

I have for some time observed the arc of this thread. While I have no comment one way or the other on the cost of a Tiger, the disposition of a Tiger, or fate of any parts of a Tiger, there are certain things that need some balance.

As has been previously pointed out, Michael Kenny's posting of an uncommented url on (this) two year old unrelated thread was completely malicious. Anyone with a basic understanding of this forum would know that ANY update of ANY Tiger related thread would have many subscribers and many new viewers. With this in mind one has to question the motive behind this action, and similar ones on other forums, all of which were cross-linked to each other by Mr Kenny. A neutral reading shows its obvious that he was initially very careful only to post inflaming links and innuendo and not commit himself in any way. Obviously this changed towards the end of the thread when he completely lost the plot and started ranting. What is also obvious is that on page four he got to the real motive behind the initial post – to conflate the publication delay of our upcoming book on the Tiger with the alleged litigation over the Tigers location. This is not the only forum he tried this on, but elsewhere his attempts have been deleted. To do this, he took, without our permission, images of the cover of our book and reused them. These images were then removed after action by ourselves.

Of this action Mikey says the following: *What I did was repost images from a book review available online. For some reason TPS decided this was not something they were happy with and claimed copyright. The deletion was done by Photobucket and had nothing to do with the mods here.*

As usual, when it comes to his own unsavoury actions and their motives, Ole Mikey is VERY economical with the truth. What really happened is the following:

Michael Kenny took, without our permission, images of the front page of our *upcoming* book from a website to whom we had sent them. He then photoshopped the images in such a way as to implicate us as participants in allegations made by Joseph R. Zrodowski (or SGI as he is known here). Hilarious. As any publisher would do, I immediately raised a complaint with the hosting company that Mikey used (Photobucket) – they investigated and removed the images from his account. Apparently Mikey was not finished. He then uploaded two new images to his album – one was text on a blank field that said "Brian haven't you got anything better to do". The other was a photoshopped image of myself captioned with racist and homophobic insults. It was at this point that I lodged a serious complaint with Photobucket. I also did a further investigation of Ole Mikeys Photobucket album. It turned out that of the +/-1500 images there (on an open public album for some 7 years, some were of torture and executions, others I will not describe), the bulk of them had been scanned, screengrabbed, and pillaged from all manner of print, image, and video sources. None of them appeared copyrighted or credited in any way. These included publishers such as After the Battle (three dozen scanned full pages), Pathe Films, The Imperial War Museum, Discovery Channel, and the Military Channel. Knowing several of these publishers personally I contacted them to ask if they had given permission to Ole Mikