das Herunterladen der App ist kostenlos. Geben Sie einfach Ihren Standort und Ihre Interessen an, und Sie erhalten potenzielle Partner. Sobald Sie jemanden gefunden haben, können Sie kostenlos Nachrichten senden, ohne dass

Sie eine kostenpflichtige Mitgliedschaft erwerben müssen. Es gibt ein paar gefälschte Profile, aber das ist kein Grund zur Sorge.



o

wikiwonkavan December 21, 2021 at 7:09 am

Can u get me some pictures of Kim hong 2 ballistic missiles,prefer satellite pix...thanx



RIN TIN TIN January 9, 2022 at 2:03 pm

Tina can get Goat Pix !!



o

Ken Tuckey Fried Duck December 21, 2021 at 7:57 am

Have you tried Ronc en al?? hes our diplomatic correspondent specializing in whellchar relief and Gatman (smells like a bad hand) doom3 outcakes.He accepts Bitcoin,visa and mastercard and like paul Wheelen does usb hot swaps,but you must use 3774553662887663 hash encryption when writing to this blog or he will never ever respond,may also consider Russian made King Hafter counterfit bills depending upon the new libyan election results .Please no time wasters or hamass agents wanting to trade kamali Dung,trans atlantic cabling contracts or pictures of Bidens user gear as we have 5 million of these in our crapy wallets and they dont wear to well



o

hi December 21, 2021 at 4:11 pm

Wagner security really are neo nazi.....uuuughhhh

implementing Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/44 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2016/44 of 18 January 2016 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya and repealing Regulation (EU) No 204/2011 (1), and in particular Article 21(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

(1)

On 18 January 2016, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) 2016/44.

(2)

On 14 October 2020, the Council adopted Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1483 (2) and Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1481 (3), which designated one person involved in acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Libya, and who has close links, including financially, to the Wagner Group.

wiki wonka van



o

Crackman January 1, 2022 at 6:49 pm

Decent, honest teller of truth said...

Good wishes to all of you for a healthy and happy New Year.
Especially one in which we see America turning around toward "embetterment."

January 1, 2022 at 4:10 PM
Anonymous said...

lee sung hoe writing from beijing,me too like you story have great news from friendz of gatman>>>you are our sex woman!! delegate, greetings ,Me say that americ CIA had many stories of Hilary Clinton being LESBIAN...many women sllep with this.so in end other cia of president dump decided to make special party,they got hilary very high on cocaine from husband and many drinky winky...she fell asleep and special doctor had her tested and found after examination this woman is lezbeen ask any doctor about this they will try to section you off and put you in hospital for the rest of your life it is true...huma abedin love emails where part of wikisneaks ,julians ass will go to prison for long time for his...greetings from peoples republic of cjina...man name craig murray he work for mi6 russian ajents who fly him to washington...you like my story eh?! this why CIA say putin is badman .uk is full ov mi5 people and mfi people that work for anybody they are what call.....byt me cant say spy 4 now SNOWMEN.

January 1, 2022 at 7:46 PM



A Friend with a Goat January 9, 2022 at 1:31 pm

Can you get pictures of Goats?? Rin tin tin



RIN TIN TIN January 9, 2022 at 2:00 pm

Hi TINA can you get any Goat pix by any chance??



RIN TIN TIN January 9, 2022 at 2:01 pm

Any Goat pix??



98. **W.W.V** December 24, 2021 at 7:06 am

Putin is now threatening America with weapons,this week Russia decided to enforce upon the entire united states implying it would use military intervention in the Ukraine region.Wagner Security are a part of the fighting wing of expansion under Putins control found operating inside of claimed territory



99. **Jeremy Reimer** December 25, 2021 at 5:03 pm

Merry Christmas everyone! Or Merry any holiday you celebrate. Cheers!



SANTAS NAUGHTY LIST December 28, 2021 at 9:16 am

Masked man threatens to kill the Queens of England in chilling video before police arrive...

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk> › News › Midlands News › The Queen

Armed intruder arrested in the grounds of Windsor Castle – CNN
edition.cnn.com › 2021/12/25 › uk › intruder-windsor-castle-queen-intl-gbr

Masked man threatens to 'assassinate The Queen' minutes before ...

<http://www.youtube.com> › watch

Video for man tries to kill the queen of england

1 day ago · Chilling footage shows the masked man threatening to "assassinate the Queen" just minutes ...

A Christmas Poem written by Poe 4 baby B.

ALLAH SMITH AND JONES ONE (Santa put me on the naughty list)

ALBERT SMITH IRISH INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

OH YEAH<OH YEAH <OH YEAH

Allias, poor Jones ! I knew him, Horatio, a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy. He hath Air bourne me on his back a thousand and ONE times, and now, how abhorred in my imagination it is! My george rises at it. Here hung those Tulips that I have kissed I know not how of hit.Sneth.

YOOHOO TUBEVIDEO FOOTAGE HEAR WHAT ASSINATOR STATES INCREDIBLE :

"Please accept my apologies. You prove to accept my apologies for what I did and what I'm going to do. I'll try to kill Elizabeth, Queen of the royal family.individuals who have been killed, embarrassed, and oppressed because of their race. "I am an Indian Sikh, a Snith. My name was Jaswant Singh Chail, my name is DARTH Jones."

R.STONE my aim is true my internet message is clear, its curtains for your order Elizabeth my Dear.

please note Sneakz is a mere reflection of news and tek,WE DO NOT SUPPORT OR ENDORSE ANY FORM OF 911 ALLEGED ACTIVITY OR WISH TO BE MISINTREPID(DIRT BIRDS OF A FEATHER WOOP TO GATHER!!!!)



100.

trashtalk December 25, 2021 at 5:26 pm

I prefer the Christmas/New Year period as a low stress event. It's all wrapped up with the seasons, simple pleasures,and mindfulness. If you to pick one for me it's more paganistic than corporate or judgement puritan social pressures.

I'm taking work very casually. I still see clients in between navigating my own personal growth and pandemic booster shots. I just see the need to be irresponsible. Now I have more bandwidth available I've been indulging myself and reading up on how women can achieve better orgasms. That's quite fun albeit without the crash and bang immediacy men experience. Refreshing myself is like having sex only drawn out over 2-3 months not 20-30 minutes. It's also a time for personal therapy and eradicating anxieties. Finding what triggers me. Vibrators don't do a lot for me hence a return to the basics.

Having looked back over Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) Infoworld columns I can tell you there is nothing in there for women at all. Anyone who read his column as a role model advice is lining themselves up for bad sex and a divorce. Still, it keeps me in business doesn't it?



101.

Sneakz December 27, 2021 at 9:24 pm

COURT RECORDS BOB >>>>> ONE!

When Enniskerry Garda Sergeant John Heraughty arrived at the scene, he called to Adele Quinn's house at 62 Monastery Grove.

When he knocked on the door Adele let him in. Paul Quinn ran across the garden in a drunken state, screaming abuse and telling the Guard to keep out of it.

Quinn was fined 250 for criminal damage, bound to the peace for two years for the assault on Mr Jackson and fined a total of 200 for breaching the peace and being drunk in public.

Albert Smith Irish independent Journalist and alleged owner of parpoint publishing admitted in a court case under duress that he assaulted a person over an alleged "litter" incident in which a laptop hard drive was destroyed.A neighbour was filmed and taped on camera admitting that he heard Smith screaming at a person during the assault.The reason we belive Smith admitted in court an incident occured was because The police themselves had access to the film along with a statement and he also knew his neighbor had turned states on him.

That said and done a number of issues remain to this day that are points of evidence the first and most important are the failings in court by the Judge and police to administrate legal proceedings against Smith for assault and destruction of a hard drive.In law should a person admit to an offense in court it does not make them imune to prosecution, Sergeant John Heraughty who was present at the hearing questioned Smith prior to the hearing who initially denied an assault ever took place and the Judge had the affidavit and film evidence to hand at the hearing.Sergeant john heraughty within law should have stood up in court and stated clearly to the Judge at the point when Smith admitted the incident occured that Smith had lied to him prior to the hearing in stating to him personally there was no incident, however for what ever reason Sergeant Heraughty remained silent in court about his own personal questioning of the matter and subsequently purposely did not provide prosecutable evidence against Smith in court which can be classified as a federal offense in the US.As for the Judge we question as to why he did not immedietly detain and hold smith for admitting to committing a criminal offense during court proceedings that of the criminal offense of lying to a police officer.

if you want your hammer back you would need about 5 million,hey you know we all got bills to pay and theres ONE on every flight.



102.

sneakz2 December 27, 2021 at 9:29 pm

Man appears in court charged with murder of his partner ...

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/courts/district-court/...>

1 day ago · He is accused of murdering Ms Bashebsha at a home in Park Na Sillogue Court, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow on December 24, 2021. The court heard there could no be application for bail. The District Court...

ITS A ONE THING BOB....YOUR GOOD WITH THE MATH AND YOU GUYS KNOW ABOUT \$US >>>ITS 5 MILLION BIDEN GAME OVER YOUR DOCTORS WROTE FALSE REPORTS TO PROTECT GOVERNMENT AGENTSONE!!



103.

ONE December 27, 2021 at 9:30 pm

like ONE ON EVERY PLANE thats it NINE ONE ONE

ONE!!!!



104.

U owe 5 MILLION December 27, 2021 at 10:22 pm

Taken from TOR and found in Russia fedz files...dont believe??just ask the The Russian Embassy about the Wedgewood hotel next to their embassy in London or Paul Wheelan about police swaps...

Sergeant John heraughty is now known through this site and is verifiable through data/evidence provided as the court records on quin came from newspapers,he is also star witness to Albert Smith irish Independent newspaper having immunity from prosecution just, ask Kiearan Conway Solicitors his barristar Freeman was present in court and witnessed Smith admitting to smashing up a laptop (that contained 130 bitcoins).Secondly Smith is found in the digital edition of Gorings Biography found upon fascist David Irvings own personall web site describing the book as a good offering and a book that he states isnt likely to raise any hackles,well you know the book Gorings Biography went on to get David Irving convicted and fined wait for this 2.5 million dollars for its paper back edition in court and as for Smith a self confessed racist the national Union of Journalists wont remove him,even though antisemitism and racism are 4 Biden because he has diplomatic immunity...heres his site bragging that hes British government agent,that has worked for the police which is exactly what others said at the time of the hearing he wasnt.

and heres the final piece of evidence from yandex (russian servers) paul...

cant say im not cooperating withe the fez!!!!apparently their is some kinda person looking for Kiearan about CIA protection he sided with Smith apparently but i dont know its just another tiny little piece of python code...you know and itshas qanyone seen that web site with Michael frances...a dedman walking at all??anyone for a pork pie and a pint??

Albert Smith – AFEPI Ireland

<http://www.afepi-ireland.com> › member › smith-albert

Experience. Retired in late 2018 as the Plain English Editor of the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA).



105.

Gnarfle December 29, 2021 at 3:41 pm

Boney's high on China white; Shorty found a punk!

Don't you know there ain't no devil? That's just God when he's drunk!



106.

trashtalk December 31, 2021 at 7:42 pm

I think Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) has run out of road. Pumping air into this burst balloon of a blog is impossible. You can only rubberneck a roadcrash for so long. Given the number of self-pitying lies on this blog I wonder if Mark Stephens is an alcoholic. At least he hasn't got onto the Jesus grift. That's something.



January 1, 2022 at 5:20 PM



Sergeant John heraghty is now known through this site and is verifiable through data/evidence

[illegible]



o

Jeremy Reimer January 3, 2022 at 2:50 pm

The old Tech Insider article (it's from 1996) is here, for anyone who is interested: <https://www.tech-insider.org/personal-computers/research/1996/0614.html>



Questionable_PhD January 5, 2022 at 2:11 pm

You know what's really interesting about that TechInsider writeup — they pretty much paint Cringely/Stephens out to be an evasive, sketchy, pathological liar, without ever stating it with sufficient clarity to bait a libel claim. And that was 25 years ago. Gives rise to (more) interesting speculation concerning how he (Stephens) gradually disappeared from the scene, perhaps following excessive whoppers or less-specific misconduct. (Note the NY Times "fake doctorate" expose emerged ~27 months after this article).



113.

RacerX January 3, 2022 at 8:12 am

This is the end, my friend. The end of Cringely, my friend.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FMGYycBAMU>



114.

Adam Luoranen January 3, 2022 at 9:31 am

I am not up on all the latest slang which the cool young people like trashtalk are using, but as far as I can tell, a "runner" is an extreme drug binge in which someone takes so many drugs that they end up staying awake for several days at a time. I am not aware of Mr. Cringely's a.k.a. Mr. Stephens' personal habits with regard to consumption of illicit substances, but I find it unlikely that a man of his character and age would attempt something like that now, although I appreciate that trashtalk may have been exaggerating for comic effect, as she often does. Or perhaps, in keeping with her usual subject matter, trashtalk meant "doing a runner" in the sense of performing copulation with a person who runs. Either interpretation is possible, or there may be others which I haven't thought of. Such is life's rich pageant.



115.

Jeremy Reimer January 3, 2022 at 10:35 am

Actually, trashtalk is an older British person, so you can adjust your slang expectations accordingly.

In this case, "doing a runner" means fleeing the scene of a crime (think "dine and dash") or in some way running away from one's responsibilities.

I'm not sure if that's true in this case, although Cringely does seem to be taking longer and longer holidays from his own blog. He's still actively posting answers to airplane questions on quora.com, which in the past was an indication that he would eventually come back. It's not like he has much else to do.



o

Howard January 3, 2022 at 3:40 pm

... as we discovered a few years back, each post allows comments for up to 6 months. The last post – this one – is just under 4 months old. Unless he adds a new post, we've got about 70 days before this place for discussion goes away ... until/if he posts again.

Just something consider.

Just think ... if Bob never posts again ... Roger Slnasohn might actually have to get a life, outside his Hague World Court level vendetta regarding Mineserver.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) January 3, 2022 at 4:10 pm

Roger can of course speak for himself, but I think it was pretty evident that he had a rich and full life in addition to his quest for holding Cringely accountable for his (continuing!) empty promises.

I have much less of a life myself than Roger, and yet I'm fairly satisfied with how things are going, personally.



■ [Roger Sinasohn](#) January 28, 2022 at 10:18 am

"Just think ... if Bob never posts again ... Roger Sinasohn might actually have to get a life, outside his Hague World Court level vendetta regarding Mineserver."

I haven't checked in for a while because, well, life, and because the trash computer I used for webcomics and other unimportant web browsing died and I've not had time to rebuild it.

As for a life, well, in the time that Crookely did one failed Kickstarter project, I've done two and am working on setting up a third. I've also gotten into woodworking, esk8, and have one kid in college with another starting next fall. This is all new and exciting for me as I dropped out of the local community college so I'm doing the college thing vicariously through them. I'm also on the board of a non-profit, manage a couple of Facebook groups, and mentor a local robotics team. Oh, and I have a day job.

And even with all that going on, I manage to find the occasional moment to check in on Crookely. I think I'll do just fine if he stops posting, though. Thanks for your concern.



■ [Gnarfle](#) February 1, 2022 at 2:35 am

The way you phrase it, it sounds like you're boasting about creating TWO failed Kickstarter projects and hope to create a THIRD failed Kickstarter project.
Good luck.



■ [Roger Sinasohn](#) February 4, 2022 at 2:40 pm

"The way you phrase it, it sounds like you're boasting about creating TWO failed Kickstarter projects..."

lol, you're right. That's not what I meant, of course. One was entirely successful (although the T-shirts were a bit delayed) and one did not reach its funding goal — though I did send out the rewards to any of the backers who wanted it.

I have high hopes for the third one.



116.

■ [trashtalk](#) January 4, 2022 at 2:40 am

People only know me via this blog or if you include offline sex work as part of an expanded persona via escort work. I've lived an interesting life and am not just a hooker. I also have a habit for archaic and unusual terminology.

As part of my professional research this morning I watched a 1980's French blue movie (another archaic term) starring Teresa Orłowski. You can find a copy online if you know where to look. The style is very OTT but you have to look for design cues and tone. I've been after a silk wrap blouse like hers for ages. You can see similar blouses with some style differences in post 2010 television shows and yes they are chosen by the wardrobe department for exactly the same reasons even if nobody will admit it. Why do I want one? Not only are good clothes nice to wear but they make men look and create an unconscious tease. I also like the way she carried a fur coat. Clients never really care about things like that on out-calls plus there is a time and a place for things like that. I could wear a £300 silk dress or a £15 polyester dress off Ebay and most clients wouldn't notice. That said it's all about this nebulous thing called ambiance and clients getting something they cannot get anywhere else. I also like art

and know production and was enjoying getting a sense of the scripting and editing and lighting and camera angles.

Yes I have done everything she has done in that movie and various variations. Clients like it. The only PG safe element is taking a pseudo-dominant role to embrace and kiss. I really cannot believe how thrilled some clients are when I do that. The psychology is interesting. Men can be a bit thick and it's a clear signal which when the barriers come down segues into the obvious which I think is part of its appeal.

I sometimes go on cam for a chat and a flirt to drum up business. Clients say I am seductive and a tease and know it. Myself, I couldn't comment. I'm just putting on an act. Honest. The rest is happening in their minds.

Right so that's my morning done.



o

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 10:59 pm

I was kinda curious,not shy,perhaps maybe you know like you could erm let \$US in on erm well you know how you feel about goats and stuff??



117.

Ed Est January 4, 2022 at 6:20 pm

Hey Bob, where are your annual predictions for 2022? Please post them. They aren't going to post themselves :)?



118.

trashtalk January 5, 2022 at 2:37 am

In the year 2525
If man is still alive
If woman can survive
They may find-

Mineserver ships!



o

nobody important January 5, 2022 at 2:22 pm

Know then that it is the year 10191. The Known Universe is ruled by the Padishah Emperor Shaddam IV, and the Cringely Mineserver is due to ship any day now.



o

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 11:03 pm

and.....Goats



119.

Gnarfle January 5, 2022 at 4:35 am

And I, I walked over to the, to the bench there, and there is, Group W's
Where they put you if you may not be moral enough to join the army after
Committing your special crime, and there was all kinds of mean nasty ugly
Looking people on the bench there. Mother rapers. Father stabbers. Father
Rapars! Father rapers sitting right there on the bench next to me! And
They was mean and nasty and ugly and horrible crime-type guys sitting on the
Bench next to me. And the meanest, ugliest, nastiest one, the meanest
Father raper of them all, was coming over to me and he was mean 'n' ugly
'N' nasty 'n' horrible and all kind of things and he sat down next to me

And said, "Kid, whad'ya get?" I said, "I didn't get nothing, I had to pay \$50 and pick up the garbage." He said, "What were you arrested for, kid?" And I said, "Littering." And they all moved away from me on the bench There, and the hairy eyeball and all kinds of mean nasty things, till I Said, "And creating a nuisance." And they all came back, shook my hand, And we had a great time on the bench, talkin about crime, mother stabbing, Father raping, all kinds of groovy things that we was talking about on the Bench.



120.

Jeremy Reimer January 5, 2022 at 9:44 am

Quote: "Hey Bob, where are your annual predictions for 2022? Please post them. They aren't going to post themselves :)"

Historically, Bob hasn't started posting his predictions until mid or late January. For 2021, he started on Jan 15. For 2020, he started on Jan 31. I can't be bothered to look back any further to check previous years.

I'm also eagerly anticipating them because Bob always starts out by proclaiming that he was about 70% correct on his previous year's predictions, and I have a rebuttal ready to go showing that the actual number is 33%.



121.

blammo January 5, 2022 at 11:36 am

I used to come to this blog for Bob. Now I come for Jeremy.



o

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 11:00 pm

whats wrong with a Goat??



122.

Steve January 5, 2022 at 5:07 pm

Here's a Cringely interview from a July podcast. <https://theretrohour.com/triumph-of-the-nerds-robert-cringley-interview-ep283/>



123.

ONE January 5, 2022 at 5:37 pm

Hey,Amigo you wouldnt try and shoot me in da back again eh?! i dump the Dedman here, like isa 5 million..you know??

<https://kaildanganglife.blogspot.com/2011/03/prison-gangs-one-mexican-mafia-v.html>



124.

trashtalk January 5, 2022 at 6:42 pm

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is now a feature on a hobbyist retro podcast site? Who has time to listen to that?



o

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 10:56 pm

Why dont you go FUK a GOAT



o

Jeremy Reimer January 6, 2022 at 12:40 pm

Quote: "Who has time to listen to that?"

Me, apparently.

Although I did skip over to the Cringely part, since it's not at the front. For those who are interested, it starts at 39:40.

I'll post a short summary when I'm done.



125.

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 11:07 pm

GOAT FUKER OF THE MONTH>>>

Kieran Conway the IRA Witness Spoofer – YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jbNFrAy_YM?version=3

This guy is willing to contradict his own book and previous interviews – how credible a witness is he?



126.

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 11:15 pm

THIS IS NO WORD OF A FUKING LIE ACCORDING TO THE INTERNET THIS HAPPENED 100 METERES AWAY FROM RACIST JOURNALIST ALBERT SMITH COTTAGE AT CHRISTMAS...YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKES THIS....GET A LOAD OF THE PHOTO

<https://techjaun.com/2021/12/26/man-42-appears-in-court-accused-of-murdering-his-partner-in-their-home-on-christmas-eve/>

<https://extra.ie/2021/12/27/news/irish-news/man-appears-in-court-accused-of-murdering-his-partner-on-christmas-eve>



127.

RODGE January 5, 2022 at 11:19 pm

AND GET A LOAD OF THIS ONEMAN TRYs TO SHOOT THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND FOR CHRISTMAS.....

Jaswant Singh Chail reportedly threatened to kill Queen ...

<https://nypost.com/2021/12/27/jaswant-singh-chail-reportedly...>

Jaswant Singh Chail claimed to be a Sith from "Star Wars" and said he would try to assassinate Queen Elizabeth II. News Licensing/MEGA. The intruder ...



128.

ONE January 5, 2022 at 11:23 pm

Get a load of these GOAT FUKERS

Dariusz Wolosz: London's first murder victim of 2022 named by police

Police have named London's first murder victim of 2022 – stabbed to death after a row with a group of men in the street.

Dariusz Wolosz, 46, was attacked in High Street, Yiewsley, near West Drayton before his killers fled on foot.

DONT FUK WIV MY WORK EVER AGAIN

ONE



129.

ONE January 5, 2022 at 11:23 pm

U OWE 5 MILLION

spy 4 now



130.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 6, 2022 at 2:05 pm

Okay, I listened to the podcast mentioned above, and wow, yeah it was too long for sure, but also... kind of good? I wrote a bunch of notes while listening, so they are all jumbled up and not suitable for posting, and I'm not sure I want to spend the additional effort cleaning up, but here's the TL;DL (Too Long, Didn't Listen):

It starts with Bob lying about being Apple Employee #12, and then doubling down with his debunked claim to have worked on the Lisa GUI, and this time he added another claim to have worked briefly for Apple for a THIRD time in 1985 before getting fired just before Steve Jobs got demoted/fired, on a SECRET PROJECT no less. Funny how nobody is alive to verify that last one.

He also claims to have owned an original Apple I WITH A CASE HANDMADE BY WOZNIAK which of course mysteriously went missing later on.

He spends a LOOOOOOONG time explaining how Bill Gates is a lying liar who lies about the "ice cream coupon story" not being true. Like, WAAAY too long. And then when you think the story is over, he adds another layer about how it's totally true because he knew the guy who knew the guy and besides that guy met another guy at a party and totally backed him up this one time, and man, it's just really sad to listen to. Like, dude. Just stop.

But when the conversation settles down to talking about Bob's career at Infoworld and his work on Triumph of the Nerds and Accidental Empires, it's not bad. He gives credit to Channel 4 in the UK, which should make trashtalk happy for once. He even kind-of apologizes for not talking about Commodore in Nerds. They talk a lot about Steve Jobs and the history of Apple post-Steve, and it's interesting. The latter part of the podcast isn't bad at all.

So it's vintage Cringely, really. But the cherry on top of the cupcake is at the end, where the interviewer asks him about doing another Triumph of the Nerds. He gets a bit sad and says that they had planned to do the 10-year reunion hinted at the end of the original show, but PBS canned it for some reason. THEN HE SAYS THAT NEXT YEAR THE STARTUP AMERICA SHOW IS COMING OUT. Yes, he really says this. He clearly still believes this. IT HAS BEEN TWELVE YEARS SINCE THE FOOTAGE WAS SHOT.

Maybe that's what keeps him going.



o

Gnarfle January 8, 2022 at 3:31 am

Yeah. Yeah. I invented personal computing. And yet, it happened.



o

Gnarfle January 23, 2022 at 5:30 am

Is it possible, not probable, mind you, but possible that Bob was actually the 12th person hired to do something but they hadn't formalized what it meant to be an employee?



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 24, 2022 at 10:44 am

@Gnarfle No, it is not possible, because by the time Apple had reached 12 employees (actually, by the time they reached *seven* employees), President Mike Scott had instituted the badge program with employee numbers. This is well-documented and early members have posted photos of their badges. All of the first 20 employees are known and documented, and Cringely isn't among them. The employee number he claims belongs to someone else.



131.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 6, 2022 at 2:21 pm

Years that Cringely has said that Startup America was definitely coming out "next year":

2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2018
2021



132.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 6, 2022 at 2:42 pm

Okay, just one more little thing, because I feel it's important to point it out. Bob added a new lie in the podcast, while adding additional information about his extra duties as "Apple employee #12". In the original Triumph of the Nerds, Bob says he was hired to "take some stuff out of the Apple garage". But here, he added the lie that he worked as a "hardware engineer" (Bob has no hardware engineering training nor skills, as he confessed in the original documentary). Sensing that maybe that wasn't enough, he added an ADDITIONAL lie that he **co-wrote the Apple II BASIC manual with Jef Raskin**

Well, we can debunk this by looking it up. On Jef's Wikipedia page, he says he was writing the manual as a contractor: "Raskin said "I was talking fifty dollars a page. They talked fifty dollars for the whole manual." And you can see the entire manual here: <http://cini.classiccmp.org/pdf/Apple/Apple%20II%20Basic%20Programming%20Manual.pdf>

It says "Written by Jef Raskin". No other authors are listed. Cringely is literally taking credit for someone else's work, someone who is dead and can't argue back.



133.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 6, 2022 at 2:52 pm

Auugh! I forgot this last tidbit. It doesn't make any sense, but here it is. Bob is asked why he wrote the original Accidental Empires book. He says he needed the money because a "relative" was sick. He repeats the word "relative". Then he says the introduction to the book: "For Pammy, because we needed the money" explains it all.

But Bob has always maintained that Pammy was his first wife. It's super weird to refer to your wife as your "relative". I mean maybe it's technically true, because you are related by marriage, but... who uses this term to refer to their spouse? Why not just say wife? I don't know, it's just weird.

Okay, that's absolutely the last of it, I've wasted enough time on this stuff already.



134.

Steve January 6, 2022 at 3:55 pm

Thanks for the thoughtful commentary, Jeremy! I was particularly interested in your feedback.

I enjoyed the podcast, warts and all. I hope Robert is feeling well enough to post his predictions columns soon.



135.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 6, 2022 at 4:23 pm

You're welcome!

I enjoyed the podcast also. Being on retro podcasts like that is exactly the sort of thing that many of us want to see Cringely doing. There's a whole community of retro enthusiasts out there who would be into that sort of thing. It's surprising that he

didn't do any publicity for being on the podcast. Like, at least post about it on your own site!



o

R2-D2 January 6, 2022 at 8:27 pm

He did not do any publicity because those guys are nobodies and he likes to grab about his encounters with rich and famous like Paul Allen, Bill Gates, Stephen Hawking, Steve Jobs and Marc Cuban.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 7, 2022 at 9:05 am

I mean, yeah, that's a fair comment. But he *did* consent to do the podcast (most smaller podcasts don't pay their guests, as it would make the show economically infeasible, but some of the larger ones do pay a small appearance fee) and he did spend much of his time in the podcast bragging about knowing those folks, so...



■

Michael Light January 7, 2022 at 2:11 pm

I'm just catching up with all the comments. Jeremy, what do you think about his claims to have been at the homebrew computer club?

Also when I was looking over his list of failed ventures you didn't mention his attempt to market a baby monitor. That was after one of his kids died of SIDS, which was very sad.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 7, 2022 at 5:11 pm

I think it is very unlikely that Cringely ever attended the Homebrew Computer Club, but I don't have any way of proving he didn't. It's not like Apple where there was a numbered list of employees with badges and lots of documentation. Anyone could just show up whenever.

But if you notice, in *Triumph of the Nerds*, Cringely talks to Lee Felsenstein, the club leader. Bob reacts as if he is hearing about the history of the club and what it was like for the first time. Bob never acts as if he was there himself.

In the podcast, Cringely susses out that the interviewer doesn't remember that much about Lee or about that part of *Triumph of the Nerds*, and he interjects "Hey, he was the organizer you know!" which sounds like he is relating it from his memories of being there, but in fact it's just what Lee told him in the interview.

I had forgotten about the baby monitor. I'd have to look up that story again.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 7, 2022 at 5:25 pm

It's worth noting that Cringely's history with lies is, over time, to keep adding to them (see my earlier comments) to try and bolster them up. So in the narrative where he worked at Apple, the logical question comes up: okay, so how did he know Woz and Jobs then? The easy answer is to claim he went to Homebrew and met them there.

But it's worth noting that Woz was only at Homebrew for a very short time period. The club was founded in 1975, Woz showed the Apple I to the club in 1976, Apple was founded that year, and by 1977 Apple was a real company with offices and employee badges and a reason to keep secrets.

I haven't kept track of what Bob was doing between 1976 and 1977, but he got his Masters degree in Communication from Stanford in 1979, and worked on the Public Information Task Force for Three Mile Island later that same year. He would have been 26 years old in 1979. He did live in the same area, so it's not inconceivable that he went to the club. But the only people who knew about the club **back then**

were either teenage hardware hackers or rich older doctors, and Bob was neither.



■ **RODGE** January 9, 2022 at 1:58 pm

CONTROL : RIGHT HAND SIDE SINCLAIR SPECTRUM

RODGE : RODGE

CONTROL ;

RODGE :



■ **RODGE** January 9, 2022 at 2:04 pm

RODGE : RODGE

RODGE >>>>>>>>>>



136.

trashtalk January 6, 2022 at 8:24 pm

The closest I come to retro now is wearing it. Sexism was rife back then and the modern world in the somewhat backwards UK and US is a bit of a thing. If I lived my life again I wouldn't chose IT. Thinking back I bungled a chance to retrain in HR which is a career move a lot of women make in their 30's. As for the IT world I know there are men who take the credit for others work as well as other bad habits. I have loose plans to do my own website but we will see how that goes. I think people are clapped out with the banality of most high traffic content plus the pandemic has had a depressive effect. How Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) came to evolve his Cringely person and now he came to think the kind of content he began pushing in the Infoworld column was acceptable I don't know.

I've been researching pre-1950's through to 1980's porn as well as erotic content in all its guises in mainstream entertainment. It's interesting how the language has changed over the years. From my experiences online including via cam which I sometimes do as an advert it's interesting how there's still a conflict between women owning their sexuality and being men's wank fantasy versus some of the worst examples of male ego.

Channel 4's remit is to produce challenging content. It's a cliché now but in Channel 4's early days they were known as the smut channel for their late night content. Before this UK television was very tame and yes female broadcasters were pretty much selected for their looks not to mention then acceptable and now very dated hanky panky like Benny Hill.

If I ever got a media deal like Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) had I doubt anyone would pay £5000 to hear me gas on the lecture circuit. £500 per hour a shag maybe although £1500 a column adjusted for today's money wouldn't be bad either.



○

A Friend with a Goat January 9, 2022 at 1:27 pm

BWAAAAAAAAHH!



137.

Gnarfle January 8, 2022 at 3:36 am

Oooh, Denis! There's some lovely filth over here!



○

Goats Galore January 9, 2022 at 1:29 pm

BWAAAAAAAAHH!



138.

trashtalk January 8, 2022 at 10:39 pm

It's interesting provoking discussion up thread and watching the men do their thing. I don't have the energy for it but backseat driving and dangling the bait works. In a funny sort of way it's my job isn't it?

In other news I've been spending my time watching "women's issues" youtubes, and pondering buying suspenders with a design which I find newly appealing. This is mostly for me. Most men and clients in general underestimate women's social needs and internal emotional life if they are even aware of it. I'm indulging in therapy and self-care. It's nice being sexy but a mistake to seek affirmation via sex which is a box too many men try to put women in. It's very constricting and a pathway to abuse. It's the same with money and why many "civilians" are opting out.

It would be interesting if 60 Minutes Australia did a take down of Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) but I suppose he's not that important plus Australian women would tear him to shreds.



o

Acting the Goat January 9, 2022 at 1:33 pm

I was wondering perhaps erm...well you know



139.

Gnarfle January 10, 2022 at 3:26 am

Delta Fox X-ray?
Come in, Delta Fox X-ray!



o

RODGE January 10, 2022 at 4:39 pm

RODGE :
CONTROL : <https://www.imagebam.com/view/ME694ND>
RODGE



140.

trashtalk January 10, 2022 at 5:19 am

I wonder what self described hero crashing through the door stack of baby waving famous name dropping self-pitying pack of distracting lies Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is going to post next. Doubtless backed up by his friend called George from Birmingham England who swears they go back years and it's the God honest truth on a teetering stack of bibles on his mothers grave.

I wonder why nobody ever complained Stephens was indulging in wire fraud. I mean, he has admitted to selling himself as an industry insider to Japanese investors. What exactly was going on there? More of the same Mineserver scams? Maybe that's what he pulled on his own audience because by then nobody else would touch him? He even tried to scam his own insurance company after the event.

Myself I feel Stephens bottled it. The coward has cut and run. Folded his hand. Dashed out the door. Squawked like a chicken. Choked. Shrunk from the truth like a vampire from daylight.



141.

badman January 10, 2022 at 4:15 pm

Smells like a bad hand up a goats crack,leave bob well be



142.

granville January 10, 2022 at 4:16 pm

Behold, but stare not into its dark heart of corruption: the timeline of 78 failed delivery dates for Far West, possibly the only Kickstarter "in development" even longer than Cringely's (ten years!)

<https://www.mutedhorn.net/far-west-delivery-estimates>



o

Jeremy Reimer January 10, 2022 at 7:27 pm

Wow. That level of commitment to never finishing something yet constantly claiming that it's still happening makes Cringely look like an amateur.



o

Jeremy Reimer January 10, 2022 at 7:41 pm

I will point out, however, that Cringely has promised that Startup America (which he never did a Kickstarter for, true, but he did mull it over a few times) has been coming "next year" for twelve straight years and counting.



143.

trashtalk January 11, 2022 at 8:53 am

I find it amazing how your American's need for positivity can so easily tip into insanity.

It was nice reading the Mineserver drama. Also Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) career built on lies ripped apart.



144.

trashtalk January 11, 2022 at 8:54 am

Stephens writing with a crayon between his teeth...



145.

trashtalk January 11, 2022 at 8:55 am

...while fighting the straps of his canvas jacket not so much.

Stupid word filter...



146.

trashtalk January 11, 2022 at 8:58 am

I find it amazing how your American's need for positivity can so easily tip into insanity.

It was nice reading the Mineserver drama. Also Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) career built on lies ripped apart. Stephens writing with a crayon between his teeth while fighting the straps of his canvas jacket not so much.

Stupid word filter...

Got there in the end. Unlike Mineserver!



147.

Gnarfle January 11, 2022 at 9:06 am

Still sorta reminds me of the Duke Nuke'em fiasco.
Over promise; under deliver.



148.

trashtalk January 11, 2022 at 10:43 am

Go big or go home. That's what I tell my clients! No not really I don't at all. I'm not that unkind. I never cease to be amazed what gets men going at times. If you've seen one knicker flash you've seen the lot in my book. Mind you one client did say I looked wonderful. I said thank you, of course, and remarked that he was lucky. Men always get the better view. I'm sure his face dropped. He hid it well though.

I only played games for the adventure really. I tried a demo of that and didn't like it so didn't finish it. The 1980's vulgarity didn't go down well either.

I can't think of any game which does erotica let alone sex well. That reminds me. I had planned on writing some erotica as it would pay the online fees. Not the crude stuff. I fancy something a bit more sophisticated.



149.

Jeremy Reimer January 11, 2022 at 1:38 pm

Duke Nukem 3D (1996) was crude and deliberately offensive, but had some of the best level design and gameplay (particularly in multiplayer) available at the time. When Duke Nukem Forever was finally released in 2011 after a 15-year development cycle, it was still crude and deliberately offensive, but the gameplay mechanics were mediocre at best.

But in the end, they did at least release a complete game.



o

Gnarfle January 12, 2022 at 6:34 pm

They did release a game but I don't think many of the original principals were involved.



o

Gnarfle January 13, 2022 at 6:03 am

Whatever.

<https://www.wired.com/2009/12/fail-duke-nukem>



150.

trashtalk January 12, 2022 at 9:37 am

I wonder if Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) education at an English private boarding school is responsible in part for his shifty behaviour. The lies, the lack of empathy, and always trying one more lie. Keep it rolling. Keep shape shifting. Never take responsibility when he should know better. What happened there to traumatise him and warp him? What hollow quality of character does he have never to learn from disaster? It would be interesting to read an independent audit of Stephens business dealings.

Stephens owes people an explanation and it cowardly and dishonest of him to run from this.



o

Gnarfle January 12, 2022 at 6:36 pm

He was DJT's errand boy?



151.

TO THE MAN WITH A GOAT January 13, 2022 at 9:33 am

TELL "BOB" YOUVE BEEN LEFT WITH THE BLUEPRINT !!!! 911

911 was a "blueprint" as to this memo, we are not going in to fine detail because it would take pages and pages to write. Basically many readers and perhaps the man I Cringley himself won't be aware of the following that's why we have appeared on this blog to help with jigsaw puzzle... so to speak. Forget names and locations they found in the book Terror Inc (tracing the dollars behind...) there's a chapter that includes an incident where the CIA/FBI worked with an other Government, there was some kind fire in a building a laptop was recovered by the police?? This happened during Clinton's term as president and the laptop belonged to a terrorist, it was the fact perhaps that this laptop was "rare" Murphy and the fact that the compartment/drive wasn't cracked!! that led to the discovery of the laptop's hard drive's content... A plan to fly planes into buildings and this was like years before 911, the fedz and Clinton himself disclaimed this theory and disregarded it apparently..... does anyone have any idea where the writer/compiler here of this memoir contained was on the day of 911 ... that's the real issue.... now think people...

5M



152.

trashtalk January 13, 2022 at 10:03 am

I find the description of gameplay involving strippers and the language in the Wired story really quite offensive. It's very simplistic "male gaze" as well as being hideously egotistical. Any stripper would be in her rights to feel insulted and request management throw him out. In fact there are strip bars/pole dancing bars I am aware of which do exactly this. The performers are professionals and a well run establishment respects this even if it's simply the fact the performer doesn't like them or thinks they're being creepy or too persistent. Most escorts are the same too and I have declined my share of clients.

How would I direct things differently? Ooh, I don't know. You'd have to pay me (a lot) to find out.



o

Gnarfle January 13, 2022 at 10:45 am

There are numerous other articles which make that same point. The original 1990's game was considered satire, to a degree. But the version released in the 2010's was considered crude beyond belief.



153.

trashtalk January 13, 2022 at 12:10 pm

There are men who have the attitude sex workers are third class citizens and will debase themselves for money. Some are outright twisted abusers. Others want the sex and resent paying for it. Thankfully this kind of man is a minority but I got a whiff the 2011 version of the game reeked off this. Also the twins scene not only reeked of male perv fantasy but would break law in the real world. A duo is one thing but twins was really out of order. I don't want even want to think of the other crudities in the game.

Very few movies get sex workers right and even fewer games. One of the best movies is, surprisingly, The Spy Who Came in From the Cold. The scene in Nan's flat is almost exactly right. I had a meeting with a client which was not exact but very similar to that scene and I only found out when I watched the film some months later. I really liked that meeting as the client responded well to our initial chat while he drank in the view and we moved to stand together talking within arms reach before things got a little warmer. The smoothness of the satin and long necklace draped over a boob at just the right angle?... Of course we ended things differently to the movie scene and in a different room as you might imagine.

As for games they rarely get anything sexy right. They have no clue.



154.

trashtalk January 13, 2022 at 12:46 pm

second thoughts.....

MY KAMAL THINKS YOUR PLANE HAS GREAT TITS.

North korea could conceivably become phenomenally rich, which it doesn't seem to be at the moment but eventually they will break through with long term anything you like servers in other words world trade and money laundry the west CAN NEVER CRACK and it has such a phenomenal storage capability, and of course printing British money as the Russians did for General Haftar...we know from the way the National Crime Agency (NCA) operate in the UK it's not what they NET it's what they let through...and so it's rather simple to understand why modern Jihad in the UK doesn't have any plastic explosives to use in London. Drug cartels in places like the UK will do anything to anybody for a bag "O" Gear and so to summarize they will be the ones that drop the dirt bomb unknowingly or plant it, probably in a Lebanon modified aircraft thinking it's a big bag "O" skag. Iran wouldn't think twice either...Our guess is that someone has the capability to do it, they already have the aircraft hangers to modify the aircraft and the tek ...you did ask so we've told you. Commercial airliners with weird looking gas tanks taking off from say Indonesia, or Syria who knows, they store the shit in a dark tunnel and the Americans won't even know it's there, they wouldn't have to fly them into buildings either!!!
I'd take out the Goat Fucker First.

5M



155.

trashtalk January 13, 2022 at 1:26 pm

I used to use others laptops with hash code 337469* extended Russian VPN superdrooper encryption system seven malware detect on tor browser darth vader MK7 and the goat fuckers at MFI (british intelligence) used to grass me up anyway as the person who did it, so now I just explain that every hammas agent in London knows that Novachok Salisbury poisoning was done by those awfully nice british Army chaps that pike the London tap water.

It's some type of bafta 3nob job at the Russian sub section Kiddlington MFI/POLICE station that's monitored my I Cringley blog posts for the last Allah knows how many years. It gets to the point where I can no longer show my extended rubber bits without being relayed across 5 million chinese viewers on tik tok or hold a private video conference with a client without the entire metropolitan police service offering a 1001 and coke heads a bag each to post it up on ebay or gumtree. Life used to be simple.



156.

trashtalk January 14, 2022 at 1:32 am

Grow up.



157.

Dr John January 17, 2022 at 4:00 am

17th Jan 2022 as I write this, which is to reference back to 15th Jan 2021 when Bob stated:

"The next five or six columns, beginning with one this evening, will each cover a prediction for 2021. The last of these prediction columns will be an update on my Mineserver project that, but that will be 7-10 days from now. You'll just have to wait for it, because that story is still in some flux."

A year on and whilst we got some predictions we haven't yet heard of the Mineserver update that was promised in 7-10 days. This "Flux" it's in must be very difficult to cut through!

I think we all came here because we liked Bob's left field view on technology. Not everything he said was accurate, and some of his investment stories were interesting if late or even questionable technologies. But Mineserver was different because he was asking you, the reader, to help fund his children's project. And for that he does have a moral responsibility to report back, be it good news or, as we know it will be, bad news.

There's a lot of companies and start-ups that fail, and I suspect his Start-Up America series will show some howlers if it's ever broadcast or streamed anywhere. Bob I'm sure is a very proud person who doesn't wish to tell you that his ideas have failed, who does? But Bob also is a journalist and they have to report the news without bias (a rarity these days) to keep their integrity.

So for Bob's integrity he's got to report on what happened to Mineserver. And for himself, analyse what went wrong as a warning to anybody else starting a business too.



o

Gnarfle January 17, 2022 at 7:16 am

I think you hit the nail on the head.

Bob is having trouble perfecting his flux capacitor. He's having trouble generating the minimum required gigawatts in order to travel back in time and prevent the Mineserver fiasco. Or worse, he's trying to get back to the future in order to purchase the necessary microchips at or below cost.

Or maybe he's just trying to sell the same hamburger over and over . . .



o

Roger Sinasohn January 28, 2022 at 10:30 am

"So for Bob's integrity..."

You're making the mistake of assuming he has any.



158.

trashtalk January 17, 2022 at 9:53 am

Apart from health and safety and common courtesy thankfully I have zero obligations in law to my clients. In fact the passionate and flirty kiss while I wrap my arms around their his waist and laugh and hug him closer as I hook a slim leg in stockings around his leg is all part of the act. Some men like this. It's as real as they want it to be.

God knows what Mark Stephen's (aka Cringely) excuses are. It would be fun watching him put on a contrite act of moral rectitude. It would be a first for Stephens and I don't think he's got it within him. Stephens and moral rectitude? That's a bit of an odd mix. Still, you Americans like your peanut butter and "jelly" sandwiches so anything is possible.



o

Gnarfle January 17, 2022 at 6:52 pm

Eel, pie and mash, anyone?



159.

trashtalk January 18, 2022 at 3:34 am

I just wanted to contrive an excuse to use the phrase "moral rectitude" and Stephens (aka Cringely) in the same sentence.



160.

Jeremy Reimer January 18, 2022 at 3:28 pm

Google shuts down "YouTube Originals" division: <https://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2022/01/google-kills-youtube-originals-its-original-video-content-group/>

Granville once speculated that Cringely might have been hoping to get his "Startup America" show funded by this group (he did write a post explaining how there was no money in YouTube but that it *was* the best place for Startup America to live in, for unexplained reasons).

That particular door has now closed, it seems.



o

granville January 18, 2022 at 6:26 pm

I went hunting for that discussion in the comments about Start Up America only to find... it's right here. It's under this post. It's been up so long that I completely forgot about it.

Maybe it's an insight into his character that he won't release anything unless he thinks it's perfect. I've worked with people like that and (about certain things) can certainly identify. But a bunch of 11 year old footage in the can is a warning of where that leads.

I'm not even sure the words "start up" mean the same thing to people as when he started. Media was flush with techno-utopianism then. It's wild to remember that people camped for a week to buy a phone and felt compelled to write poems of remembrance for Steve Jobs, a person who would probably call them bozos and who was possibly the uncharitable human being on Earth. Millennials and Gen Z push HARD against all the shit that the previous generation (meaning mine, then Bob's) associated with the term, like long nights, sacrificing everything for the company, etc. There was recently a pretty interesting thread on twitter about the development of Internet Explorer, and the Microsoft team leader mentioned the rush probably lead to a couple of divorces. The pushback was pretty fierce.



161.

trashtalk January 18, 2022 at 11:02 pm

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) does seem to live a lot of his life in fantasy or articulating fantasy. See also: disassociation.

Us Europeans have been commenting on your American gung-ho and hype led frantic society with no safety net for years. There's lots of other criticisms but you never listen. Instead of facing up to it we have gone from "start-ups" being the bees knees to "unicorns". In fact years ago I notice the American habit to supersize everything. It first started with the 300 pound gorilla and by the time people had finished it was a 1000 pound gorilla.

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) insisting a conference host refer to him as a "sex symbol" was just plain embarrassing. The more I learn about America away from the slick carefully packaged political presentations and movies and corporate sausage factories the more I see pathetic and desperate people. Really not very bright people getting behind any scam because they are desperate for money. Any money. Some guy making a thing of being a start up yet holding down another job which he kept circling back to and obsessing over being a "senior" technician which he had worked into his start up pitch.

I've also heard US escort clients can be hard work. Escorts have to deal with "self made" men who can be utter shitbags as people through to self-admitted losers all the time. We're hard to fool.

It's simple:

Call.
Turn up.
Pay.
Fuck.
Go.



162.

Gnarfle January 19, 2022 at 5:51 pm

No comment.

<https://nationalaffairs.com/publications/detail/the-erosion-of-deep-literacy>



163.

trashtalk January 19, 2022 at 7:54 pm

@Gnarfle

That is an absolutely fantastic article!

That article is very relevant for escorts. It gets into "trade talk" and I won't comment on that.

Stupid word filter. I'll just say something elegant and French lace underthings are in my future. I don't have the worlds biggest boobs but oh my what a treat. Clients like that kind of thing I know.



164.

Jeremy Reimer January 20, 2022 at 11:15 am

@Granville lol, I had the same problem you did— I assumed your comment was from an earlier post. Turns out that all the best comments are in this post. We don't need any other posts! At least until March, when comments here will get locked automatically.

I don't think Cringely's perfectionism was the reason Startup America never got released. I think it was a lack of money. The raw footage with Bob interviewing a bunch of startup folks was fine, but that wouldn't make a show, even a YouTube one. You would need followups, additional dialog and voiceover recording, some graphical work, lots of editing, marketing, promotion, etc.

You could do all this work yourself and save money, but the results would be sub-par. The original NerdTV was like this— really sloppy camera work, poor editing, and so forth. The content was great but the presentation sucked. As a result, there was never a Season Two.

Still, I would have watched it



o

granville January 20, 2022 at 8:06 pm

It's been so long that this post has been up that I just noticed I posted about the "Far West" 10 year kickstarter twice, albeit with two different links.

And you're probably right, it almost certainly was lack of money and probably interest. PBS is likely the only outlet for a documentary series on start-up companies nobody's ever heard of in Minneapolis or Des Moines (not knocking them, I live in the Midwest, just saying that there wasn't going to be a bidding war for a show about companies nobody had heard of.) I imagine he thought about other ways to bring it to market. I wonder what happened in those discussions.

To add more epic content to this thread, this is that Twitter thread I mentioned about the creation of IE. I'm obviously not a big fan, but it's interesting to read if you've already seen the doc "Code Rush":

<https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1426587396343099397.html>



■

Jeremy Reimer January 21, 2022 at 12:34 pm

@granville, the IE story (and that Twitter thread) was interesting to me as well. I once attended a talk from one of the Product Managers of the IE 3 team, and he also waxed lyrical about how amazing and wonderful and magical the project was at the time. When you look back today in the broader context, though, it does seem stupid that people destroyed their health and marriages over a product that was basically abandoned three versions later, and today doesn't even exist. What, in the end, was the point? Just to destroy Netscape? I mean, congrats, guys, you did it.



■

granville January 21, 2022 at 2:32 pm

Yeah, that was the main takeaway in the original twitter thread, too. People "sacrificed families" in a lather in order to... participate indirectly in an anti-competitive monopoly, by creating an iteration of a product that nobody especially liked, and the specific version that unleashed ActiveX on the internet, and intentionally caused millions of designers to waste productivity "fixing" websites that it broke by design, all of which added to shareholder wealth.



165.

Jeremy Reimer January 20, 2022 at 11:23 am

Speaking of NerdTV, it blows my mind that you literally cannot find it anywhere on the web now. You have to find the links and then use the Wayback Machine at archive.org to drill down and do a specific download of a specific file and then play it locally. It sucks! There are some good interviews in there.

I suspect that Bob doesn't have the rights to repost them on YouTube— they probably still belong to PBS. But I kind of wish he or someone else would just upload them anyway.



o

Ben Franske January 21, 2022 at 3:43 pm

Jeremy, I uploaded the NerdTVs to Internet Archive way back in 2008... <https://archive.org/search.php?query=subject%3A%22nerdtv%22>



Ben Franske January 21, 2022 at 3:45 pm

FWIW The NerdTVs were "Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.5" licensed so anyone can repost them with attribution and for non-commercial use.



Jeremy Reimer January 21, 2022 at 7:31 pm

@Ben Frankse Thanks for uploading them to the Internet Archive!! You saved them from certain destruction.

I'll think about whether I want to upload them to YouTube (with full attribution of course!). It feels weird if I upload them to my own account, but I've never thought about opening a second YouTube account. The account name "NerdTV" is already in use at YouTube, so it would have to be something else. "Cringely's NerdTV"? That feels weird also. Honestly Bob should just upload them to his own account, then at least he'd have more than two videos on his channel.



Jeremy Reimer January 21, 2022 at 8:51 pm

Hmm, checking out your link from archive.org, it seems you can play all of them in the browser. That's great! So maybe it's not as necessary to upload them to YouTube. Still, there's nothing stopping Bob from doing so, it seems.



166.

trashtalk January 20, 2022 at 11:28 pm

Jeremy is still sulking because I got a refund on his book and he didn't like my comments on the publishing industry. Odd how he was thick as thieves with a man who repeated what I said! Apparently I have been depersonalised into a "British person".

As for Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) NerdTV? Not interested at all. I had a look when it was first launched but it was paid only or something like that. I never watched an episode. Start Up America has zero international appeal. In the meantime someone I crossed paths with years ago moved into journalism, published books, started a newspaper, employs one of the UK's most respected and experienced journalists and published authors, and now has his own popular politics channel on Youtube with quite a tasteful studio and content such as interviewing former Lord Chancellors. Just before they began getting into journalism in collaboration with a former BBC editor I tried to start a European politics site. This never got past the concept stage and we both moved on. One established publisher I know for a fact pinched the idea. I remember it flopping at the time. It's a bit dry but The European fills a similar space today. In a roundabout way I got what I wanted. I'm not jealous. None of us are on speaking terms but that's how it works out sometimes. Sometimes you just have to let it go.

I never planned to do escort work. It's just how things went. So what's Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) excuse? Come on. Shit or get off the pot.



167.

Gnarfle January 21, 2022 at 3:24 am

And the last thing I see is my heart, still beating, still beating, breaking out of my body and flying away . . . like a bat out of hell!



168.

trashtalk January 21, 2022 at 5:58 am

I'm not a fan of sex with fat clients. Really, no. Getting humped between your legs as his fat belly squeezes your insides up into

your diaphragm so you can't breath is not fun. Fat and unfit clients sweat as well and if you have them in your gob a mouthful of what that produces tastes like a dead rat. They're not clients you want to see twice unless you have a blank schedule and want the money.



169.

[tom](#) January 21, 2022 at 9:03 am

pls write sth new!



170.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 21, 2022 at 12:21 pm

trashtalk, I will admit that your criticisms of my latest novel stung and caused me some moderate consternation *at the time*. However, I have long since gotten over it. Of the thousands (low thousands, and over many years, so I'm not exactly bragging here) of people who have bought my books, you are the only person who has ever requested a refund. But I'm quite happy that you did. It wasn't to your taste, and that's all right! We don't all have to like the same things.

As for your comments on the publishing industry, it was really more that you took extreme (and even violent) dislike to *my* comments on the publishing industry. I apologized for my glib wording, and you... left it at that. I wouldn't mind having a more constructive discussion about the topic, but I'm not sure you are willing to do so.

If I was "thick as thieves" with some other commentator, it was because I wanted to engage in a discussion with them. Not everything you post is worthy of comment. Most of the time you are repeating things you've already said, so sometimes I'll ignore you. Feel free to ignore me for doing the same thing!

And finally, I described you as a British person because that is literally what you are. I'm not sure how this is "depersonalizing" when I'm describing you *as a person*. If you (or anyone else) wants to call me a middle-age Canadian person, I would be fine with that. That's what I am. I'm other things as well, but that's an adequate description to start with. Specifically, my comment about you being a British person was in the context of explaining how to interpret your usage of slang and idioms, so it was a relevant comment.



171.

[Transexuelle a Lille](#) January 22, 2022 at 4:50 am

[Transexuelle a Lille](#) is great web portal for you if you are alone in France



172.

[trashtalk](#) January 22, 2022 at 5:02 am

"Ego Inflation From Plan C" is almost a name for a novel!



173.

[Trans Sex Montpellier](#) January 22, 2022 at 8:27 am

[Trans Sex Montpellier](#) is the best for your own casual chat pleasure



174.

[trashtalk](#) January 22, 2022 at 3:15 pm

Oi. Get your own pitch!



175.

[The Daily Corroborateire](#) January 22, 2022 at 11:42 pm

NUJ heads will certainly roll over racist cover up involving Fascist David Irving.
This article will lay down the legal litigation compiled in part with Joe Elliotts blog, amongst others.

Les freaks de wiki, Anarco/socialite par se isnt running to Owens blog with this or even running for the next election.

News bloggers privately believe that the "reported failed Operation" to plant fibre Optic cables under the Ocean into a Cuban port complicitly implies that Irish Billionaire Dennis O'Brien the owner of The Irish Independent Newspaper must be regarded by the Cuban Government as working for the CIA, because rumour has it his Cable media company was barred for amongst other for having close connections with the Clinton Foundation. Other Governments and countries in comparison already dealing in similar services to Cuba arent in any way at all prohibited or dealt with as security risks.

Dennis O'Brien most certainly is part of an NUJ cover up involving Fascist author David Irving and the evidence contained here is conclusive. O'Brien lives in Malta he has to apparently under a special Government protection order...you cant Spray on a wall there without somebody knowing whos done it, its claimed by bloggers the protection supplied to O'Brien is by private trained army based security.

When the Bellingcat racist allegations surrounding The Irish Independent Newspaper where first published a name of a National Union of Journalists sub editor that still receives personal weekly payments from this Alleged CIA Operative was named for the publics interest and safety.

Far Right wing Fascist David Irving was fined over 2 million Dollars for being the Author of a book known as Gorings Biography in the British Courts where the paperback book itself was used as evidence to gain conviction. There are countless web sites about this court hearing where the judge sentencing branded Irving a racist antisemitic holocaust denier for writing this fascistic publication.

However despite this court hearing Dennis O'Brien's former personal NUJ Sub editor is found today providing antisemitic political statements that are printed under copyright law inside of the revised new digital edition of Gorings Biography, in full knowledge of the courts verdicts, which is both criminally and politically concerning to us at Freaks, an NUJ Sub editor that provides antisemitic material to a digital version of the book that he knows branded David Irving a nazi sympathizer and cost over 2 million in court fines for the production of and here is NUJ member

Albert Smith's own words printed in the "added introduction" of the exact same book Gorings Biography describing it as a "Good Offering", The SUB editor Albert Smith named within the Bellingcat allegations also owns a company known as Parpoint publishers which we believe itself is of prosecutable interest as a specifically named piece of far right political evidence based on the following,

According to unofficial Russian sources, wait for this, Parpoint publishing was derived from the blood and honour of two other separate publishing companys connected to the publishing of Gorings Biography (i) that of Irvings Parforce (ii) Focal point This is an NUJ Life member where talking about here and we want to know why the NUJ havent removed him from their organization for his completely unacceptable representation and deceitful conduct, and antisemitic presentations.

January 23, 2022 at 1:08 AM



176.

RATFACT January 22, 2022 at 11:45 pm

Kieran Conways book is a pile of fag ash, hes a right wing biggot...he could have given evidence to the Irish Government about Albert Smith Irish Independent



177.

RATFACT January 22, 2022 at 11:48 pm

Kieran Conway is a two faced liar and far right biggot, he had the evidence to turn Albert Smith Irish Independent in to the Government. his book is a file of fag ash,



178.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 24, 2022 at 3:11 pm

IBM sells off Watson Health: <https://newsroom.ibm.com/2022-01-21-Francisco-Partners-to-Acquire-IBMs-Healthcare-Data-and-Analytics-Assets>

In the old days it seems like Cringely would have had an article ready to go on any IBM news like this. Watson Health was supposed to be the real-world, highly-valuable, jewel-in-the-crown use case for "Watson" technology, and here IBM is scrapping it and selling it for parts. (While the rest of the world yawns, admittedly)



o

wwwpirate January 24, 2022 at 5:14 pm

They gambled way too much money that they can solve artificial intelligence problem and of course they failed. It is possible to program complex but finite number of cases (chess programs are nowadays better than human players for example) but AI always fails when you deal with complex and infinite cases. Watson Health was not accepted by doctors – they just hated it.



▪

wwwpirate January 24, 2022 at 5:45 pm

Speaking of chess here is Bill Gates playing chess with world chess champion Magnus Carlsen. He did play whole 18 seconds:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVnX42umatA>



179.

trashtalk January 25, 2022 at 1:27 am

I already read up on this, had my thoughts, and couldn't be bothered to mention it.

Men being involved with women's health is usually a disaster. Some things which are relevant to clinical decisions aren't computable. More than one health item for me depends in part on how I feel. That's not whether I feel moody this way or that way but the none measurable aspects of care produce internal feedback. Women basically know when something is off. There's plenty of peer reviewed papers on his too so it's not a made up thing.

Doctors are full of shit most the time. They are such conservatives and social conservatives they hate any change. They even hate patient autonomy and informed consent. I'm not surprised doctors hated Watson Healthcare. They were being treated like they treated their patients and didn't like it!

Nobody wants to admit it but the sexual health clinic is a separate clinic not just because it's a speciality. It's separate because doctors can be judgmental and this can lead to biased healthcare especially if you're a sex worker.

I'm not a big fan of mixed sex wards. Thankfully they are doing away with this experiment. I'm fine with mixed sex common areas. Having men on the same ward causes real problems.



180.

RacerX January 25, 2022 at 6:04 am

What are the odds that this was the last Cringely column?
(Technically the once before this would be the true last column. This one is just a re-print.)



181.

Jeremy Reimer January 25, 2022 at 8:35 am

In earlier times I'd say the odds were always good that Cringely would post again. Even when he took long breaks (his longest was six months, from June 2019 to January 2020), it always seemed like the New Year would bring him back. (I don't think it's coincidental that six months is the same time that comments get locked– no more number going up is a bad thing!)

This time I'm less sure. I still think there's a good chance he returns before January is out to start his prediction columns, but maybe not? I'll say it's a 70-30 chance that he posts again.



182.

trashtalk January 25, 2022 at 10:52 am

Strangely 70:30 is my ratio of rejects to new clients. Yes I bin at least 70% of new client inquiries. Going off on a tangent the

rule of thirds isn't science but it's a fascinating tool. I also never believe anyone hiding behind averages. They are almost always lying or missing something. As any good journalist or even lawyer or CEO knows it's never what someone says which matters. It's what they are not saying or disguising or not admitting.

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) is as fake as they come. He's as fake as the stupid persons idea of what a rich person is: Jacob Rees-Mogg. An article was published this past week exposing how his sneering elitist Etonian image is a facade. Sunak, the current Chancellor of the exchequer, is another plastic product of the English private school system. Similarly the Johnson family are another clan who bought their way into the elite via attending private schools. So is Mark Stephens although he's a scholarship boy and American so may not have had a good time of it.

What did Jennifer Arcuri do for Johnson for her £100,000? IT Lessons? Oh do come on. Eric Schmidt has something to say about that having been caught with a mistress on the company books.

I'm just waiting the learn Mark Stephens has moved to Belize. Statistically he only has another ten years or so left so maybe he won't. Maybe he has enough assets left to scrape over the touchline.



183.

wwwpirate January 25, 2022 at 3:08 pm

It seems Nvidia/ARM deal won't happen after all :

<https://slashdot.org/story/22/01/25/155205/nvidia-quietly-prepares-to-abandon-40-billion-arm-bid>



184.

trashtalk January 26, 2022 at 1:08 am

You could see the Nvidia/ARM deal falling through before they got started. The bigger story is how did the UK allow the Reagan-Thatcher doctrine to take hold. American companies have talked big and made off-contract assurances before screwing people over for years. Many British people still remember the Cadbury deal but this isn't the only evil. So what if Nevada is building the world's biggest solar farm? Oh look at the poor brittle American ego.

I now see "Triumph of the Nerds" as a propaganda piece written by a con man – Mark Stephens (aka Cringely). Americans have always been bragging big mouths full of shit. America can and has done good stuff but I draw the line at socially destructive monopolistic – imperialistic arrogance.

Never had an American client. Not a fan of rich Tory clients either. I know shit when I see it.



185.

Gnarfle January 26, 2022 at 3:49 am

The U.S. of A. is easier to understand if one accepts most things happening here are part of someone trying to sell you something.



186.

trashtalk January 26, 2022 at 5:58 am

@gnarfle

That's the basics of it! Who needs the pressure? I was asked by some twerp the other week if I was getting a boob job. Oh do fuck off. I'm not spending £6000-9000 just so some blowhard can have something to snort coke off while jamming fingers up me.



187.

HowIsntBabbyFormed January 26, 2022 at 2:07 pm

I created <https://www.reddit.com/r/cringely/> in case this post gets locked and we can't discuss things here any more.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 26, 2022 at 3:50 pm

That's really cool, thanks for doing that!



188.

Gnarfle January 26, 2022 at 2:23 pm

Stumbled across this . . .

<https://hackaday.com/2015/06/06/crowdfunding-follies-debunking-the-batteriser>



189.

trashtalk January 26, 2022 at 5:14 pm

I use rechargeables. I prefer the real thing but a vibrator will do when I feel extra needy.

That Cringely Reddit is an okay initiative. I'd call it something else and just have a general riot in there. You can't advertise sex work on Reddit but I don't advertise on here either. I don't care. I don't want to advertise.

Ooh it's a bit late to be drinking and I'm getting a bit tipsy. The thing about being a woman is unlike your average man that actually makes me more fuckable. I was with a woman friend at a mutual man friends place once and we all got a bit drunk. Seriously drunk. What he said to me? I couldn't possible say but her her eyes popped wide open. Oh, go on I will. He found me desirable and expressed a certain degree of sexual interest. Thankfully he was a gentleman and nothing untoward happened which is as it should be. But in the conversation which followed he was so right about my future in a funny way. And here I am. A prostitute.

I'm not actually that tarty. I prefer men just to notice something they like and seduce by not even trying. In fact I've found this is the best way for me at least. Men seem to prefer an attractive blank slate they can eye up and lust for with no resistance. Poise and confidence. Something different to what they used to. Sexy with a hint of look don't touch.

So I rattle on. Thinking aloud mostly. Writing graffiti on the wall of the internet.



190.

Gnarfle January 27, 2022 at 3:20 am

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away . . .

<https://www.computerworld.com/blog/shark-tank>

I used to spend a lot of time reading the commentary threads at this site. Then Management decided to stop hosting it. And the "Gang" moved it to Google Groups. Where it lost most of its focus. I suspect much the same will happen here.



191.

trashtalk January 27, 2022 at 6:48 am

That's true. It's actually pretty classic. You need your own energy.



192.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 12:38 pm

An anonymous person just edited Cringely's Wikipedia page to add a date and place of death (specifically, November 5). Is this a serious edit or someone's idea of a joke? I can't confirm it with any news stories.

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Robert_X._Cringely&diff=next&oldid=1058183587



193.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 12:45 pm

Okay, the person didn't leave their name, but Wikipedia recorded their IP address. It comes from here:

Country Region City
92.19.125.137 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Scotland Edinburgh
ISP Organization Latitude Longitude
Carphone Warehouse Broadband Services Not Available 55.9521 -3.1965

Not trying to doxx anyone (I mean, this is literally public information) but something smells fishy.



194.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 12:51 pm

Okay, this same person just added an edit with a source, but that source doesn't have Cringely's obituary on it. The link was: <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/obits/?ref=menu> but I went through all ten pages on that site and did a CTRL-F for "Mark" and "Cringely" and there were no hits for Mark Stephens or Bob Cringely. Also a Google search turns up nothing. This is weird.



195.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 1:50 pm

Searching the entire Legacy.com site for either "Cringely" or "Stephens" as last names for the last six months for all deaths in California does not turn up any results for Cringely. Someone is trolling.



196.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 3:04 pm

Also, Cringely last posted to quora.com THIS TUESDAY, Jan 25th, here: <https://www.quora.com/profile/Robert-X-Cringely-1?q=robert%20cringely>

He's been posting every few weeks there, and it's definitely him because he keeps nerding out over old airplanes.



o

Dr John January 28, 2022 at 3:13 am

Signs of life!

Has anybody tried asking him questions on that Quora site?

A sort of Dr Livingstone question?



197.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 27, 2022 at 3:05 pm

I'm going to revert the edit, since nobody else seems to care. We'll see what happens.



198.

trashtalk January 27, 2022 at 4:48 pm

It's curious that Mark Stephens bragging in his bio about his documentaries being seen in 60 countries is, as "Robert. Cringely" only because his stolen pseudonym owned by Infoworld was discovered too late to editor or reshoot.

Quora is interesting for the amount of bragging Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) does. Apparently he taught journalism at Stanford for six years including students who would become top editors. There's a nice little spat between him and someone over the issue of decent news sources versus media bias. Stephens aggressive and cynically pithy answer isn't up to scratch. "Glib and dismissive", as described by one. Stephens retort is, well, I will leave the reader to decide for themselves.

The only two questions Stephens asks are curious in themselves not to mention the almost name dropping. So Stephens was writing a thriller? I wonder if that was the other book, unless I misremembered, he mentioned along with the never properly published IBM book. One thing I do know is people with a certain status have cut off friends for gossiping as they have so Stephens using confidential material off his wife was reckless. It's also lacking a lot of context. Perhaps Stephens answers on journalism as more about his own faults. Given his alleged connection with top editors the fact Stephens is now persona non grata among big publishers really doesn't square up. In fact at one point Stephens blogs mentioning a certain orange fool were themselves very curious. They were almost an apologia on their behalf and I couldn't help thinking Stephens was begging for a job, any job, off a broadcaster named after a certain bushy tailed animal.

As for Mineserver I wonder why nobody has reported Stephens for wire fraud.



granville January 27, 2022 at 6:22 pm

Hm, I guess I should go deeper on this. I just canned the first page of contributions and noticed his increasingly grouchy demands that people asking questions (on a question and answer site) google them first.



Jeremy Reimer January 28, 2022 at 9:43 am

That is pretty hilarious, coming from the man who thought that phone scammers were actually from Google because they said they were from Google.



199.

trashtalk January 27, 2022 at 8:15 pm

Writing a thriller on the orange fool. What was Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) thinking? It's even more bizarre announcing a yet to be written novel which never happened on Qoura. That's before you read Stephens enthusiasm in "2021 Prediction #1" for the orange fool having a platform and going out of his way to argue his perceived solution for protection of wild libertarian free speech fantasies. He also had another blog slagging off an NYT op-ed on the orange fool. So he's not a fan or is a fan. Which one is it?

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) blog "Strangers in our midst" is very curious as it touches on his claims of teaching and sexual harassment. Or was I using Google the wrong way?

Stephens also has a very sad Cringely Twitter account as well as a dead Youtube channel. I cannot see a single famous person quote tweeting him. In fact I cannot see anyone quote tweeting him. The account lacks a bluetick so it may not be him.

This blogs tag cloud looks a bit so-so.



Jeremy Reimer January 28, 2022 at 9:07 am

Quote: "Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) blog "Strangers in our midst" is very curious"

What are you referring to here? Can you post a link?



Jeremy Reimer January 28, 2022 at 10:18 am

Quote: "He also had another blog slagging off an NYT op-ed on the orange fool. So he's not a fan or is a fan. Which one is it?"

That's a very good question. Cringely identifies as left-wing but in a very superficial way (think back when he made hillbilly noises when arriving at a rural airplane company, full of genuinely nice people who built a plane for him in Plane Crazy).

He hates the Orange Former Guy because, well, honestly, unless you drink the Kool-Aid and inject the bleach, how could you not? It's hard to imagine a more loathsome, stupid, and capricious individual.

But on the flip side, Cringely is a narcissist, and will always tell lies to boost his own fragile ego. So he looks at the Former Guy and thinks, man, how come this guy gets to lie all the time and suffer no consequences! And he's rich! So I think it's a jealousy thing.

But that's just my opinion, and I could be completely off-base.



200.

[TS sex Nice](#) January 28, 2022 at 9:01 am

If you are alone and looking for casual contacts in France check out [TS sex Nice](#)



201.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 28, 2022 at 9:02 am

Well, according to the (now un-defaced) Cringely Wikipedia page, Mr. Mark Stephens' birthday is today!

He's turning 69. As the kids would say, *nice*.

Happy birthday, you old coot. Now stop posting about old airplanes on quora.com and come back and post your amazing predictions for next year so we can make fun of them. 😊



o

[Dr John](#) January 28, 2022 at 9:43 am

Would have been nicer for him to wake up and discover he was deceased! That might have got his attention...

That would make his eldest kid 19?



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 28, 2022 at 9:45 am

19! Almost a full adult. Time does fly.



202.

[trashtalk](#) January 28, 2022 at 10:08 am

@jeremy

Reckless indifference and ignorance.

<https://www.cringely.com/2011/01/16/strangers-in-our-midst/>



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 28, 2022 at 10:28 am

Oh wow, I'd never read that column before. Weird and creepy. Also, Cringely was only ever a teaching assistant, not a professor. Although teaching assistants can and do teach classes occasionally, it's not common, and they don't have final say on things like grades and discipline. So it's hard to know how much of the story he told was real.



203.

Scott January 28, 2022 at 11:51 am

You guys/gals crack me up and keep me coming back to read your banter. Thanks for providing more entertainment value than Cringely.
RIP Mindserver. How long will Kickstarter keep the project active?



204.

[Transexuelle Sex Bordeaux](#) January 28, 2022 at 12:08 pm

[Transexuelle Sex Bordeaux](#) is the best web place for finding casual contacts in France



205.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 28, 2022 at 1:08 pm

@Scott "Thanks for providing more entertainment value than Cringely."

We aim to please!

Kickstarter never deletes projects, so the Mineserver debacle will live for as long as Kickstarter does. Perhaps that's why Cringely decided in late 2016 to stop posting there—it would be a permanent record of his failure. I mean, it still is—but maybe if you squint, it stops being so? For years he talked about his kids' "successful" Kickstarter here in his blog.



206.

PRO BONO January 28, 2022 at 6:25 pm

The Conspiracy Law, Guilty by Association

Dennis O'Brien the registered owner of the Irish Independent Newspaper is named as an associate of William Clinton in the book Clinton Cash. Former Sub Editor Albert Smith receives a weekly income from Dennis O'Brien business activities.

The company Parpoint (allegedly owned by Albert Smith) is forensically associated with Both Parforce and Focal Point, the publishers of the Digital Book known as Gorings Biography.



207.

Trashtalk January 28, 2022 at 9:16 pm

My Beautiful readers must often wonder what I do when I'm not seeing my clients, well I like Mr Fart and Gatman Videosand Gangs. Big Gangs, Little Gangs and all kinda GangsNew York Crime Baby

<https://kaildganglife.blogspot.com/2011/04/prison-gangs-two-black-guerilla-family.html>



208.

trashtalk January 29, 2022 at 3:11 am

Even if the story was a pack of lies from one end to the other dismissing aggression and sexual harassment as an issue of style and taste? That's something Stephens has to own as he wrote it and nobody forced him to write it.

I never advertise so the post and link are obvious fakes. Gravatar ID string is different too.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 29, 2022 at 1:12 pm

Ew, I read the article again and he literally said that: "The former are often issues of style and poor taste, but cheating is cheating." I missed that in the first read-through. Gross!



209.

trashtalk January 29, 2022 at 2:51 pm

I'm still shocked about the Hill Billy thing you mentioned in Plane Crazy. That reeeeeally wasn't nice. I may or may not have watched it. I have seen footage but cannot remember if I have seen the whole thing. And yes to cap "The former are often issues of style and poor taste," off with "cheating is cheating" is breathtaking from Mr Not A PhD nor a professor nor even a teacher but a teaching assistant. I'm reading this as a below the radar not entirely wholly subtle boundary pushing exercise. The whole article was gross anyway and that's before the comments descended into a gun debate. There are such a slew of issues being bypassed here!

If the story is even half true there are duty of care issues as well as early intervention issues which have been skated past. I have no idea if this is a result of the time, the way Stanford does or does go about things, or negligence on Mark Stephen's (aka Cringely). If this happened in the UK I suspect an inquiry would be the least of it. How did this happen? How were the warning signs missed?

As for Stephens expressing "relief" I'm pretty sure he would not be a fraction as relieved as the young women in the class not to have that monster around. Even so I find his sole response to this of "relief" to be a bit odd. Stephens is either lying or in denial i.e. lying to himself. It just doesn't read right. Not a hint of survivor guilt or self criticism. Nothing.



210.

Pink Floyd January 29, 2022 at 4:51 pm

Bob is AWOL so this is how Fast Company predicts biggest tech trends and most over-hyped trends of 2022:

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90704618/the-biggest-tech-trends-of-2022>

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90707314/the-7-most-overhyped-trends-of-2022>



211.

trashtalk January 30, 2022 at 2:49 am

I never read Fast Company. It's just people selling things or being reactive. It's all paid by the metre filler isn't it? It's usually a page full of things which just give me a big list of more things to worry about so less bother not to read it. There's loads of other people who wrote up their predictions too. I looked at some and cannot remember a single thing they said!

I've been finding clients lately want to spend more time fucking than talking so it's no big loss.



212.

Trashtalk January 30, 2022 at 3:01 am

Scabies, is a tiny microscopic insect that sucks out moisture from a person's skin, like the covid virus itself it is a contagion. Zoonoses are something we aren't supposed to talk to you guys about because if we do we get followed about by strange looking TV style vans for months on end...we could tell you something right now however...lets put it this way kidz learn languages its not just soundz its human bonding, and brain energy as we know can be measured. Computers can be attached via wires to the human face and skull and in turn by thinking move a mouse around a screen infact both the chinese and American military aswell as having an interest in Zoonoses they are extremely sixth sensed about Neuro Tek... If you know what we are getting at then focus upon 5G and all those towers that mysteriously burnt down. If we explain to you that certain four legged animals know youve got a ticky on yer tail then you understand about teleportation oh yes indeedy whales can talk to one another for hundreds of miles as for the city of London well you know the score street. Some folk can tell how many credit cards and cash you have in your pocket, me i wouldnt look a rain deer in the mouth let alone laugh at it. Deer have been found drawn on pictures of the ancients riding skies that look like snakes ...if you ask me thats the Gaffer right there flying around on python script and you dont want to know what can fly through the eire and embed itself into your flesh because if we had to tell you ourselves you would probably never smoke beer and drink pork sandwiches ever again in your entire life. We are known as Wikifreaks and we are owed over 5 million dollars because a CIA payed agent smashed ONE of the writers laptops up that contained 130 or so Bitcoins, back in the day when you could play online mac games and win about 5 bitcoins a time...get the idea?? we had bitcoins everywhere...its logical therefore to explain that by typing WIKIFREAKS at the MSN Browser "BING" why we always land back on Dark Politricks....thats because the New World order, the Clinton Foundation and just about every NURD in the world does not give a hoot if the Fleas of a 1001 Kamalis

infest your sweet VPN Tunnells....thats it the kamali that went MOO and lied and lied and lied on behalf of the CIA by writng false reports for deranged right wing neo nazis that worked for Clintonpar se....what flies around comes around ...Wagner Security belong to Putin and have been exposed by the likes of Joe Elliot,Dennis O Brien is some kinda Wankgneire styled thaked that works for the CIA who gets people Busted which is why the Cubans put him on Santas Naughty list.....thats it...and we the people are owed 5 million....conspiracy that can DUSTED



213.

Gnarfle January 30, 2022 at 7:16 am

Kenneth? What is the frequency?
Kenneth? What is the frequency?
Kenneth? What is the frequency?
Fear.
Uncertainty.
Doubt.
Distraction.
Lather.
Rinse.
Repeat.



214.

trashtalk January 30, 2022 at 2:59 pm

I gently seduced and massaged this topic past 400. Can we make 500?



215.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 30, 2022 at 3:21 pm

We've already smashed the previous record, 379 comments, held by the Starlink/Elon Musk post in April. Number Go Up!



216.

trashtalk January 31, 2022 at 12:42 am

Joe Rogan is a complete and utter attention seeking dick. Unlike what that equivocating moron says you can have conversations without spreading misinformation and bigotry. If Spotify wanted to do anything they'd close him down. Then there is Wikipedia and it's continuing to accept the planet warming Bitcoin. I watched an interview of Jimmy Wales and he comes over as a fence sitting menacing creep. I like to ignore and give no oxygen to people like them then they push the limit for the umpteenth time and my fuse blows. Oh what a surprise it turns out Jimmy Wales was a porn publisher. This is yet another story of a man getting hugely rich off women. Pornhub and OnlyFans are no different.

I'm not actually a fan of Musk anymore. A few things put me off. The way those apes chanted "USA! USA! USA!" when the twin Falcons landed crossed the line for me. I still remember the winter Olympics where American hooligans kept chanting that. Then there's how ruthlessly he exploits his staff and feeds their delusions and his general dickish behaviour. Rockets? I'm fine with them. I'm just fed up with shitty attitudes and worshipping billionaires and their ilk.



217.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 31, 2022 at 9:02 am

A glimmer of hope against waves of insanity: this thoughtful, two-hour video about what NFTs are, why they happened, and why they are terrible has gotten three and a half million views—nearly ten times the total number of NFT holders worldwide: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQ_xWvX1n9g

There's been a massive pushback against NFTs in gaming that caused the utter failure of Ubisoft's "Digits" experiment. The only "successful" NFT-based game, Axie Infinity, has seen the value of its imaginary token plummet to nearly zero. Gamers, historically a fractured, angry, disagreeable bunch, have overwhelmingly united against NFTs being forced into games. (The TL;DR for why NFTs are being pushed for gaming is that NFTs had to invent a flimsy excuse for being something useful, when NFTs themselves were merely a flimsy excuse for crypto being useful, all in the service of Line Goes Up)

Anyway, the pushback against all this nonsense is encouraging. It's nice to see sanity winning out.



o

Dr John January 31, 2022 at 9:23 am

Was hoping someone could explain what is the value of a NFT?

Seriously, it's not as if you've got a physical product!



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 31, 2022 at 10:05 am

There is no value. What you have is a long, random number on a distributed database that costs an unearthly amount of energy to maintain, and you hope that you can sell this random number to a greater fool for more than you paid for it. That's it. The long video above tries to explain why this sort of nonsense is even happening, and it ties back to the 2008 recession and the grim economic realities that followed, particularly for younger people.



■

Gnarfle January 31, 2022 at 4:12 pm

So, basically, the same shell game as Wall Street?



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) January 31, 2022 at 6:58 pm

Not really. Stocks, while often overpriced because they "bake in" people's perceptions of the future of a company that may not be realistic (see: Tesla) are actually very tiny ownership shares of real companies that produce real products and services. Stocks have a "floor" that is the value of everything the company actually owns. The floor of an NFT is zero, because it is literally nothing.



■

Dr John February 1, 2022 at 8:57 am

Bit like Bitcoins and crypto currencies. No actual value.

Although I believe some banks are now exchanging bitcoins for cash? That helps.

Trading cards for the technically minded?



■

granville February 1, 2022 at 9:53 am

@Dr. John: "Bit like Bitcoins and crypto currencies. No actual value."

They're not the same thing, but the whole (real) point of NFTs is to on-board a new market into crypto. To participate (to pay to "mint" your NFT, and then to buy it) you need to exchange your dirty dollars or euros for the crypto token of whatever blockchain the NFT is being "minted" on. If it's on the Ethereum blockchain, you pay your minting fees and purchase price in Ether. Voila: old bagholders who can't cash out because of the illiquidity of crypto now have a new "bottom level" of the pyramid buying their bags, and now artists or Gen Z wannabe influencers are now full-fledged "crypto evangelists."

Dr. John: "Although I believe some banks are now exchanging bitcoins for cash? That helps."

That is one of the most important things happening in crypto today, and it has nothing to do with innovation or adoption. See the inherent illiquidity of crypto markets above. The main source of Bitcoin/etc for sale (and the only source of new bitcoins) are miners. Despite the myth of HODL, they

almost always cash out their new coins for real money. It's increasingly the case that they can't sell the bitcoin they've mined without murdering the price. Lately they've been borrowing more of those dirty dollars and euros against their bitcoins rather than selling them. It is a massive bet on a parabolic increase in value, but most importantly it's artificially keeping the price high, even in spite of the 50%+ loss from the all time high a few months ago.



o

Mr. Bear February 6, 2022 at 10:52 am

I have (I guess, incorrectly) thought of NFT's like autographed pieces of art. I have an "original" Chagall print hanging on my wall. My understanding is that it was one of several thousand printed 60 years ago. The artist signed 50 or 100 of them, which are obviously worth vastly more than mine. They can print a zillion more, but there aren't going to be any more autographs



218.

trashtalk January 31, 2022 at 5:38 pm

Like Joe Rogan and NFT's are a religion for scuzzballs and the gullible. The 2008 recession was yet another way extremist politicians were able to twist reality and make the victims pay. It's also interesting how social media exploded and how its relationship has changed with politicians and media over time. It's also really interesting which kinds of people hate regulation and science and basic sanity filters. I'm beginning to think if you're over a certain size regulation must kick in. Both side-ism and inviting wingnuts on has no place in journalism. I also think it's fair to say that just because someone is rich or has a job title or is running a dodgy institute doesn't mean they get an automatic invitation and their content is sanitised.

Escorts are really sensitive to this kind of thing. We often experience the ripples of events before other people pick up on it and sometimes this is counter to media coverage as they can be weeks or months behind. I was telling people months before they felt it and it began to be reported in the media that Brexit had a huge depressing effect on the financial sector of London. Everyone was denying it but you couldn't argue with the fact that the market for escorts was being squeezed. It then obviously hit London in the media and rippled out from there. I had known this for months!

I also have a fair idea what is in the media or even foreign media by the type and number of clients I get. There may be a regular drama show or a documentary, or even some article specifically on sex work or something else sexually stimulating.

I had a surge for two to three weeks of fairly conservative clients or clients who bizarrely had a thing for the orange fool. I know what newspaper triggered this. I'm not going to say or say what the article was but it just goes to show.

People like Rogan and con's like NFTs do effect society and do take money out of the system but the fact is men want to fuck me and that's not going to change. They will all be back. They always are.



219.

trashtalk February 1, 2022 at 7:39 am

The fallout from Joe Rogan is ongoing. I've read informed opinion who describe him as a grifter and make a case for Spotify to exercise editorial control even if this means de-platforming him. The parallels with Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) career dropping off a cliff are striking.



o

Jeremy Reimer February 1, 2022 at 11:42 am

Rogan has had a slightly different career trajectory from Cringely, given that Spotify paid him \$100 million just for exclusivity. That amount of money changes a person, and never in a good way.

I watched him exactly once, when he was interviewing Neil DeGrasse Tyson. I thought he was an okay interviewer but nothing special, and only of interest if he had interesting people to talk to. The problem is that he decided that having "controversial" people on instead of interesting ones was the road to more money, and the world rewarded him for that.

But the "controversy" only ever seems to lead one way. Seth Abramson, who collected together tons of legitimate and verified research done by news services around the world on Trump's ties to Russia, said that he tried to get on Rogan's show multiple times but was always rebuffed. Seth certainly has "controversial" opinions, but because they go against the ones his fanbase has, he doesn't even get a chance to speak. So much for "we're just interested in the marketplace of

ideas".



Mr. Bear February 6, 2022 at 10:54 am

Someone referred to Joe Rogan as the man's version of Gwyneth Paltrow. I wonder if jade eggs help with Covid



220.

Michael Kent February 1, 2022 at 10:36 am

I rewatched Plane Crazy about a year ago and it blew me away how stubborn Cringely was and how poorly he treated those around him. I don't know that I caught that when it originally aired and I was much younger. The whole show is basically Cringely descending into madness because he thinks he's an expert on something when he actually doesn't know what he's doing. Then they tack on a final episode where he builds a kit plane, which is the antithesis of what the show was about. It makes Cringely look incredibly bad, and I say this as a huge fan of his. I give him credit for allowing us to see him, warts and all, but it's a great insight into how he works.



Jeremy Reimer February 1, 2022 at 11:36 am

I agree 100%. As the world's premiere amateur Cringelyologist, I find Plane Crazy to be probably the single greatest insight into the man. It also prompted probably his most honest comment ever:

"Plane Crazy was the best TV work I have ever done, though too painful still to watch."

<https://www.cringely.com/2012/08/17/electric-flight-of-fancy/>

When asked if a sequel would ever be made, he said "Don't bet on it."



Michael Kent February 1, 2022 at 12:37 pm

I like that Bob's philosophy is literally the exact opposite of what you expect from an aerospace engineer. Leave a safety buffer so that you'll have reserves for any conceivable emergency? That's crazy! Let's design the airplane so it runs out of power three quarters of the way there. There's a fine line between "That's so crazy it might just work!" and "That's so crazy it might just kill you!"

Given the continuing existence of Robert X Cringely, I assume they never completed the airplane.



granville February 1, 2022 at 1:20 pm

I'm a big fan of "disaster documentaries" and Plane Crazy had more potential than any of them. His voiceover is both a strength and a weakness, you sort of have to conjecture about what *else* is going on a lot but it's right there with the best. Some of the others, really no rank or importance to the order but files I have at hand:

"American Cannibal" – two guys think they'll cash in on reality TV, hook up with the guy who specialized in selling celebrity sex tapes and it all goes wrong. Like reality TV itself, unclear how much is real.

"Anvil!" – a bunch of "legendary" metal guys who were never that successful reunite and accidentally show why they were legendary metal guys who were never that successful.

"Con Artist" – about '80s artist Mark Kostabi.

"Lost Soul" – about Richard Stanley and the making of The Island of Dr. Moreau.

"My Thai Bride" – about an unlikeable British man who marries a Thai bar girl.

"Overnight" – behind the scenes account of the meteoric rise & self-destruction of filmmaker Troy Duffy.

"Shooting Versaci" – a post-Hollywood Menahem Golan attempts to recapture his fame through an utterly awful exploitation movie about the murder of Gianni Versaci.

"Weiner" – about a Weiner.

"Plane Crazy" fits really well here, but it could have been better. I feel like giving him the voiceover and the third "redemption" episode (which I usually don't watch at all) shows they were really trying to be kind, despite what it appears. Reminds me of the director of "King Of Kong" explaining how if they REALLY wanted to make a film about what an asshole Billy Mitchell was as he claimed, he gave them plenty of other opportunities they didn't take advantage of.



Mr. Bear February 6, 2022 at 10:55 am

Don't forget "Tiger King!"



[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 1, 2022 at 6:19 pm

@granville Great list! I would add any of the multiple documentaries about the Fyre Festival.



221.

trashtalk February 1, 2022 at 1:03 pm

@Jeremy

Fair comment on Rogan and I think your observations of the orange fool versus Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) aren't too far wrong. Rogan plays a clever game but we all know what he is. The ratchet effect you note is a red flag. That's not wide eyed innocence but deliberateness. People have observed that Spotify management betrayed their principles. How they run Spotify is very anti-Swedish. The fact they listed on the NY stock exchange is another big tell. They're just counting the money. I couldn't believe it when I heard Spotify announce the Rogan deal given he is such a nasty piece of work but they did and here we are.

Plane Crazy sounds appalling. Is it worth my mental health to watch it? Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) was aged 44 when that came out. He's now 69.

I wouldn't have either as a client.



Michael Light February 1, 2022 at 5:33 pm

I thought plane crazy was fun when I saw it as a kid. But in retrospect it shows that Stephens thinks too much of his own abilities. You can see the kind of hubris that has got him in trouble and that he's the kind of guy of has all these ideas that he doesn't completely think through. Watching him fly that kit plane at the end makes me wonder how good of a pilot he ever really was.



[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 1, 2022 at 6:23 pm

Plane Crazy is a must-watch if you're at all interested in Cringely. I was going to link to a YouTube copy, but I can't find it (it was undoubtedly unauthorized and was probably taken down). It's hard to Google for it these days because someone made a Roblox mini-game called Plane Crazy and that's all YouTube wants to show you now if you search for that term.



■ **Dr John** February 2, 2022 at 5:49 am

Just when I was about to ask if anybody knew where to watch Plane Crazy. Frustrating!



■ **[Jeremy Reimer](#)** February 2, 2022 at 10:26 am

It is frustrating! A lot of older content is disappearing and there is often no way to find it. In the Plane Crazy example, the only other source for the content is a link to an Amazon page where could buy the physical VHS tapes— only they are sold out forever. I'm currently rewatching Nerds 2.0.1 and the only available copies of some episodes are terrible VHS rips that skip and glitch out occasionally— and again there is no source for originals any more.

Nerds 2.0.1 is particularly valuable these days because it has interviews with a bunch of people who created the original Internet— the BBN folks, Vint Cerf, Tim Berners-Lee... How can we just let this stuff get lost to time?



■ **Gnarfle** February 2, 2022 at 10:32 am

If nothing else . . .
God as my witness I thought turkeys could fly!



■ **granville** February 2, 2022 at 10:47 am

I had it bookmarked and unfortunately:

> This video is no longer available due to a copyright claim by John Gau Productions Ltd.



■ **[Jeremy Reimer](#)** February 2, 2022 at 12:37 pm

It really annoys me when people issue these takedowns when they are also refusing to allow anyone, anywhere, ever, to pay them for the product legitimately.

I watched "My Thai Bride" after you put it in your recommended list. The creator has it on Vimeo and you can pay \$3 to rent it. That's a totally fair price! And as a result I got to see a really well-done and interesting documentary (that British dude really was super unlikeable!) and the creator got some money. Seems like a win-win, but maybe John Gau Productions feels otherwise.



■ **granville** February 2, 2022 at 11:06 pm

I'm so glad to hear you checked out one of my recs! I thought it was a fascinating film because it follows the stereotypes almost exactly: if you are cynical you can likely figure out how the film ends from the opening frame. Yet it adds so much context along the way, I don't think I felt in any way how I thought I would.

Interestingly almost all of the downloaded movies I've bought have come from Vimeo (owners can make that an option too — so you can "rent" for a few bucks or you can pay a few more and download it to watch it at your leisure). Off the top of my head I did that with a few art films, Jon Jost or someone like that, and several documentaries, including Oxyana, a fairly depressing fly-on-the-wall doc about oxycontin addiction in Appalachia:

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/oxyana>

I don't expect these films to be on a streaming service. And frankly I don't think a "Spotify for movies" that has kinda everything is a great idea either. This works perfectly for me.

Re: John Gau, he shows up in Plane Crazy and Cringely says he's spent a million dollars of John Gau's money, or some such.

Like you, I respect people's art and am willing to pay even for something I don't like that much. And like you I also hate the idea that things "disappear." That's almost inevitable with documentaries, most of which don't age very well. I saw the Weiner doc when it was released in the Summer of 2016 and it was out of date by October.



Jeremy Reimer February 2, 2022 at 2:31 pm

Ah, I just checked and John Gau was an executive producer of Plane Crazy, Triumph of the Nerds, and other projects. That means he put in money early on into the project. It makes more sense now—money men can't stand it when someone isn't paying them for a thing they "own", even if they aren't even selling it and will never sell it. A shame.



Dr John February 3, 2022 at 6:29 am

One problem is that some people think they can do other people's work for free. Especially when intellectual property is concerned.

If I did a lecture to a class, does that give someone else the right to take my lecture notes and teach someone else with them? Only if they then create their own lectures, taking a wide variety of notes and making something new. But some lecturers are happy to share their notes with other lecturers.

Worse in industry. If I create a bit of software what if someone then passes it to another person? Pir (trying to avoid the censor) acy is a word I don't like to use, partly because I know a lot of people who had copies of very expensive software but never had the funds to buy an official copy. They were students playing around. Maybe some day they will get in to a company and recommend that software? Who knows?

When it comes to the entertainment industry it's a difficult one. You have millionaire pop artists screaming at the TV telling you to give them "your f (trying to avoid the censor) ing money", when you're a just a kid with a little bit of pocket money. They want to continue their dru (trying to avoid the censor) gged up lifestyle whilst flying in private jets!

And then we have TV shows that few would watch, has no outlet wanting to broadcast, and nobody streaming it either. It's a show gathering dust, doing nothing, earning nothing. At least if they put it on YouTube they could moneytise it a little bit just through adverts!



222.

trashtalk February 1, 2022 at 9:14 pm

I've spent too much time in life deconstructing people. It exhausts me now. I'm also a bit feeble and like to watch happy things. I find the conversation about it more fun. It's more spontaneous and real. Creative and intelligent company. The possibilities. Shared values. Insights. Culture. You can have hours of fun off it. Of course most conversations I have nowadays involve my clothes landing on the floor which does distract a bit.

An old friend I fell out with has a fairly popular youtube show with a formula not too far removed even if they won't admit it. It's doing okay. They have some good guests on and it's paying its way.

It's easy to lose sight of people. Who you know and how you connect matters a lot. When you find good people don't let go of them. That's what it's all about really, I think.



223.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 2, 2022 at 1:13 pm

Quote: "When you find good people don't let go of them."

Good advice to live by. That's why my wife and I celebrated our 20th anniversary last year. 😊



o

Dr John February 3, 2022 at 6:15 am

Congratulations!



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 3, 2022 at 9:48 am

Thanks!



o

[Roger Sinasohn](#) February 4, 2022 at 2:56 pm

Congratulations!



224.

Gnarfle February 2, 2022 at 6:35 pm

Rock-'n'-roll doctor?

I was just wondering is Ban Hammer any relation to Jan Hammer?

Long time listener; first time caller!



225.

trashtalk February 2, 2022 at 11:35 pm

If that "My Thai Bride" show is the one I think it is the show brings back nightmares. I had a discussion one with a man who had got his entire knowledge about a few things off a television show. It was well, um, interesting... You can tell when someone means well. It's the objectification which gets me plus television shows and movies show a narrow and skewed view of the world. I was approached to do a show and I declined. So you could have seen hot sexy me but the pre-production issues, brand management, contract issues, rights management, options, and finances wasn't worth the bother. I'm also not that sharp elbowed or extrovert.

I know some people are okay with doing shows and a friend enjoyed their time on a high profile show a few decades ago. There are also people who regret it either because the show doesn't represent them as they were in real life or as they are when they are older, or the show was contrived and took advantage in the editing.

I may do content sometime for youtube or self hosted or whatever which gentleman of certain proclivities may like to watch but I would shy away from the sex at least with material on general public view. You would know or you wouldn't. It's quite nice being an invisible nobody and I'm happy it staying that way.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 3, 2022 at 9:16 am

@trashtalk, I don't think we are thinking of the same show. The "My Thai Bride" I watched is a one-off documentary, and it mostly follows a rather pathetic British man who comes to Thailand for business and ends up marrying a local woman from a small farming town.

The show isn't titillating or exploitative. It just interviews everybody involved and shows them in their daily activities. It doesn't editorialize. The viewer ends up with the impression that the British man is a drunk, lazy, and rather nasty loser, while the Thai woman and her friends and family are generally nice people trying to make the most of their situation and make their lives better for their children. It's worth a watch.



226.

trashtalk February 3, 2022 at 9:04 am

Regarding comments on people making off with copyright material I have no problem with Robin Hood behaviour. It's all part of the checks and balances of society. If anyone wants to come down heavy I don't mind as long as they triple the minimum wage and pass a mandatory cannot avoid 90% tax for the rich.

The content I produce doesn't need advertising to pay its way. It is the advertising.



227.

Gnarfle February 3, 2022 at 9:57 am

Comment...

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/01/30/moral-calculations-billionaire/>

228.

trashtalk February 3, 2022 at 12:20 pm

@Jeremy

I think it was the same show I watched. My comment conflated with other shows and personal experience. I still can't watch it again. I find this kind of thing emotionally traumatic to watch.

@Gnarfle

You should get a job as a researcher! Not many people remember the horror stories which came out when the Tories got back into power again and pursued the ideological austerity programme. Honestly, I was in tears reading about some of the conditions some families lived in. According to DW News (on Youtube) Even Germany has been suffering a homeless person crisis as the pressure of neo-liberalism has made a horrible impact. In fact I'm just listening to an LBC show someone uploads to Youtube where the well regarded presenter is discussing the post-Brexit current heating versus eating crisis, and decades of right wing press demonising poor people. After his trademark introductory rant his question to listeners for the phone-in was "What is like to live it?"

In all honesty I do not believe the rising number of billionaires is a sign of success. Quiet the opposite. It is a symptom of a failed experiment and without being puritanical a stain on the moral conscience of the nation.



229.

Escort February 4, 2022 at 2:31 am

[escort](#): Il peut y avoir de nombreuses raisons pour lesquelles vous souhaitez parler de sexe dans le voisinage. Vous pouvez avoir un fantasme très excitant ou une aventure coquine que vous n'avez pu partager avec personne. Quelle que soit votre raison, vous trouverez ici toutes sortes de partenaires de chat pour discuter de ces expériences et de ces fantasmes.



230.

Gnarfle February 4, 2022 at 4:59 am

To a BAN with a HAMMER, everything looks like a fail!



231.

trashtalk February 4, 2022 at 6:45 am

This is what happens when you mention French lingerie and escort on the same blog! Get your own pitch! This one is taken.

High end French lingerie has a certain style and is expensive. It's quite nice and I must buy some one day. What I bought instead is good quality and good enough for now. It looks really nice and is comfortable and well fitting too which I'm really thrilled about. Of course I just saw some sheer waspies and matching bra and knickers so I want those too. It's quite the eyefull.

If there is one thing which does tick me off is when clients are egocentric and race to the end. For God's sake take a moment to appreciate it.



232.

PRO BONO February 4, 2022 at 6:57 pm

Gang Life: Prison Gangs Two: Black Guerilla Family V ...

<https://kaildanglife.blogspot.com/2011/04/prison-gangs-two-black...>

21/04/2011 · 20/01/2021 · Wikifreaks World Vision by wikifreaks – issuu. Irish Independent newspaper accused of producing antisemitic publications Irish Independent Albert Smith Sub W.W.V 16458825 Reply WIKIWORLDVOICE said, September 28, 2021 at 12:03 am Dark Politricks: Am I going down the Google plughole of n Ihren Einstellungen)



o

Gnarfle February 6, 2022 at 4:05 am

Hey? BONO?

Do Streets have no name! Or Free Bird!



233.

TRASHTALK February 4, 2022 at 8:51 pm

TRASHSTALK WEEKLY YOUR FIRED !!!!

Its been a Turbulent week for British based Journalism this week what with Munira Mirza sudden resignation over UK "Partygate" as researchers announce she worked for Communists, Wikifreakz forensic evidence proving the Irish Independent Newspaper (who have recently sacked journalists for being racist) are supporting far right convicted criminal Nazi Sympathizer party members and Virginia Giuffre Partys photo tricks being allegedly exposed as fakes.

<https://preview.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/02/03/munira-mirzas-resignation-has-cost-boris-johnson-long-term-ally/>

Oldham-born Ms Mirz describes herself as "a liberal" and even "left-wing" and once wrote for Living Marxism, the magazine of the Revolutionary Communist Party. She has said in the past that she is attracted to ideas, not political parties.

Munira Mirza is a British political advisor who was the Director of the Number 10 Policy Unit under prime minister Boris Johnson, until she resigned on 3 February 2022

I Cringley Irish Independent Newspaper further racism allegations

<https://www.cringely.com/2021/09/10/bobs-9-11-post-from-20-years-ago-to-a-man-with-a-hammer/>

The Conspiracy Law, Guilty by Association

"Dennis O'Brien the registered owner of the Irish Independent Newspaper is named as an associate of William Clinton in the book Clinton Cash. Former Sub Editor Albert Smith receives a weekly income from Dennis O'Brien business activities."

The company Parpoint (allegedly owned by Albert Smith) is forensically associated with Both Parforce and Focal Point, the publishers of the Digital Book known as Gorings Biography



234.

Jeremy Reimer February 4, 2022 at 9:13 pm

Real trashtalk complains that this blog is far too US-centric.

Fake trashtalk makes this blog far too Irish-centric.



o

Gnarfle February 5, 2022 at 4:27 am

Erin go Bragh!



235.

PRO BONO February 6, 2022 at 7:03 am

THE IRISH INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER TODAY SUPPORTS CONVICTED NAZI SYMPATHIZERS IN ALLOWING THEIR COPYRIGHT AND ANTISEMITIC STATEMENTS TO BE USED YEARS AFTER A COURT CASE WHICH COST PARFOCE OVER 2 MILLION DOLLARS IN FINES FOR THE PRODUCTION AND PUBLIC SALE OF THE BOOK GORINGS BIOGRAPHY.

THE FORENSIC EVIDENCE THAT LINKS PARPOINT,PARFORCE,FOCAL POINT,

IT IS ALLEGED THAT SUB EDITOR ALBERT SMITH IRISH INDEPENDENT WHO APPEARS IN THE DIGITAL VERSION OF GORINGS BIOGRAPHY FORMED HIS PUBLISHING COMPANYs NAME PARPOINT, FROM THE BLOOD AND HONOUR OF PARFOCE AND FOCAL POINT.

ALBERT SMITHS COPYRIGHTED INTRODUCTION TAKEN FROM GORINGS BIOGRAPHY.

David irving's göring biography is unlikely to raise hackles. . .

One cannot fail to be impressed by the painstaking thoroughness of Irving's scholarship. He has tracked down critical diaries written by Göring to which no other biographers had access . . . and his passionate love letters . . . Overall, Irving's book is a very good offering.

It is not as concerned to provoke controversy as many of his earlier works.

Generally well-balanced, it is not the stuff to provoke any more passionate pickets. [There had been violent mob demonstrations when Irving was invited to speak at Trinity College, Dublin, in November 1988.

— Albert Smith in Irish Independent, Dublin, September 2, 1989.

ANTISEMITIC PRO RACIST STATEMENT FROM A LIFE NATIONAL UNION JOURNALIST !!!!
THIS EVIDENCE PROVIDED CALLS FOR THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF A.SMITH FROM THE NUJ.
THE BOOK WAS USED AS ACTUALL EVIDENCE TO GAIN CONVICTION,THE JUDGE BRANDED PARFORCE ANTISEMITIC RACIST HOLOCAUST DENIAL, NAZI SYMPATHIZERS FOR PRODUCING GORINGS BIOGRAPHY.

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SMITH ADMITTED IN COURT TO SMASHING UP A LAPTOP – THE JUDGE REFUSED TO ARREST AND CHARGE,THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE WHILST CARRYING A FIREARM AND ON THE ANIVERSARY DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING DEATH



236.

trashtalk February 6, 2022 at 8:09 am

What a load of pointless spambot nonsense.



237.

PRO BONO February 6, 2022 at 6:40 pm

AIRBEAR ONE on I Ludricus

The answer is quite simple to understand, in math there is countless thousands and ONE adjectives and words and then if you should combine words together you would have combinations running into millions so I Cringley becomes I Cringley trahstalk show inc or I Cringley software inc, or I cringley terror Inc...

Albert Smith former editor of the Irish Independent is found on Linkden or what ever its called advertising his company known as Parpoint go "Google" it for your selves, or just type Albert Smith Irish Independent Newspaper on UK Google. Where he states hes worked as a Government agent and the POLICE.

In murder and drug cases litigation is derived from amongst other intention and to be completely honest it wouldNT be difficult to find an FBI agent or Judge (who arent criminals and think about that for a minute), we are trained and qualified so we can state this!! that would ignore the "laws of evidence" in this case...par se...as in FEDERAL law if you see a law that a Judge can apply to evidence you act accordingly.

The math probability of Parpoint not being derived as a company name from Parforce and Focal Point when Albert Smith appears in the same book Gorings Biography printed by parforce and Focal point are so far reached against Smith that in Federal lawsir..in reply to your statement to the man with the Hammer...hes put on NOTICE here by under INTERNATIONAL law in context to "mens rea".PERIOD.

Russian ,Chinese ,European Solicitors will without doubt find The Clinton Foundation and its associates guilty as hell, are you arguing about Trump winning the election again next time R round?? ...Na ta bother..Albert Smith is a medically disturbed racist that appears to be diplomatically protected and is payed by CIA overlord Dennis O'Brien , a personal friend of Bill Clinton a weekly income, O'Brien launders Clinton Foundation money period which is why the 'Big Gang' ousted his precious pet Hilary and we wouldnt argue with Mr Farty mararti and Gatman about dis....they have more Russian gas and Rusky solicitors than you have cops.....BuDDy can you spare me a crime...and dont call me again unless you got the warrant..our fees are outlined and are none negotiable.As they say in Oldham ... "Go to sleep and forget about the Russian mafia"..We will bury you(in litigation).

Wiki Writs viator



238.

Jeremy Reimer February 7, 2022 at 9:05 am

Okay, just ignore the deranged, brain-damaged spammer for now and maybe he'll go away again.

I checked out another documentary film on granville's list this weekend, and it was another winner. This one was "Overnight", about the instant rise and spectacular fall of filmmaker Troy Duffy, who was born in Boston and was working in an LA dive bar in the mid-1990s when he ran into Harvey Weinstein, of all people, and over drinks Harvey decided to buy his movie script for \$300,000.

Immediately, Troy becomes the douchiest, angriest, meanest, and cruelest Hollywood douche-bro, yelling at both friends, family, and Hollywood A-list actors until Weinstein drops him and puts the movie on hold. Improbably, a smaller production company comes forward a couple of years later and the movie, "The Boondock Saints", actually gets made, with Troy directing (he has no training or experience in filmmaking). Willem Dafoe and Billy Connolly are apparently in it, and seemed to enjoy the filming process. The movie comes out but there is no money to promote it, so it shows in about five theaters across the country, pulling in a box office of around \$30,000. Then, even more improbably, it becomes this cult classic, making \$80 million in DVD sales over the next few years. But because of the original contract with Weinstein, Troy sees zero percent of the DVD sales.

It's a fascinating real-life look into the bizarre Hollywood machine. You also get to see Troy betray all his friends and members of his band (yes, at the same time that the movie deal is happening, he signs a record deal to make an album with them) sharing none of his initial windfall with them while claiming that he was responsible for all of their "success".

I never watched "The Boondock Saints" but weirdly enough I had *heard* of it. It has this weird cult following, and Troy has made one sequel and is working on another.



o

Gnarlfe February 7, 2022 at 12:21 pm

And Norman Reedus participated as well.

But its an old tale.

I mean, the Troy Duffy tale. Its why I annoy people by saying (or typing) that the steady state of human nature is arrogant self-righteousness.

Give most people a little bit of money, a little bit of fame, a little bit of power and they will abuse it. Some will learn from it; others, not so much.

I grew up admiring Bill Cosby. I'm disappointed but not surprised.

I used to admire lots of people. And then you find out the money they earned from you buying their books or records or going to their films was spent on DRUGS and SEX and destroying others people's lives and livelihoods and . . . you start to feel complicit.



granville February 7, 2022 at 7:47 pm

I worried I was leaving something out of my list, now I'm sure of it!

I haven't seen "Overnight" in a few years, it's always a shock when Troy Duffy... well, opens his mouth. At all. The majority of the words out of his mouth consist of abuse, sophism (like when he's insulting the leading actors sucking him to him for a role) or braggadocio, and that's counting the words "a" and "the." Supposedly, like the director of "King of Kong" said about Billy Mitchell – the co-directors said that if all they wanted to do was a hatchet job of Troy Duffy, he gave them way more material than they could ever use.

Interestingly, in the last 5 years or so Boondock Saints has been mostly forgotten for the forgettable Tarantino rip-off that it is, but Troy Duffy still has to limit his social media & interviews because of people asking about "Overnight." I guess that Billy Mitchell is pretty apt.



JOE N.Y.C February 7, 2022 at 9:19 pm

In Law enforcement establishing a culprit or identity is itself the "main" objective, without a suspect there is nobody to apprehend or conceivably charge, if you take this a bit further without somebody to attribute guilt to there is in fact no prospect of a court hearing. Lets legally examine the following statement as qualified persons (These dorks think we aint badged!!!!)

"Okay, just ignore the deranged, brain-damaged spammer for now and maybe he'll go away again."

Not wishing to be indifferent here primarily there is absolutely no indication or evidence as to how the PRO BONO statements can be determined as to whether Transgender, Male, Female or computer software generated the messages.

What with IP and VPN the assumption that the person that wrote the statement claiming the person to be MALE must therefore be disregarded as a misleading statement backed up with no evidence of who the compiler is !!!! As the acuser in this incident CANT IDENTIFY THE COMPILER.

We still agree with I Cringleys right to offer "The People" free speech and also ponder on whether Jamie voted Democrat in the last election which might perhaps answer the question definitively on I LUDRICUS. I order therefore I am, therefore there is no democracy other than I Ludricus. Youd make a good pyschiatrist Jamie.... how about issuing a public IP confirmation as you did with the Scottish trace and well take it from there or have you something to hide?



Jeremy Reimer February 7, 2022 at 10:15 pm

I assumed you were male because most shouty spammers on the Internet are male. But if you aren't, just let me know.

Not sure who this "Jamie" you are referring to is. To be honest, I have a hard time understanding anything you say at all.



239.

trashtalk February 7, 2022 at 1:15 pm

A.) No movie producer will ever get a freebie off me.

B.) I would never agree to that contract.

I watched some sex worker and porn industry documentaries this year. They were pretty boring actually. The fly on the wall documentary was the most interesting. None of them were that good. Mostly they were all one big long whine.

Speaking of cult movies Emma Thompson got her clothes off for her latest rom com movie. For all of five seconds... She may have done so for longer but I would be surprised.



240.

trashtalk February 7, 2022 at 1:26 pm

@Gnarfle

Do you know what sex workers do with our money? Firstly very very few of us do drugs. It does happen but it's mostly a media myth. We spend out money on clothes, makeup, maybe the odd bottle of wine, doing our places up, saving up for a house, paying off debts, buying children new shoes, holidays, and all the usual almost everyone else spends their money on. Sex work isn't always a first choice but it's a job.

I don't know if complicit is the right word. It can be for sure but being conned and brainwashed by those at the top is another way of looking at it. Not everyone is a toad. We know the ones who are.



241.

trashtalk February 8, 2022 at 12:41 am

Bored shitless down here while the boys are busy circle jerking or carrying grudges because their egos were put out of joint.



242.

granville February 8, 2022 at 2:11 am

Here's something I stumbled across. Lee Felsenstein had a blog, abandoned for a decade like most blogs, in which he described working for Adam Osborne designing the Osborne 1 and such stories. He's a very entertaining writer, his eye for detail is great and his description of Adam Osborne is hilarious (and from what I've read dead on accurate):

<https://fonly.typepad.com/fonlyblog/>

It's blog format, but I found the order of reading the entries doesn't matter much and there are a few unrelated posts interrupting it that you can read or skip.



o

Jeremy Reimer February 8, 2022 at 10:25 am

@granville Thanks for finding this!! It's a wonderful look at the crazy early days of the PC industry, when nobody knew what they were doing. I love the little details, like how the Osborne only happened because IBM had made a clunky \$15,000 portable "Personal Computer", the 5100, in 1975, and companies had produced a whole bunch of these tiny CRT screens that were floating around after the computer flopped in the marketplace.



Roger Sinasohn February 10, 2022 at 11:00 am

Off topic but...

"...like how the Osborne only happened because IBM had made a clunky \$15,000 portable "Personal Computer", the 5100, in 1975..."

The IBM 5100 was "portable" in that it could be moved from one office to another without the need for an air-conditioned clean room. You didn't need to build specialized infrastructure to support it. It was a totally different concept from what we think of as "portable" today. It was never meant to be toted about like an Osborne.

Mind you, that has nothing to do with the leftover CRTs as the impetus for the Osborne.

P.S., I loved the Osborne 01 when it came out and really, really wanted one. It was, of course, way out of my price range at the time but now I have several.



■ **Jeremy Reimer** February 10, 2022 at 1:43 pm

@granville That's interesting about the 5100, I never really understood what it was, because if it was a PC, and it came out in 1975, why do we all accept that IBM invented the PC in 1981? I get the price differential, but maybe IBM was not even targeting the PC market (which to be fair, didn't even exist at the time) but something totally different.

Of course the 1981 IBM PC's model number was 5150 so that makes things even more confusing, but model numbers from big companies have never made much sense.



■ **Gnarfle** February 12, 2022 at 3:24 am

My understanding was that the 5100 was essentially a word processor.

A company I started working for in October 1978 had something known as a Durango (ISTR). A word processor. One of the system analysts demonstrated how to play Othello on it and I was hooked. I used to spend 6 or 7 hours on Friday night after everyone else had left trying to get good at Othello. Never did get any good at it.



■ **Roger Sinasohn** February 16, 2022 at 2:47 pm

"why do we all accept that IBM invented the PC in 1981?"

Who says we do? I don't think anyone who knows anything about the history of the computer thinks that. I certainly don't. (Not that I'm an expert or anything...)

If you're curious as to what really was the first... here's one well-researched take on it:

<http://blinkenlights.com/pc.shtml> Note — identifying the first "PC" really depends on your definition of personal computer. But by almost any definition* it ain't the IBM PC.

* other than, perhaps, "IBM-compatible x86 computer running MS-DOS"



○ **Jeremy Reimer** February 8, 2022 at 10:33 am

There's a whole legend in the early PC industry about the "Osborne Effect", named for when the company founder pre-announced the Osborne Executive (the next version of the original) too soon and it killed the company because nobody bought the original after that.

But nobody ever talks about how it was really the "Kaypro Effect" that killed the company. The Kaypro came out and it was basically the Osborne Executive, but cheaper and better, and everyone just bought that instead. And then both of them were destroyed by the Compaq, which was just the Kaypro, but it was 100% IBM PC compatible.

The industry moved fast in those days. All this stuff happened within a few years.



■ **granville** February 8, 2022 at 10:54 am

"... and companies had produced a whole bunch of these tiny CRT screens that were floating around after the computer flopped in the marketplace."

That was an amazing insight. It reminded me of another weird documentary, Elektro Moscow, about Russian circuit benders who were largely making synthesizers out of scrap Soviet military intelligence agency parts. So IBM was our KGB. 😊

Another was his research about how Osborne was able to sketch out the Osborne-1 so quickly in front of him. One explanation would be that "well he was a genius" but Lee seemed unconvinced by Osborne's genius-tude. The theory that it had previously been presented to Steve Jobs by Trip Hawkins and Blair Newman is wild.

Re the "Kaypro Effect," I found this while reading about Osborne. Check out p 41 of this issue of Infoworld:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=KTsEAAAAMBAJ&lpg=PA41&dq=%22glory%20days%22%20kaypro&pg=PA41#v=onepage&q&f=false>

Same page, no less!



■ **Michael Light** February 8, 2022 at 11:41 am

I noticed on page 94 of that Infoworld issue was a column by Robert X. Cringely. I know other people wrote under the name but he specifically mentions Apple Creek, Ohio. So was Mark Stephens still writing the column in 1990?



■ **Michael Light** February 8, 2022 at 11:56 am

Never mind I see on Wikipedia his lawsuit with Infoworld was in 1995 so it was him.



■ **Mr. Bear** February 8, 2022 at 7:34 pm

I started reading InfoWorld out of college, so it was right at the beginning of Cringely's era. Always wanted to know who Pammy REALLY was. And, of course, I couldn't wait for "Accidental Empires" to come out. I used to have to buy a new copy every few years because I would give mine to someone.



■ **Michael Light** February 9, 2022 at 7:52 am

I was thinking the same thing, Who's Pammy? His wife's name is Mary Alyce. Must have had another girlfriend then.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) February 9, 2022 at 9:52 am

Quote: "I was thinking the same thing, Who's Pammy? His wife's name is Mary Alyce. Must have had another girlfriend then."

On this blog, Cringely has claimed that Pammy was his first wife, or an earlier girlfriend, and that she died of cancer (I think it was cancer?). However, in interviews with Bob (circa 1998) various news outlets wrote that Pammy was entirely fictional. But in 2021, in a podcast interview, Cringely claimed that "Pammy" was a "relative", which is an odd thing to call a wife, and an even odder thing to call a girlfriend.

We may never know who "Pammy" really was. It may be a combination of things. Pammy as described in Infoworld was a caricature of a hot girl in the mind of a 1980s chauvinist. The name may be fictional, but the "Pammy" in the dedication to Accidental Empires might refer to a real person who needed money for medical reasons.

These are the sorts of problems that crop up when you adopt a fake name and lie about so many things.



■ **[Jeremy Reimer](#)** February 8, 2022 at 11:49 am

Quote: "So was Mark Stephens still writing the column in 1990?"

He was! According to Wikipedia, he wrote that column for Infoworld from 1987 to 1995.

That link is a great little slice of geek life. Lots of things were changing in 1990—the magazine had ads for 286s, 386s, and 486s, which apparently were all viable to be sold at the same time!

I also checked the timelines, and the original Osborne came out in 1981, the Kaypro in 1982, and the Compaq in 1983. So things were indeed moving really fast then. The Mac came out in 1984 and the Amiga in 1985!



■ **Michael Light** February 8, 2022 at 12:04 pm

Yes, I remember that time fairly well. I used to love reading about technology then. It all seemed so new and exciting. I used to read about Jobs, Gates, and the rest in back issues of Time and Newsweek. And then the early days of the internet with Slashdot and online media.



■ **granville** February 8, 2022 at 6:37 pm

What surprises me is how text-heavy the ads are. "Writing ad copy" was no joke back in the day. Some corporations don't have that much text on their entire website.

I can't remember ads ever looking that way... but they must have, and I can't remember when they changed but they must have.

Some of the best and most timeless graphic design seems to come from mainframe manufacturers like DEC and Honeywell. And surprisingly, MOS Technology, their design was on-point:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/61/MOS_Technology_ad_April_26_1973.jpg/640px-MOS_Technology_ad_April_26_1973.jpg



■ **Dr John** February 9, 2022 at 6:54 am

Granville,
Info World is a blast from the past! More the contents and adverts than the magazine. In the UK we got different magazines, Computer Shopper was probably the best when looking for hardware.

At the time of that magazine, 1990, I was very much in to my Acorn Archimedes using an ARM 2 processor. When PCs were still 286 and 386 I was running a fully 32-bit operating system with a windows type environment. It was quick even though it only ran at 8MHz, but later models were quicker still.

I could do so much more than other people on PCs. The OS was the key – it was years ahead of Windows and it took Microsoft a long time to beat it. RISC OS was excellent.

Alas, sales of the Acorn Archimedes couldn't keep up with Microsoft or Intel. It was superior, but numbers of PCs couldn't lie. It would take a good few years before PCs would be able to match the functionality of the Archimedes, but I'd also say PCs had a big advantage too. The graphics controllers were better.

What's ironic, however, is how the ARM processor, first developed for desktop computing, spent most of its life in phones and is the key part of the majority of smart phones today, only to find its way back in to desktop and notebooks via Apple. The processor invented by two geniuses in the UK has global reach!



■ **wwwpirate** February 10, 2022 at 6:54 pm

Just remembered that around that time I was on supertankers. Our chief engineer was from India and his brother was working in Silicon Valley in one of those at that time start-up companies. Anyway he had a friend who worked in Cirrus Logic and he told him that Cirrus Logic will come very soon on the market with revolutionary product for that time – integrated graphic card component into one chip. Our chief engineer got a letter from his brother (we had satellite phone but he wanted nobody to know it) to sell whatever he can, get as much cash as possible and buy stocks of Cirrus Logic. One day we were drinking so he was high and told us that story and showed us statements from Merrill Lynch – he was making every week what he was making for a month on supertankers and that was great money for that time. That was really time to get great money fast.



○ **Roger Sinasohn** February 10, 2022 at 11:06 am

Thanks for that link! Lee Felsenstein is a friend of a friend and I actually got to meet him once. A great guy and a personal hero.



■ **Gnarfle** February 19, 2022 at 3:13 pm

Rather fond of the late Chuck Peddle.



243.

■ **W.W.V** February 8, 2022 at 12:46 pm

Hilary Clinton and the Queens gambit

The I Cringley blog 911 to the man with a hammer exclusively outlines Mark Stephens concerns at being used as a pawn by the IRA and reflects the personal devastating traumatic effects that Al Qaeda and Bin Laden left upon the citizens and Government of America on that unexplained day. Years later Both the IRA and Bin Laden alike are proven to have worked in CIA operations after leaked documents exposed through the Freedom of Information act were published in the interest of the public to outline these facts as admissible evidence.

The Book Terror Inc tracing the Dollars behind Terrorism contains a chapter on 911 itself which explains how Bill Clinton was personally informed of a pending incident years before the September attacks on the world trade center building using aircraft, this information at the time was treated with skepticism, the publication also outlines Bin Laden's connections with the CIA and how the IRA collected finance in the US amongst other.

Dublin Solicitor Kieran Conway, the former head of the IRA owns a business which is listed as having earned him more than 1 million dollars net. In his own autobiography he explains in detail events that happened during the Clinton years which Mark Stephens himself is personally aware of through his own investigative Irish Journalism. Conway refers to the wording of Fascists in the book, yet when he was involved in a court case in Ireland with The Irish Independent Newspaper/Parpoint media services he made the fatal mistake of purposely not informing Sinn Fein and their press outlet during the hearings or later on about the Independents dealings with convicted fascist members of the organization known as Parforce.

Parforce are alleged to have connections with Global Paramilitary terrorists that are known to the CIA itself and as publishers are responsible for the production of fascistic publications for individuals and Political Party. CNN ABC and countless thousands of newspapers, radio stations and media outlets ran coverage on Parforce members being fined in court more than 2 million dollars for far right activity and later convicted to 3 years Jail Sentence for Holocaust denial speeches. Clinton cash is a book solely about the alleged money laundering activity of the Clinton Foundation.

Dennis O'Brien owner of the Irish Independent known to Mark Stephens through his work appears in the book paying Clinton in cash backhanders, O'Brien today allows his own company's copyright to be hijacked by Neo Fascist racists and at the same time pays weekly undisclosed sums to antisemitic Parpoint to appear inside of fascistic publications issuing political statements that are used by far right extremists groups as propaganda and help generate revenue through sales of other publications sold by Parforce.

It is important for I Cringley bloggers to comprehend the connections outlined above. Certain members of The CIA have for many decades controlled the far right in both America, Ireland and UK and Arabs in the middle East playing both sides off with each other, it is a common pastime of divide and rule. The book Terror inc explains in full CIA involvement with Terrorists. There has been more American Government money Laundry and Terrorist related activity connected to the Democrat years than under the Republicans. In 2021 British Police Officers were convicted and sentenced for belonging to far right wing Neo Nazi terrorist cells that support Parforce. This article is written by leftist contributors who are politically opposed to fascist and racist ideology and any attempt by publishers to offer unusual "blends" of twisted fascistic holocaust revisionism to the general public.

W.W.V 16458825

February 8, 2022 at 2:00



Jeremy Reimer February 8, 2022 at 12:49 pm

Seriously, just stop. Nobody cares. You don't make any sense and just repeat the same nonsense.



244.

trashtalk February 9, 2022 at 8:24 am

Oh Lordy Lordy. Everyone going on about the 1980's... Adverts were definitely a thing back then. Every woman in adverts went from housewife to supermodel. The pressure!



245.

Michael Howard Light February 9, 2022 at 8:40 am

Listed below is a review of 'Plane Crazy' published in the NY Times. It's interesting that it mentions his own mother calls him a narcissist.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1998/07/22/arts/television-review-the-zen-of-building-a-plane-yourself.html?searchResultPosition=3>



246.

trashtalk February 9, 2022 at 2:20 pm

A few months ago I read through some Infoworld back issues. Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) going on about "Pammy" struck me as odd. First he claims in the column that Pammy is his wife. Then I read Pammy was a fiction and his real wife was another woman. Now Pammy is his first wife. Or not.

When I first read through those articles I wanted to comment on Stephens writing about Pammy and had written up a post before deleting it. On reflection I think Stephens was messing with peoples heads. Yes, Pammy is a character that would appeal to some of the types of men who read Infoworld. At the same time Stephens is objectifying and treating a woman, fictional or otherwise, like a piece of property. I don't know of any woman who would want to be written of in the third person like that. Reputation and bodily autonomy matter to women a lot more than men. The more I read of "Pammy" the more disgusted I felt. Perhaps Pammy is a composite or based on another woman real or imagined but like Stephens comments dismissing harassment and predatory sexual behaviour "as a matter of style and taste" he wrote it. Nobody forced him to write it. When you begin to gather these fragmented aspects of Stephens writings and his life, including on camera physical violence and sexism, and you place them side by side and join the dots a worrying image appears.

I've always felt a bit uncomfortable with Stephen's home situation. The fact Stephens wife, Mary Alyce, fed and watered him while he was writing his books, his obsession with home schooling, and the semi- pornographic family Christmas card he used to send out including one photo he published on this blog and his "freedom of speech" argument with a print lab strike me as being very odd. Controlling. Cultish. Narcissistic?

This is beginning to sound like a certain rather dark television serial which had its final final series end only a month or so ago.



247.

Jeremy Reimer February 9, 2022 at 4:21 pm

The Christmas card thing was a bit creepy, agreed, but I don't think it necessarily means that Cringely is some sort of dark

cultist.

But the whole issue about nobody knowing who Pammy is shows the problems with having so many fake identities and relationships. Sometimes it's hard to keep all your lies straight.



248.

trashtalk February 10, 2022 at 9:27 am

Joe Rogan is getting more heat. Not only has he been caught encouraging or facilitating a climate of misinformation and hate. He has also been on the comedy circuit and was caught joking about the suckers who believe the nonsense on his show. To wit, as people of a certain age will recall, Rogan in his zeal to double dip just Ratnered himself.



o

Jeremy Reimer February 10, 2022 at 1:46 pm

For context, I'm guessing that this is the "Ratner Effect" that you're talking about: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerald_Ratner#The_speech

There was a mobile phone analyst who predicted Windows Phone's doom far earlier than anyone else did, and he tried to invent a new "effect" when you combined the "Osborne Effect" and "Ratner Effect" in a single speech, which he coined the "Elop Effect" after the Microsoft dude who became CEO of Nokia. Elop simultaneously said that a) Nokia's old phones were crap and b) The new Nokia Windows phones will be great but they are years off and that hurt Nokia's business at the worst possible time, right as the iPhone and Android were ascending.



249.

RacerX February 10, 2022 at 2:18 pm

499 bottles of beer on the wall.



250.

RacerX February 10, 2022 at 2:18 pm

500 bottles of beer on the wall!



251.

R2-D2 February 10, 2022 at 2:26 pm

Computers are unreliable, but humans are even more unreliable. Any system which depends on human reliability is unreliable.
— Gilb



252.

trashtalk February 10, 2022 at 6:04 pm

@Jeremy

Yes you discovered the Ratner effect. As for Elop that is the first thing which jumped into my mind when the NVidia takeover of ARM fell through and they appointed an ex NVidia executive as their CEO. NVidia have also bragged they will get as much or more out of an ongoing partnership with ARM than if the merger had gone through. Trademark American bragging or something else?

Some of ARM's board members look a bit dodgy. They seem more like an American company with shady links more than a UK company. I don't trust NVidia one little bit as NVidia especially are all about marketing and sometimes very unpleasant and marketing techniques at that. Then there is the planned listing on NASDAQ? NASDAQ??????? That's corporate responsibility gone!

Softbank seem to have a lot of dirty money behind them.

I never trust organisations as they often have egos, agendas, careerism, working to the paycheque, and fiscal conservatism in their makeup especially in this day and age.



253.

trashtalk February 11, 2022 at 6:12 pm

Caress-a Dick just resigned!



254.

trashtalk February 12, 2022 at 6:38 am

So Forbes is a platform for scams, grift, and bad journalism? Binance, the worlds largest cryptocurrency exchange, is making an investment in Forbes making them one of the top two owners of Forbes. What are the chances of Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) being back in a job again? That kind of dodgy operation seems right up his street!



255.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 12, 2022 at 1:35 pm

The crypto "exchanges" are the only ones consistently making money from the whole grift, because they can charge people huge fees for any kind of transaction. Also, they can just "create" more crypto out of thin air and call them "stablecoins" and then pretend they are actually backed up by real money. Much like the [wildcat banks](#) did in the worst era of capitalism, they can print their own money.

But heavy regulation and penalties are in the air, so that's why they are putting money into public relations. Buying a chunk of Forbes is no doubt to try and get positive news coverage of crypto in mainstream media. I think this effort will fail, however, because people are figuring out the scam. The Line Goes Up video just passed 5 million views. You can feel the desperation whenever cryptobros post online and get smacked down immediately. I think it's just a matter of time before the whole house of cards falls apart.

Cringely won't play any part in this. He did buy a hardware miner at one point, but those were for suckers—the companies that made them used them until they were no longer economically viable, then sold the nearly worn-out devices to rubes who ended up spending more on electricity than they ever earned in crypto. He's too old to be a cryptobro— he doesn't speak their language.

Crypto's whole purpose was libertarian bullshit, but the stated goal was to bypass the "evil" banking industry. There is no small amount of irony in the fact that the only people to actually make money in crypto were the ones who invented these "exchanges", which are really banks.



256.

trashtalk February 12, 2022 at 5:14 pm

Cryptocurrencies, so called "freedom convoys", and the Nordic model among other things are the products of mental cases. They are polluting the collective unconscious.



257.

granville February 13, 2022 at 1:06 am

I keep stumbling across fascinating little things that seem lost to history.

Apparently Adam Osborne was still a publisher at heart. This is a real magazine that he made during Osborne Computer Corp's brief reign:

<https://i.imgur.com/lBkw8Vg.png>

I wish there was a place where stuff like this was at least a little more constant than the comment of a blog likely to be shuttered or abandoned soon. Most subreddits about retro tech are concerned more with keeping the machines running (and more power to them) than stories about, idk, the Mujahedin posing for a publicity photo with an Osborne-1.



Gnarfle February 13, 2022 at 3:17 am

Which one is Osama?



Roger Sinasohn February 16, 2022 at 2:55 pm

I remember that magazine! I might even have an issue or two around somewhere.



258. **trashtalk** February 13, 2022 at 1:49 am

I forgot to mention when I was at school I bought one of Osborne's books. How to be a detective, or something like that! I had even bought a fingerprint kit with a magnifying glass!

A Reddit might be okay but I'd want something creative and loose. It needs a life of its own otherwise it will just die. You need to cover culture and see things from a wider perspective. The thought of being stuck on a Reddit with old farts reliving their glory days bore me to tears. Most conversations I have with men tend to be with their tongue down my throat and their hand up my skirt. I do like something intellectually alive and arty. Zany. Something different. Men are clueless with soft topics like fashion or gardening. It's all in the tone really isn't it?

You have to laugh at that magazine cover. They all look like 1970's porn stars.



259. **Gnarfle** February 13, 2022 at 3:16 am

"The thought of being stuck on a Reddit with old farts reliving their glory days bore me to tears."

A little too on the nose, dear. A little too on the nose.



260. **trashtalk** February 13, 2022 at 9:55 am

"Zen Mind, Beginners Mind" is a bit heavy but I feel people need to learn new things and drop old things without throwing the baby out with the bathwater. It's also about building narratives. It's easy to knock narrative building down or get stuck in the same rut. Not everything that glitters is gold and not everything new is good or better but you need to strike a balance.

I find money interesting. Money is an opportunity enabler and an opportunity accelerator. The dark side of money is it can facilitate arrogance and out of touch head in sand attitudes. It's also interesting that a lack of money can encourage a healthy reappraisal, or inventiveness and creativity.

The financial crash (followed by Brexit) followed by a pandemic followed by a cost of living crisis has been really hard on sex workers. We are after all a luxury item and clients have likely done things like rediscover they have a wife or lost the habit or are too depressed or anxious to indulge. This is made worse by policies pandering to the 1% and marginal voters which encourage economic contraction and a loss of liquidity and positive feelings for the future. Interestingly after seeing a sex workers men's productivity improves by 20%. That doesn't have to be simply work as it is more of an across the board thing. That 20% is pretty significant and it opens the door to feeling happier and less stressed which leads to all the positives compounding. In a sense a good sex worker is also a good therapist and lifestyle coach and our rates are surprisingly equivalent and you may even get more out of it. If you're just turning up for a shag you're missing out on a lot.

Well, that's the theory...



261. **Jeremy Reimer** February 13, 2022 at 12:26 pm

@granville: "I wish there was a place where stuff like this was at least a little more constant than the comment of a blog likely to be shuttered or abandoned soon. Most subreddits about retro tech are concerned more with keeping the machines running (and more power to them) than stories about, idk, the Mujahedin posing for a publicity photo with an Osborne-1."

Yeah, I agree. There are tons of really interesting stories about the early days of personal computing, but there isn't a good place to collect them. There's folklore.org, but that's only about Apple.

I'd love to see a similar site that covers the whole industry, from the Altair to Windows 95 (you'd have to pick a stopping point, and that seems as good as any). And maybe a second site that covers the birth and growth of the Internet, maybe ending in 2000 (just so we can exclude Facebook)

Wikipedia itself has a lot of good articles, but there really isn't a whole storyline or anything tying it all together.



o [Roger Sinasohn](#) February 16, 2022 at 2:58 pm

"I wish there was a place where stuff like this was at least a little more constant than the comment of a blog likely to be shuttered or abandoned soon."

Me too. I wish I had the time and energy (and skill) to collect and archive them. I can offer a place to host them if someone wants to take on such a project.



262. [trashtalk](#) February 13, 2022 at 1:01 pm

I prefer social interest stories, and culture, and art and design. Technology is done to death and not actually that interesting. It's the human condition and histories which surround it which is interesting. For example vibrators are good and all but bring very little to the party in themselves. It's the same with sex. Men are very visual and subjectively intensely excited and mechanical, and only half the story.

You also forget the dominant narrative is American and for a lot of reasons but there are a lot of other different perspectives and stories out there. Moving forward America doesn't own tech. There's Europe, not to mention the big baddies Russia and China as well as a lot of other players who rarely get attention.

An old friend is running a successful channel using my formula because he understands narrative and balance. We're a similar age and have similar ideas so this isn't unexpected. Texture, tone, and balance matter. Another thing he gets which tech sites often don't is the end user perspective. Not to consider the average person is to disenfranchise people and write them out of history. Unless you connect with this you're always going to be an inward and backward looking silo. Who needs another one of those?

Sigh. Nobody listens until they do...



263. [Jeremy Reimer](#) February 13, 2022 at 8:42 pm

Quote: "I prefer social interest stories, and culture, and art and design. Technology is done to death and not actually that interesting."

I mean, that's great and all, but Cringely's blog is a strange place to come for those topics.



264. [trashtalk](#) February 13, 2022 at 9:55 pm

Personal biases. What I'm saying isn't wrong. In fact there was a media article some months ago (maybe last year) about this exact subject. People think they're yacking about technology stuff and it's oh so super interesting but in practice majority of what they talk about is all the fluff I mentioned. Technology unless you're a professional or fanboi or similar is a bit on the linear and monochromatic side and as much fun as reading a dictionary. I know men get off on it but you really don't because you're getting off on how men interact. Not only that I have eclectic interests and have read relatively widely so I get bored easily with something which in all honesty could be wrapped up in one paragraph but for the fist bumping and backslapping.

Sex isn't too different. If it's just a bump and grind hormone dump it's boring and believe me I've seen enough men locked and loaded between my legs pumping away while thinking "Hurry up and finish" to know.

Reading Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) stuff he could wrap his blogs in three sentences. The rest is padding and armwaving and narcissistic boosterism and whining.

Honestly it doesn't take much to expand your horizons a touch. It's not like something is going to snap.



265.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 14, 2022 at 10:40 am

trashtalk, I don't disagree with the broad strokes of what you are saying. Technology by itself is less interesting than the human story of why and how we invent and use technology, and how it affects society.

But I guess I'm still confused about why you hang out here, specifically, if you have little to no interest in technology stories in general and Cringely in particular.

Not that you need a reason to be here—it's Cringely's blog, and he purposely doesn't moderate it (except for random words, apparently). But with a little over a month to go before this comment thread closes, aren't you at least thinking about where you would post next, and why?



266.

trashtalk February 14, 2022 at 9:20 pm

I was on cam doing a group chat this week and one man asking too many questions so I put him right on that. Ladies are mysterious for a reason. As for Plan B there's also a Plan C and Plan D, and plan DD. They may happen one after another, all at the same time, some may be in hand, or never. I may just go for Plan FF. (European measurements and time and other factors depending, excuse my sense of humour.) Yes I'm being bit silly but I don't owe any deadbeat a franchise. The spark is there or it's not. In spite of my job as a sex worker I don't have any particular interest in sex believe it or not. It all depends on who it is with and when and why and lots of other things. There's no answers to some questions as the more you seek the less you find.

Moving on! As for Joe Rogan and his ilk Louis Theroux is back with another of his trademark gawp at nutjobs series. Myself I feel Louis has always been somewhat exploitative. I also feel this series especially in the current climate ill judged. I'm glad he is being criticised in some quarters as he seems for concerned about the sideshow than its victims. In fact I felt Louis column the other day which explained his justifications for the show was very well written and plausible sounding on the surface but quite manipulative and in essence a con. I feel the same way about some politicians and interests like tech companies.



267.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 15, 2022 at 6:57 pm

Okay. Well, apropos of nothing, I wrote an article titled [Why the Metaverse will never happen \(it's not the technology\)](#).



o

granville February 15, 2022 at 9:01 pm

I haven't put very much thought into the Metaverse (even saying it feels like I should be charging Zuckerberg \$0.05 per mention for helping advance his meme). Mainly it's because I cannot imagine ever using it. I think most people won't ever use it or have any reason to. It's like designing a town square with a hundred individual shops in the middle of an unpopulated desert, and counting on the great selection of shoes to draw people in.

Think back for a second to the early notion of "cyberspace." Even if you had nothing to do with tech or interest in computers, some nerd could bludgeon you with a dozen things that you already do, but cyberspace would make easier or more efficient. You like to read? Imagine an e-book. You have stocks? Imagine getting quotes in real time vs. waiting to look them up in tomorrow morning's paper. Weather? You don't have to wait for the evening news on TV for that. Email in place of letters. Chat in place of phone calls. Naïve techno-utopianism aside, there were a hundred potential things everyone does, but which a universal internet would improve in terms of time or convenience.

What currently existing experience does a Metaverse improve? It would create a larger market for influencers, and twitch streamers, and makers of digital goods. Pretty small use case here. It's not like we can't imagine what it would do. It

would make remote meetings better? Thanks but I'm okay with a webcam and zoom rectangles. There's not one thing that would be improved by looking at a Pixar version of the side of my remote co-worker's head.

The other point, already alluded to, is that it's a cultural wasteland. Rather than making something cool and figure out the monetization later, it's a bunch of slimy salesmen with a bunch of slimy "virtual products" to sell who are building a world because they need a market for it. And there's big money behind setting up this prefab ghost town, because we're passing from one long era of social media into the next and they don't know what it is other than "private chats," which are only marginally monetizable with ads. Like Adam Curtis said, the internet is largely controlled by 4 or 5 companies that don't do anything other than produce largely ineffective online advertising, trick people into creating their data and content and sit on giant piles of cash to throw at any upstart that might threaten their power. Was fashionable to make fun of Yahoo for a long time, but they're all essentially gigantic scaled Yahoos now.

Now let's press send and see if Web 2.0 still works too.



■ [Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 10:42 am

Agreed on all points (and your points probably should have been Problems Six and Seven in my article)

People flock to games and experiences because they are fun. John Carmack even said in public that it was dumb for Facebook to try and build a whole Metaverse first, instead of a more focused product. He pointed out that when he made Quake, the starting point was to make a fun game, and the results of that effort created online multiplayer support over the Internet, which led to widespread Quake servers, which led to the creation of gaming clans and the whole esports industry. It grew naturally out of things people enjoyed doing.

Zuckerberg's idea is to build some huge bland corporate monstrosity, a massive virtual mall where every store is designed, owned, and operated by the person who built the mall. And yeah, nobody wants or needs this.

Anyway, I will be delighted to watch the whole effort fail.



268.

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 2:27 am

I recall some of the predictions of what the World Wide Web promised. Oh, well.
As an exercise for the reader, look up some of the predictions of what TELEVISION promised.
Then, read it, replacing the word TELEVISION, with the word INTERNET.
Disturbing, isn't it?



○

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 10:44 am

IIRC, the promise of television was the spread of education and useful information around the world. What we got instead was "reality" programming.



269.

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 2:29 am

Ever hear of Jerry Lawson?
<https://www.fastcompany.com/3040889/the-untold-story-of-the-invention-of-the-game-cartridge>



○

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 10:51 am

I have! The Netflix documentary High Score did a piece on Jerry Lawson and the forgotten Channel F, which was the first microprocessor-based game console in history (The earlier Magnavox Odyssey had "cards" that you slotted in to play different games, but all those did was slightly modify the circuitry pathways on the main console to tweak how Pong played, which was all that the Odyssey could really do)

The Channel F was made by Fairchild, the first of the silicon chip companies to emerge out of the exodus from Shockley Semiconductor. Intel was the second.



■ **Jeremy Reimer** February 16, 2022 at 11:47 am

Er, I meant to write "first microprocessor-based game console *that used game cartridges*". It's hard to say that anything is "the first" in the tech industry. Even asking what the [first video game](#) was is complicated and probably unanswerable.



■ **Mr. Bear** February 17, 2022 at 10:10 am

Didn't Intel come out of Fairchild? As in...some engineers got tired of Shockley, so they started Fairchild, and 8-10 years later, some Fairchild engineers got tired, so they started Intel? (Tired = they had new ideas that management wasn't interested in developing)



■ **Jeremy Reimer** February 17, 2022 at 10:34 am

I think that's correct. Gordon Moore talked (in Triumph of the Nerds, so actually on-topic!) about how he and other engineers who started Intel felt that since they had all the knowledge that they should be in charge of the company, and not the suits. It was a real California thing, but Intel certainly proved that the strategy could be a winner.

There's a book called The Dream Machine by M. Mitchell Waldrop that is the best history of the digital revolution I've ever read. I only found out about it because Bill Joy, of all people, said it was his favorite on a thread in Hacker News. It gets into the whole Shockley and Fairchild story as well.



■ **Mr. Bear** February 22, 2022 at 8:55 am

I'll have to check that out. I love books about the early computer era (I define that, somewhat arbitrarily, as ending around 1990)



270.

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 2:32 am

Discuss!

<https://www.npr.org/2022/02/10/1079406041/researcher-says-rethink-prek-preschool-prekindergarten>



○

Roger Sinasohn February 16, 2022 at 3:17 pm

Interesting stuff but not unexpected, I think. At that age, family wealth does not make for significant differences in kids — certainly none that warrant different teaching types. What does make a difference is that they are not the same as their older brethren.

My oldest went to a very play-based preschool. I remember being there one day and watching him pour water from a pitcher onto some plates, bowls, and cups and thinking "this is good because he'll need to know how to pour a cup of coffee someday." Someone told me once that the reason a kid in a high chair will repeatedly drop their toy on the floor is because they're basically testing the reliability of gravity. "It fell the last 4 times, will it fall this time? Is there something I can do to make it not fall?"

Circling back to the computer discussion, back when schools were first starting to get computers, I argued that the GUI-based computers (generally the more advanced machines in the PC world) should go to the younger kids while the

older kids got the text-based, older computers. This was because kids that can't read can't do much with a text-based computer but can get a lot out of one that shows pictures. Meanwhile, older kids can use a DOS-based computer with PC-Write for writing and Lotus 1-2-3 or Visicalc for playing with numbers.



271.

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 3:44 am

P.J. O'Rourke is dead.



o

Michael February 16, 2022 at 10:43 am

That's a shame. I enjoyed his early books but he hadn't written anything for a while.



272.

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 9:41 am

Hey! Reimer?

Jda see this?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/magazine/interactive/2022/dna-testing-bryntwick-siblings/>



o

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 9:42 am

Soorry about that.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/magazine/interactive/2022/dna-testing-bryntwick-siblings/>



■

Jeremy Reimer February 16, 2022 at 10:47 am

That's a long article! It seems like the point is that some long-lost Jewish relatives found each other across space and time thanks to DNA testing? That's cool.



■

Gnarfle February 16, 2022 at 3:52 pm

I was weirded out by the fact that it wasn't illegal to sell babies in the 1950s in Canada.



■

Jeremy Reimer February 16, 2022 at 8:05 pm

That is weird, but then again so were the 1950s.



273.

trashtalk February 16, 2022 at 10:27 am

Finally some content worth browsing. Yes, I feel this metaverse thing is a load of nonsense and just a marketing wheeze. Ooh, look. Squirrels!

The two faced double dealing and social climbing and self-serving former politician Nick Clegg has just been promoted to President of Facebook. He is a slimy toad. I told people not to trust him and got a lot of pushback for that with the he's being genuine and going out into the real world and meeting students and ordinary people. Oh, please. His tour was stage managed

and he was selling them one as people discovered after the election.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 10:56 am

This sounds like Zuckerberg is panicking about the EU preparing to corral Facebook's horrifying promotion of false and dangerous news stories. He had previously threatened to pull Facebook out of the EU because of this, and they immediately called his bluff, saying "good, we'll all live happier lives" or something to that effect. Then he backed down and tried to claim that he had never threatened to leave the EU at all. Pathetic, really.



274.

trashtalk February 16, 2022 at 10:28 am

There's me saying I'm not that interested in sex. Hah. I soon changed my mind after a top client phoned. Sorry but I do like being cocked by fit and charming men who ply me with cash. What was I thinking? Didn't like Sex?? Pfff. The thought!

(Stupid word filter.)



275.

Questionable_PhD February 16, 2022 at 10:54 am

If I'm reading my browser internals correctly, Cringe [or his web-steward] recently swapped out this site's (commercial?) TLS certificate — it had expired, sometime early this year or early last, causing Chrome brief difficulties, and is now being fronted by a cyclical ~90-day LetsEncrypt self-attestation.

Hard to know what this means. First interpretation is that he [and/or steward] is transitioning to a "cheaper" hosting service, or is making associated personnel changes behind-the-scenes. Second read is that "something is in the works," like a new Cringely portal, or a Cringely-as-VC-advisor rebrand, or what have you. Third pessimistic alternative is that some author life-change truly has happened, like real blindness, or cardiac incident, or throw-up-hands-in-frustration, etc.

I mention the change only because of its coincidence with 150-day wordlessness. Others have previously pointed out the trickle of Cringely Quora content, which continues as of late last night.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 10:58 am

Interesting. To be fair, swapping out an older certificate for Let's Encrypt is something that everyone should have done a long time ago, because a) it's free, versus the old certs that were expensive, b) it's super easy to install on any site (even I managed to do it on my own site) and c) it auto-renews itself, saving you the embarrassment of having your site go down or having Chrome flag it as untrustworthy, just because you forgot



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 16, 2022 at 11:04 am

I'm pretty certain that Cringely doesn't have the technical chops to do this, so it might be simply something Web Lamb (the consulting company that built this broken-down custom WordPress site in the first place) is doing globally with all their sites to save money. I run several sites off of a single server, and I was able to make certs work for all of them with one install of Let's Encrypt.



276.

trashtalk February 16, 2022 at 12:00 pm

Christ on a bike I thought I got scrutinsed! Whenever I have done cam in the past the things men observe and the way their focus of attention wanders closer and closer to the honeypot. Yes, I have teased it a bit and made a few cocks ache in the past so they have to finish before it drops off. I remember one man who just wanted an easy chat and so I flirted. That was a laugh. He developed a boner and had to finish himself off or he wouldn't have been able to get to sleep. "You little minx", I think were

his words.

I forgot SSL certificates existed. It's funny thinking back how big a topic they were once. Speaking of which thank God we have moved on from seamed stockings. They are a pain.

277. [My Homepage](#) February 16, 2022 at 12:17 pm

... [\[Trackback\]](#)

[...] Read More here: cringely.com/2021/09/10/bobs-9-11-post-from-20-years-ago-to-a-man-with-a-hammer/ [...]



278.

Gnarfle February 17, 2022 at 3:26 am

Do I hear 550? 550?



279.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 17, 2022 at 9:30 am

We can do it! 550 or bust!

So just because I was bored, I checked Web Lamb's main website (it's a single click from Cringely's front page) and it's... interesting. They are apparently a custom website and branding firm with two employees, Jenny and a software developer. There's a list of their clients, which includes Cringely's site.

The client list is... not what you would show if you wanted to just show your best, top clients. Lots of the sites are kind of... well, they aren't *bad*, necessarily, but some of them have weird bugs in them or just look a little.. off. Not that I'm some master of web design or anything, but sometimes you just get a kind of a feel of things, right? Like in one site, the front page has no content, but you can still scroll down a significant way through pages of nothing before you hit the footer. None of these companies are anyone you've ever heard of, with the exception of Cringely. Some of the companies listed no longer exist, and the "View Live" button just goes to a parked web page showing the domain for sale.

Anyway, none of this matters much, but getting back to the issue @Questionable_PhD raised about the SSL certs— most of these sites have the older, expensive certs that expire in 2023. This doesn't actually tell us anything, but maybe Cringely's cert expired a year earlier and so he was the first one to get migrated to Let's Encrypt. I'm assuming that in each case, the customer paid for the certs and the renewals.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 17, 2022 at 10:24 am

Okay, I must have reached near-epic levels of boredom, because I went through the whole client list and just opened up each site in a new tab and checked their certificates. Please, somebody help me.

There are 13 sites that have a "View Live" button. Two of these are dead sites (one won't connect, the other a parked domain). Three of them have certs by Let's Encrypt, including Cringely. The rest have commercial certs from various different companies. I'm guessing they are all hosted by different companies, since some sites take forever to load and some load more quickly, and one site has a cert from GoDaddy. The commercial certs all expire in mid-2022 or early 2023. Two sites have no SSL at all.

My best guess is that Web Lamb's clients are either renewing their certs as they expire if they can afford it, or opting to switch to Let's Encrypt if they can't. But this action does mean that Cringely intends to keep his site up for awhile.

In other boring news, the previous post (the book review) just closed for new comments, having hit the six-month window three days earlier than expected (it was posted Aug 20, 2021)



■ **Ron1** February 18, 2022 at 4:56 am

It's 184 days from Aug 20 to Feb 20. It seems the comments limit is 180 days, not 6 months.

Looks like Mark/Bob is not going to revive this site, just keep it barely alive with a few posts per year as honeypot for the "real" content (=our comments).

He also missed Sir Clive's death on Sep 16. The old Cringely would've written an article boasting how he was the one who said something like "Clive old boy, don't call it ZX82, it's boring. It has colors, so call it Rainbow or something. Or Spectrum. Yes, Spectrum! Sinclair ZX Spectrum, that's it!"
He was living in UK at one point in his youth, wasn't he?



Jeremy Reimer February 18, 2022 at 11:53 am

Yes, Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) did some sort of student exchange program in the UK, where he was given free flying lessons. I think it got him some connections as well, because Triumph of the Nerds was a co-production between Channel 4 in the UK and Oregon Public Broadcasting (PBS) in the US. John Gau was the producer and he was from the UK as well.



Dr John February 21, 2022 at 3:43 am

Channel 4 in the UK would work with US and other TV broadcasters to product programs.

The BBC does this too, and with Canadian broadcasters as well. Especially for the natural history programs.

It's not unusual, which probably also helped Triumph of the Nerds get made. Plus it was a good story at the right time to be told.



280. **Gnarfle** February 18, 2022 at 3:18 am

575? Do I hear 575? Anyone? Anyone? 575?



281. **trashtalk** February 18, 2022 at 5:23 am

Clive Sinclair had a reputation for his parties which could border on orgies, and playing poker, and at one point married an ex lap dancer and former Miss Europe contestant.

I'm feeling a bit cranky at the moment. This pandemic and economic squeeze is really effecting sex work. You'd think men had forgotten what it's for.



282. **Jeremy Reimer** February 18, 2022 at 11:55 am

@Ron1 Quote: "It's 184 days from Aug 20 to Feb 20. It seems the comments limit is 180 days, not 6 months."

That would make the cut-off point for this post March 9, 2022. Mark your calendars!



283. **trashtalk** February 19, 2022 at 11:39 am

I just read a BLT comment today. "In the old days they used to say 'sex sells'. Now it's hate, disinformation, and violent 'free speech'." That does seem to be true.

I have some sympathy for men. I'm in favour of women's rights but the puritanical feminism from some quarters? I'm not sure I need the despair and conflict from either side or complacent "both side-ism" or politicians who live reactively from one

soundbite to the next. Nor am I in favour of feral grasping women who fluff the egos of wealthy men while facilitating their reputation management and sweating their staff.

Expectations and reality can be very different things.



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 19, 2022 at 2:37 pm

[BLT?](#)



▪

Gnarfle February 19, 2022 at 3:15 pm

Bruce, Lordan and Trower

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B.L.T._\(album\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B.L.T._(album))



284.

trashtalk February 19, 2022 at 4:21 pm

Oops. I meant BTL (Below The Line).

It's amazing how self-reinforcing narratives can take hold as people gleefully circle the drain. Once critical mass occurs I've rarely seen people pull back until they get their fingers burned and even then not always. I know I make my money off rash decisions and lust but I'd rather not have to.

I watched a video by a woman yesterday who is a television presenter and also has her own Youtube lifestyle channel. Oh wow did she hem and haw and dance around the point but she had something to say about disclosure and the tension between public and private and you can't please all people all the time. She didn't really say anything in that entire half an hour but I know what she meant. Her engagement and networking skills compared to Mark Stephens (aka Cringely)? She's off the dial.

Facebook has the figleaf shyster Nick Clegg. Then there's YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki and news of her campaign to clean up social media. Interesting contrast.



285.

barywhite February 21, 2022 at 12:25 am

Where is Bob?



o

Gnarfle February 22, 2022 at 3:07 am

Yeah! What about Bob?



286.

[Viktoria Werneburg](#) February 21, 2022 at 3:34 am

Absolutely great reading. Nothing to add here!



o

Dr John February 21, 2022 at 3:45 am

Please add something!

Such as why your name links to a German porn site?



287.

trashtalk February 21, 2022 at 11:01 am

@Dr John

I suspect your comments on UK media procurement are closer to the truth than Mark Stephens or John Gau having establishment connections. The establishment aren't really media or industry types unless parachuted in at the top and even then are somewhere between indifferent and stand-offish. Producers are ten a penny.

One of my clients I ditched was a producer. I felt he was unpleasant and have no idea how he got the job. I think he was a short angry man who got off on the power and was insulting and a misogynist. He was one of those idiots who had huge sexual fantasies blowing up in his mind and was impatient and wanted sex too badly without knowing what he wanted as he was one of those who kept changing his kind every five seconds in bed. Clients like him are difficult so I never see them again.

Don't bother responding to the spam links. They are bots.



o

Dr John February 22, 2022 at 5:31 am

Always best to avoid lifetime sufferers of Napoleon Syndrome.

I would say that the collaboration between UK and US / Canadian TV networks allows the BBC and others to produce higher quality content. But then Dr Who recently disproved that theory!

That's where the BBC falls down. If it were entirely commercial it would have quickly acted to fix the problems with the show, and not done the damage they did. Instead they decided to run a social experiment, and it failed. Failed with no consequences to those responsible for that failure.



288.

Jeremy Reimer February 22, 2022 at 12:15 pm

Okay, the countdown for this thread being closed forever is now 16 days.

I have an informal poll I want to conduct before this happens. Some of us (higher in the comments) have expressed a desire to have some kind of place for early personal computer history (1975-1995 ish) to be preserved and discussed.

If such a thing existed (and I'm not promising to build it at the moment), what would you prefer it to be:

- a) A blog (like the Digital Antiquarian) that goes through the years sequentially and tells stories with comments
- b) A wiki (like folklore.org) that stores a bunch of stories that you can browse through in any order
- c) Some kind of custom design where you can scroll through each year, with graphics, and comments
- d) A series of video blogs, maybe collected together in one website

Please reply to this specific post. I'd like to see what people's opinions are,.



o

granville February 22, 2022 at 6:14 pm

A blog would be cool. A subreddit would be cool. A blog and a subreddit would be cool. I'd help wherever it could be useful.



o

wwwpirate February 22, 2022 at 6:20 pm

I will vote a blog sorted in chronological order 1975, 1976 etc. with comments below but newest comment first so I don't need to scroll all the way to the bottom of the page — you expect to see newest one first any way because you had seen

previous ones before.

Comments always add additional value but topics must be moderated otherwise it goes in wrong direction.

Just my 2 cent but whatever majority wants.



Dr John February 23, 2022 at 8:34 am

The difficulty is how many branches and offshoots that you could go down following the stories of each company and what happened.

I've read the story of Apple many times, and it's impressive. Cringley filled in the blanks with how the PC came to dominate. But then in the UK you've got Acorn, and to do a story on the history of computing now you'd need to cover Acorn because they came up with the ARM processor. You'd need to cover how the ARM processor was originally a desktop processor, but it's low power found its way in to mobile phones.

And if you go down that route, 1995 isn't a place you can stop because that ARM process has gone full circle and with Apple became a desktop processor again. Or you could even say with Raspberry Pi and other similar boards it did that even earlier.

That's only two companies. You'd also have to add in UNIX workstations and servers to that story today. Why? Because without them we probably wouldn't have got the Internet so quickly. They were doing the heavy lifting and becoming web servers which allowed the likes of PC to connect to them. But again, here's where Job's story is intertwined with history. His company NeXT made the computer that Sir Tim Berners-Lee was given and given free rein to come up with some ideas. Through the easier programming methods he created a browser and server built upon a mark-up language. That is was 1990, within your time frame.

To do it justice you'd need a massive encyclopaedia linking back and forward both with timelines and companies. A Wiki type is probably the best for that, but you also need articles telling stories. It's actually what Bob was good at – turning all of this in to nice stories.



Michael Light February 23, 2022 at 8:57 am

A wiki would probably be best. You have so many story threads with the history of computing.



Mr. Bear February 23, 2022 at 9:23 am

I like the blog or subreddit ideas



289.

trashtalk February 22, 2022 at 3:32 pm

The BBC has its failings. One of those failings is the Doctor Who franchise has been managed very badly over the years. I have no objection to progressive content but after Moffat got to clever for his own good then Chibnall ran the show into the ground I stopped watching it after Chibnall's first episode. By then the hype for unremarkable actors and unremarkable scripts was too much. It was dire and I don't like my intelligence being insulted. The alt-right made hay out of it but they're scum whatever. I rarely watch any UK television output now. I just find it unexciting and complacent. Since Thatcher deregulated the television industry went down the tubes. Everything consolidated. Innovative shows slowly disappeared. Nobody is spending money on anything good and I don't think right wing establishment propaganda shows like Downtown Abbey count. Yes I know there are a few more action orientated shows usually involving cops getting high ratings but I'm now so disenchanted with this country I can't watch them. American stuff by and large isn't that much good either now. There's the odd Canadian co-production but they tend to go up their own backside after a few series or get cancelled.

As for Jeremy wanting a place for earlier computing history to be discussed I think that's really his idea. I'm not at all interested in this myself. In fact I've been spending more time with other things and hanging out with more sex workers online. It's just more relevant to my life and I find the discussions more interesting and relaxing. Sometimes someone organises a lunch. That's sex workers only. No clients. Secret date and location, obviously.

I need to do my website sometime which may or may not happen. I'm not putting too much work into it. I deleted all my blogs

as I want to write new and different content. Men are never that interested in the content. It's either therapeutic fluffy girly stuff men can never remember and usually women writing for themselves or other women in the industry if truth be told, or something semi-erotic to tease a client over the edge to book.

I guess I'm just happier doing the things I want to do.



Dr John February 23, 2022 at 8:40 am

As a friend of a friend of Moffat, and my friend does some work for Dr Who audio books, I have to defend him! Some of his stories were superb.

Alas, with Capaldi they started off badly with him and Clara seemingly going through a messy divorce. There were some superb stories though, but they should have quickly drawn a line under him and her's change in relationship.

But Jodie's Dr has been terrible and I manage to stick around for the whole of the first season, painful as it was being lectured and preached to. It was awful.

A lot of people like to blame Thatcher for a lot in the UK. In reality she killed off industries which were already dead but many previous governments had failed to deal with. The got a lot of inward investment where placed like Scotland had it's own "Silicon Glen", which later government happily watch those very companies leave again. And worse, still blaming her for events today when she left office over 30 years go.



290. [Franziska Wohlfahrt](#) February 23, 2022 at 1:04 am

Love this article, well written. I enjoyed reading it.



291. **Gnarfle** February 23, 2022 at 5:11 am

What about Bob?

I feel good.

I feel great.

I feel wonderful.



292. **trashtalk** February 23, 2022 at 4:56 pm

@Dr John

Reform was needed but what kind of reform is another question. Thatcher opened the door to a lot of stupidity. I'm not that nationalistic but the lack of robust policy development at the top under a UK government which has been majority Tory for most of the last century hasn't been great and it has got markedly and very obviously worse.

As for computing you forget Apricot and Meiko. Apricot suffered from a government turning a blind eye to weak legacy establishment business management and financial engineering and outsourcing abroad. A tone point Apricot's R&D spend was higher than Apple's. Apricot designed and built everything in house but ultimately could not compete with (subsidised) Far East board manufacturers who were getting fat off American outsourcing. The Americans of course can never be trusted and lack of government support and procurement sent the transputer supercomputer manufacturer Meiko down the drain. Then there are all the other fundamentally very good companies gutted and asset stripped and sold off and taken over while city slickers filled their pockets and government blamed everyone else especially the poor and anyone with vision and social values for their own failings.

A fair few of the most sought after designers by Far East manufacturers are British. You would think they could train their own students and they do. The thing is "getting" design is much more difficult and is much cultural and developmental as anything else. That is very hard to replicate. Not that it is stopping the current government from trying to destroy the arts and humanities and rebuild the entire country in their own cruel and narrow minded sterile and toxic self-image.

Nearly a decade ago I said the UK was corrupt and running on empty. Oh, how I hate being right.

Not that clients care. They just want to fuck me.



o

Michael Howard Light February 23, 2022 at 5:49 pm

You mentioned British designers, Jonathan Ive at Apple is British isn't he? Are there other technology designers like him?



o

Dr John February 24, 2022 at 6:17 am

Apricot I did know of, but by the time I got in to PCs they were effectively gone. Although my first was an Olivette, my second was a "Diamond Computers" one which was too unreliable and after that I built my own from parts. Right up until I when bought an xBox for my gaming, and even got my picture on the xBox's website on launch! After that a combination of Thinkpads and Thinkcentres, taking advantage of friends who could get the IBM discounts initially. Still use and prefer Lenovo products, but I also buy Apple now too.

Meiko and Transputers? We had to program Transputers using OCCAM at university, and the lecturer was very much in favour of these processors. I could already see them as a dead end, but I loved the OCCAM language. That you could wrap up sub-tasks and have them processed in parallel with your code was superb. It was also you deciding what could be run concurrently and not having to rely upon threading or something else. Outside of a few simple programs, the programming environment wasn't really able to do much more.

Transputing needed a lot more investment and it wasn't ever going to get that.

Frustratingly, even though I praised the ARM processor at the time, the lecturers weren't interested. Look at it now – it's everywhere! Even then it was faster than those Transputers.



293.

trashtalk February 23, 2022 at 6:52 pm

@MHL

Yes but Ive is a dork. Most of the demand seems to be from South Korean phone manufacturers. Some Chinese have tried to brand their tat with British orientated advertising but you can tell looking at their products the design base is completely different. In some respects good design versus bad design like a good movie versus a bad movie a bad movie can help you appreciate how good a good movie is. I like good industrial design. It's a thing of beauty. Apple? I can't get excited.

(Stupid word filter.)



294.

trashtalk February 23, 2022 at 6:53 pm

I'm more into jewellery and shoe and clothes design and there is some very good stuff out there. Some movie wardrobe people have a good eye for it and some of the bespoke clothes they do are amazing. There's some silk nightdresses and gowns I really lust after. It's not just the lustre of the material but a couple of design features which turn them from pedestrian to omg wow. It's not stuff you get in the high street. They could do this but the clothing market is demarcated sharply so it's rare you get anything in the high street which has that element of wow factor and when it does its stock duration is normally short. The prices can be high-ish to high end but for something really good you're going to keep it for years. I have a satin blouse and a silk cocktail dress from the 1980's and they are still wearable today and don't gouge your eyes out. I don't wear them often as the high neck satin blouse is a pain to get on and off and I don't want the silk cocktail dress ruined. I wore it when I visited one top client but it was a waste as it was off in under ten minutes and we plonked on his sofa with a glass of wine in ours hands.



295.

trashtalk February 23, 2022 at 6:53 pm

Word filter: s-n-u-g-g-l-e-d.

I had a look at jewellery manufacture and wondered if I could make something off this. The problem is UK industry is appalling bad at fast turnaround low production run manufacturing. I have no idea what is happening in the jewellery space now. Women's bespoke and made to measure clothing and made to measure shoes are a thing now but both are very niche. There's something I can do in this space and I have bought the materials to prototype but I haven't got around to it yet and keep forgetting! It could be the next Sheewee or Mooncup! I'm leaving money on the table!



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 24, 2022 at 9:03 am

That's four words we've confirmed as being part of the word filter now, and they *all* have "gg" in them.

n u g g e t
j u g g l i n g
s n u g g l e d

That's too many to be a coincidence. Perhaps it's some weird pattern-matching regex gone crazy?



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 24, 2022 at 9:46 am

Er, three words. "Kickstarter" was on the list briefly, although it isn't any more. I thought there was a fourth "gg" word but I think I was mistaken.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 24, 2022 at 9:50 am

Okay, I've confirmed that almost any word with "gg" in it will trigger the stupid filter.

I went here: <https://scrabble.merriam.com/words/with/gg> and chose a list of six-letter words, and any random selection from this list triggered the filter. I can't express how profoundly stupid this is.



■

Mr. Bear February 25, 2022 at 8:43 am

Ironically, you used the gg word "trigger" several times 😊



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 25, 2022 at 10:34 am

You're right! That's even weirder. It seems like it's MOST "gg" words (real words but not made up ones) but not ALL of them, for some impossible-to-understand reason.



■

Jam March 3, 2022 at 4:04 am

Looks like it's the u and the gg together that trigger it.



■

granville February 24, 2022 at 12:53 pm

lol this is amazingg

While ago I thought I would start a Cringely Comment Blog, just a new post whenever he makes a post so people can communicate. But he doesn't post much anymore, and I haven't been annoyed by the comment filter recently.



296.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 24, 2022 at 1:44 pm

Okay, enough messing around with word filter nonsense.

Thanks to everyone for adding their thoughts to my survey. It looks like the majority are in favor of a blog with comments, and possibly a sub-Reddit as well. Personally, I'm not sure if the sub-reddit will be necessary if the blog contains its own comment system, and it's possible that it might fragment the discussion if both existed. But I'm willing to think about having both exist at the same time.

One thing that seems certain is that it would be really great to have more of an international feel to the blog instead of focusing on US companies like Apple and Microsoft to the exclusion of all others. The ARM story is one that I feel quite passionate about, and other tales like Apricot, etc, should surely be included. If it's not covering all sorts of countries and companies, especially the obscure and wonderful ones, it's not worth doing. The fact that ARM amazingly is now the basis for a major company's desktop computing line (Apple with their incredible M1 chips, one of which I'm typing on right now) is certainly a large story, but as others have pointed out, if you stop at 1995 you don't get to hear the end of that tale.

So what I'm thinking is (remember: this is just me in the thinking stage, I'm not committing to actually building this right now) is that it would be neat to have "precursor" (pre-1975) and "modern" sections (post-1995) in order to tie these sorts of stories together.

If you viewed it all in order you'd get the precursor stuff at the beginning like an introduction, and the modern stuff at the end like a conclusion.

Anyway thanks again for your help and contributions. If at some point in the future I do decide to build something like this, I'm going to need a lot of help from the community, in order to help gather and collate the content.



o

wwwpirate February 24, 2022 at 4:36 pm

Jeremy please if you do it include edit feature if possible.

If you go by the year you can do it by month like 1995 – march – Apple so if you are interesting in Apple you just look at headline for Apple and scroll down or up for that year.

By the way why nobody is mentioning Commodore and Amiga ? They were famous companies in their heyday.



■

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 24, 2022 at 5:43 pm

Oh, absolutely, the lack of an edit feature on this blog is inexcusable.

As for the Amiga, I'm absolutely [guaranteeing](#) it will be in there. 😊



297.

Gnarfle February 25, 2022 at 10:05 am

Trigger or Silver?



298.

trashtalk February 25, 2022 at 10:52 pm

Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) tried to peddle himself as a financial expert in Russia. You would think this man who claimed to be a journalist in Ireland and Beirut would use his knowledge explain how the corrupt Russian state worked and how to cut it off from the world's financial and trade systems? Russians and Russian money have quietly been all over key start-ups to gain access to technology and influence. As sanctions bite I expect this to end.

This is actually quite a complex and very serious thing and cannot afford a huckster throwing his oar in. I've been listening to real journalists and experts discussing this. According to a former Finnish president sanctions are coming in waves and by the

time they are finished Russia will be fully isolated. Brexit was Russia's greatest foreign policy victory enabled by a Russian money bought and paid for corrupt Tory party but I am a Remainer and my heart is European. My view is we must take the energy supply hit if need be and hold the Russian regime and Putin accountable. The wealth he controls must be used to pay reparations and return Russia to the Russian people so it may become a modern democratic European nation.

.
As for a computer museum:

.
During the Cold War most Soviet computers were DEC and ICL clones as were the home computer knock-offs.

.
France still has a computer manufacturing base.



o

Gnarfle February 26, 2022 at 4:48 am

Funny thing . . .

Back in 2016, I went shopping for a new router. Being easily influenced by Amazon ratings, I bought a Mikrotik. I had purchased a cheap TP-Link and decided I need more OOOMPH!

I was disturbed to discover that Mikrotik was "Russian". Latvia, IIRC.

Suddenly I was no longer interested in it. I couldn't get it to work in any case.

I think I placed it in the electronics waste recycle bin at the local tip.

I think I recall Krebs making a comment on Mikrotik being one of the most easily compromised by Russian hackers. I wonder why.



o

Gnarfle February 26, 2022 at 4:55 am

From June 29, 2015.

Krebs on Security.

"Recently, researchers at the Fujitsu Security Operations Center in Warrington, UK began tracking Upatre being served from hundreds of compromised home routers — particularly routers powered by MikroTik and Ubiquiti's AiROS."



299.

wwwpirate February 26, 2022 at 8:58 am

It seems mainframe business is going to join floppy disk, newspapers and other technology that was so previous century business

https://www.theregister.com/2022/02/25/fujitsu_signposts_the_end_for/

It seems cloud and pcs are giving them early retirement.



300.

Mr. Bear February 26, 2022 at 5:39 pm

This is the 601st post



301.

trashtalk February 26, 2022 at 6:30 pm

The Ukraine situation is being passed to the UN General Assembly. This is a big thing as it is both a litmus test of opinion of the international community and is veto proof.

.
A small sample of news: Intelligence reports indicate some Russian soldiers didn't know they were in Ukraine until the last moment as they had been told they were on an exercise. There are public protests in Red Square. Russian soldiers are confused as the people they are shooting at look just like them. Intelligence services and "open source" intelligence is doing a very good job. I have never seen so many pictures of women and children appearing in media and online in real time with any other war. I have also seen pictures of civilian women weapons training as resistance fighters and old ladies help out with making camouflage netting. I have also watched video of a father and his young daughter showing reporters a scene of the bed she had been sleeping in covered with broken glass from a Russian military strike. A young soldier was interviewed who has only fired 17 shots in his entire life defending a bridge. Yes I know he's an adult man and his pride would be wounded by

my saying this but oh my god's he's just a boy. I cried my eyes out watching this.

Russian military are moving heavy "area denial" weapons into place. These are wide area thermobaric weapons being targeted against a civilian population. If Russian forces use these a line has been crossed and the fate of Putin is sealed. This is a war of choice. Off to the Hague he goes.

Word filter: s-u-g-g-e-s-t.



302.

trashtalk February 26, 2022 at 10:06 pm

Putin has banned use of the words "invasion" and "war" in Russian media.

Oh my God. Putin has dispatched mobile crematoriums to Ukraine to disguise the number of Russian military dead so he doesn't have body bags arriving back in Russia and that would be bad for public opinion. I've seen the pictures. They are not portable pizza ovens!



303.

trashtalk February 26, 2022 at 11:08 pm

I just saw a picture of a Ukrainian woman giving birth in a bunker and her holding her new baby. A new life begins!



304.

Gnarfle February 27, 2022 at 4:57 am

620? 625? 630?



o

Mr. Bear February 27, 2022 at 10:20 am

Gnarled, that was 605

I just read an interview with an analyst who thinks that Putin may have literally lost his mind. That he was thought Ukraine would just roll over. Glad to see he's wrong



o

RODGE March 2, 2022 at 2:20 pm

RODGE :
CONTROL : I THINK WERE IN THE WRONG AREA
RODGE : RODGE
CONTROL : ERM.....



305.

trashtalk February 27, 2022 at 11:14 am

A former Miss Ukraine has been shared a video of her military training. A group of 10 Western former special forces are traveling to Ukraine to sign up with the "International Legion of the Territorial Defence of Ukraine". Russian planes have been banned from the EU. The EU will be banning the propaganda channels RT and Sputnik. More military material and food rations are being sent to Ukraine. On top of other countries supplies the Danes are sending 2,700 anti-tank weapons. The Pope has condemned the war. BP is pulling out of its Russian oil investments. A woman translator for German news organisation Welt broke down in tears translating Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky's speech. More pressure on Tories to explain their Russian connections and step down. EU to pass law granting protected status to all Ukrainian refugees while Ukrainians already have a 90 day visa free travel arrangement which will help while they get their affairs in order. German citizens are funding buses to help shift refugees. Tory MP calls for all 70,000 Russians living in the UK to be repatriated. Half a Russian convoy on the way to Kharkiv is smoking junk.

.
@gnarfle
.

I've watched things saying that too including a former British General and deputy commander of NATO European forces who cited concerns by respected intelligence analysts. Putin also really likes his vague and intimidating statements not to mention indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas as a terror tactic like in Syria. All that nuclear talk we've been hearing off Putin is escalating and unhinged.

.
Putin has banned the use by media of words "invasion" and "war" and sent his thugs into Red Square to arrest protestors.



306.

trashtalk February 27, 2022 at 12:27 pm

3000 protestors in Saint Petersburg. Protestors arrested across 44 Russian cities.



307.

trashtalk February 27, 2022 at 4:02 pm

The majority of Russian soldiers are aged 16-21? A merciless authoritarian killer sent boys to do his dirty work.



308.

trashtalk February 27, 2022 at 4:35 pm

Putin's thugs are removing flowers and signs saying "forgive us" left outside the Ukrainian embassy in Russia.



o

DAREBEAR March 2, 2022 at 2:22 pm

HEY Goat Trucker! ,You must think were really stupid or something



309.

barywhite February 27, 2022 at 8:35 pm

Where is Bob?!



310.

Mr. berar February 27, 2022 at 10:03 pm

To further my previous (badly typed on an iPad while at lunch) comment. I heard on the news that there is some belief that Putin really IS losing his mind (as in early-onset dementia or something). Between COVID and maybe other stuff he's been isolating himself from the Kremlin, etc. The question is, then, if he's really losing his marbles, will one of his generals try to stop him? And will that make things worse?



o

[Jeremy Reimer](#) February 28, 2022 at 9:11 am

If there's one thing we've learned from history, it's that dictators with absolute power are functionally equivalent to people who have lost their marbles. When nobody can give them bad news or tell them "no" without getting killed, it puts them in a weird unreality bubble.

The other thing that dictators really like doing is conducting "short, victorious wars" to make themselves feel strong and manly, without any regard for the consequences.



o

Jeremy Reimer February 28, 2022 at 10:02 am

Oh, and the other thing that seems to happen with depressing regularity is that when dictators are successful with their "short, victorious wars", (eg: Georgia, Crimea) they start immediately planning for the next, significantly larger "short, victorious war" with more grandiose objectives, which is where we are now.



o

Michael Light February 28, 2022 at 5:29 pm

I'd be willing to bet that China is watching what is happening in Ukraine and if Russia is ultimately successful they will be emboldened to move on Taiwan.



311.

trashtalk February 28, 2022 at 6:06 pm

The ex British General and former Deputy commander of NATO European forces when asked the question whether Putin was insane or not said he Putin was an irrational actor for the reasons Jeremy gave. Putin is isolated psychologically and socially. He's run off with a rationalisation of Russia's imperial past and sits at the top of a system requiring him to be the big dog. While I doubt he has access or full access to material shared with an inner core of decision makers he did say that the opinions he had been hearing from the intelligence community were that Putin was irrational. None of the official sources have said Putin is insane. He may or may not be but any hard information on this if it exists may be secret not to give away sources and methods.

I have no idea what is happening on the ground but know the UK has special forces and intelligence capabilities it deploys in areas of emerging conflict which are never publicly revealed or discussed. There may be some cross fertilisation and fact checking between these networks and open sources intelligence. A huge amount of use has been made of "open source intelligence" such as photos of ordinary people on the ground and reports of events.

A single photo of, say, the woman in the fur coat walking past a wrecked building is worth its weight in gold for prosecutors and intelligence agencies and propaganda machines. Note how many women and children there have been in published media. On the Russian side women are complaining about their son's being sent to war. Women will be complaining to their husbands they cannot shop in Oxford Street or holiday in the South of France.

Perhaps when this is over we can embrace the rebuilding of Khrushchev and the democracy of Gorbachev and Russia can tread another path.



312.

Michael Light March 1, 2022 at 7:27 am

David Boggs co-inventor of the ethernet died today

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/28/technology/david-boggs-dead.html?action=click&module=Well&pgtype=Homepage§ion=Obituaries>



313.

trashtalk March 1, 2022 at 5:21 pm

I'm getting really fed up with Russian terror tactics. If it's not threatening nuclear weapons it's civilians being bombed or veiled threats of civilians being bombed and saying economic sanctions can turn into a real war. I think this is showing up what the people in Putin's regime are really like. They are just nasty and cruel old men going gaga in the head.

So wassup with Mineserver? That along with Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) promise of an update has tanked harder than the Ruble which is all his promises ever were when you look back on them.



o

Dr John March 2, 2022 at 5:47 am

1 year, 1 month, 15 days since Cringely made that promise of an update on Mineserver.

That's another year wasted on the project for anybody still holding out hope for their one!

And essentially why Cringely / Stephens is hiding from his own site.



■ **Gnarfle** March 3, 2022 at 5:03 am

That's kinda sorta how depression worx.



314.

trashtalk March 1, 2022 at 9:08 pm

The Putin regime is now arresting children for dropping flowers outside the Ukrainian embassy in Moscow.



315.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) March 2, 2022 at 10:39 am

Well, it's March 2nd, and that means it's exactly one week until this comment thread gets closed, permanently.

Of course, Cringely could still make a new post at any time, opening up the discussion again, and making any such end-of-days discussion moot.

For my part, I'm making plans assuming that he *won't* post again, at least for a little while, like he did the last time after his "Future of Television" post (in that one, he stayed silent for about seven and a half months). Given that we're now in March, he's pretty much missed the window for 2022 predictions (although I wouldn't put it past him) and of course he still has the Sword of Mineserver dangling over him.

I'm really starting to warm to the idea of making a site for preserving the weird and wonderful (and human) stories of personal computer history. To the point where I'm almost committed to announcing that I'm doing it. But there are a lot of logistical hurdles and a lot of hard work before I can do that. I'll try and say something, at least, before March 9th, when this comment thread closes.



○

DAREBEAR March 2, 2022 at 2:24 pm

HEY,Biden,go truck yourself!!!!



■ **Gnarfle** March 3, 2022 at 5:06 am

No comment.

Truckin', got my chips cashed in

Keep truckin', like the do-dah man

Together, more or less in line

Just keep truckin' on

Arrows of neon and flashing marquees out on Main Street

Chicago, New York, Detroit and it's all on the same street

Your typical city involved in a typical daydream

Hang it up and see what tomorrow brings

Dallas, got a soft machine

Houston, too close to New Orleans

New York got the ways and means

But just won't let you be

Most of the cats that you meet on the street speak of true love

Most of the time, they're sittin' and cryin' at home
One of these days they know they better be goin'
Out of the door and down to the street all alone
Truckin', like the do-dah man
Once told me, "You've got to play your hand"
Sometimes the cards ain't worth a dime
If you don't lay 'em down
Sometimes the light's all shinin' on me
Other times, I can barely see
Lately, it occurs to me
What a long, strange trip it's been
What in the world ever became of sweet Jane?
She lost her sparkle, you know she isn't the same
Livin' on reds, vitamin C, and cocaine
All a friend can say is, "Ain't it a shame?"
Truckin', up to Buffalo
Been thinkin', you got to mellow slow
It takes time, you pick a place to go
And just keep truckin' on
Sittin' and starin' out of the hotel window
Got a tip they're gonna kick the door in again
I'd like to get some sleep before I travel
But if you got a warrant, I guess you're gonna come in
Busted, down on Bourbon Street
Set up, like a bowlin' pin
Knocked down, it gets to wearin' thin
They just won't let you be
You're sick of hangin' around and you'd like to travel
Get tired of travelin', you want to settle down
I guess they can't revoke your soul for tryin'
Get out of the door and light out and look all around
Sometimes the light's all shinin' on me
Other times, I can barely see
Lately, it occurs to me
What a long, strange trip it's been
Truckin', I'm a goin' home
Whoa, whoa, baby, back where I belong
Back home, sit down and patch my bones
And get back truckin' on
Source: LyricFind
Songwriters: Jerome J. Garcia / Philip Lesh / Robert C. Christie Hunter / Robert Hall Weir
Truckin' lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group



■ **RODGE** March 3, 2022 at 11:03 am

RODGE : RODGE
CONTROL : RODGE



316. **Kay** March 2, 2022 at 11:55 am

<https://www.nairaland.com/search?q=julian+assange&search=Search>
JULIAN ASSANGE NEWS



317. **trashtalk** March 2, 2022 at 10:50 pm

If anyone thinks Mark Stephens (aka Cringely) anxiety over facing the music they should try being a sex worker and seeing a new client sight unseen! It's not a job for everyone.

I'm not a fan of a computer history site if it's just about technology and the usually very well filtered self-publicity from the usual

suspects. That would just be an exercise in auditing. As for Russia's contribution they can go into a black hole as far as I care although there is a big story in there of how the USSR and later Putin regime held the Russian people back socially and politically and economically.

I'm eclectic and like picking up style cues from wherever I can. Some of the old computing adverts and library photographs, and even elements of former Eastern-Bloc and Russian fashion catch my eye from time to time. One thing I have noticed about Ukraine is they suffer from Eastern-Bloc clothes design which is a bit off to my eyes. The high number of red fur lined puff coats has caught my eye. Ukrainian women do like their red coats. While people understand climate can effect clothes choices and skin tone can effect colour choices few people understand that different places in the world have different light conditions which can effect colour choice. Ive been wondering what the cultural and geographical reasons are for the high number of Ukrainian women wearing red coats is. It may just be that it's no different from why the British army picked red coats and that the dye is simply cheaper.

While Ukraine is very much a modern country in some ways it is still very poor. I've read stories of Ukrainian old women on pensions who have no electricity or gas, or who have broken windows from shelling they cannot afford to replace. I've also been paying attention to scenes of bombed out residences and interior views when Ukrainians have been giving media interviews and note how poor they look when compared with the West.

Very few, okay no, military museums full of the ossified flotsam and jetsam of war show any of this and computer museums by and large are the same.

As for the history of prostitution? Oh Lordy. That must have a rich hidden history.



Scarebear March 3, 2022 at 11:06 am

Why are you always acting the Goat??



318.

Trashtalk March 3, 2022 at 11:33 am

Readers may wonder what is really happening here in London Town,well I can tell you London has become a complete despotic Separatist state now controlled by other Governments and their agents.I long for the day when we can have a real constitution and leaders like Chelsea manning.We would design the new Wikileaks flags and have 300 free channels of porn to watch.Their would be free social welfare and the queens of England would be paid 20 pence a day to work as a sex worker (if she chose to do so) whilst her wayward son Prince Andrew would appear each day on television being forced to read chapters of Karl marx.

We would join the EU and ban Brexit.there would be free travel on all buses and trains and free food everywhere....

We would ban Amazon and invite the chinese Government to build new factories in the UK and finally every body would get a free android phone and connection.



319.

ONE March 3, 2022 at 2:54 pm

The Ukraine Government is to blame for the countless deaths that have occured NOT RUSSIA.Before the tanks rolled over the UN recognized Boundary lines Russia itself outlined very clearly their intentions and requested that the Ukraine Government surrender first so that no bloodshed would pursue.

Lets explain things another way before 911 the pilots knew they wernt going to be stopped,JFK was a "Sinch" as some stated at the time.

The Russians know through espionage and members of the Ukraine Government and Ukraine Military exactly where the president of Ukraine is AT ALL TIMES.

It would only take 25 SU 57 Bombers and say the same amount of regular fighters to remove the Ukraine President within 2 to 3 hours,they may get say ten planes out of 40 – 50 strike aircraft if they are lucky but to be honest it would end the war completely within a day ONE.

Thermo Bombs are NOT stoppable, The President of Ukraine should surrender within the next 24 hours PERIOD, he and his Government are guilty of the deaths within the Ukraine NOT Russia or Putin .Russia would have only have fired back at the small minority who would have resisted against Ukraine Government orders.

Putin has been called a Kraut and a person who has lost his mind, whilst Wagner Security are fascists and Putin eats off their plate the President of Ukraine and the Ukraine Government are held responsible for Ukraine and Russian deaths PERIOD NOBODY ELSE. It is expected that they are persons that will call for the Ukraine President to be executed or Placed into prison for the entirety of his natural life if captured for his alleged war crimes against the Ukraine and Russian people. If the Ukraine president has any decency left he will surrender and dissolve the Ukraine Government within the next 24 hours, he is undoubtedly at present suffering from some form of Delusional Disorder.



320.

ONE March 3, 2022 at 5:47 pm

NUCLEAR REACTOR MELTDOWN ONE



321.

ONE March 3, 2022 at 5:55 pm

RADIOACTIVITY IS NOW EVIDENT AS BLACK CLOUD

WILL CAUSE MORE THAN 5 MILLION DOLLARS OF DAMAGE

THIS IS ONE



322.

GLOBAL V Publishing March 4, 2022 at 4:11 am

To the Kamal in Slammer 13 ,were gonna get you "Fed" Chequed out.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-60579997>

Economic Crime Bill: What is it and will it find Putin's loot?

By Dominic Casciani

Home and legal correspondent

Published 18 hours ago

Share

Vladimir Putin

IMAGE SOURCE, EPA

It's been talked up as the British government taking the legal fight to Putin's People.

But will the Economic Crime Bill make a difference?

W.W.V 16458825



323.

Gnarfle March 5, 2022 at 10:27 am

I'm guessing Bob's in a bad way . . .

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/03/books/brandon-sanderson-kickstarter.html>

324.

trashtalk March 7, 2022 at 4:01 am

You hit a nerve. His ego couldn't take it.



325.

Manuela Maja March 7, 2022 at 5:01 am

Viele Männer denken nicht darüber nach, wie sie aussehen, bevor sie zu einem Date gehen, obwohl Frauen auf die kleinen

Details im Zusammenhang mit dem Aussehen achten. Vergewissern Sie sich, dass Sie gepflegt sind (achten Sie auf schmutzige Fingernägel, tragen Sie ein frisches Deodorant auf, duschen Sie). Zweitens: Achten Sie darauf, dass Ihre Kleidung zueinander passt, nicht zerknittert ist und Ihnen gut steht.



326.

[Jeremy Reimer](#) March 7, 2022 at 12:13 pm

Well, Bob has posted again (a nonsensical rambling about a fantasy airlift to Ukraine) so that resets the six-month clock. I'll see everyone in the new thread.



o

Dr John March 8, 2022 at 3:42 am

Talking about aircraft, his new favourite topic apparently!

Now I'll actually go and read his report...



327.

[Laura Klemenz](#) March 7, 2022 at 12:47 pm

Rufen Sie sie an, um das Datum zu bestätigen! Ärzte und Zahnärzte tun das, Sie sollten es auch tun. Da Männer die Frauen, mit denen sie sich verabreden, in der Regel nicht abholen, ist ein Anruf zur Bestätigung einer Verabredung ziemlich einfach und beruhigt die Frauen.



328.

[Britta Kuhlmann](#) March 8, 2022 at 12:49 pm

Rufen Sie sie an, um das Datum zu bestätigen! Ärzte und Zahnärzte tun das, Sie sollten es auch tun. Da Männer die Frauen, mit denen sie sich verabreden, in der Regel nicht abholen, ist ein Anruf zur Bestätigung einer Verabredung ziemlich einfach und beruhigt die Frauen.

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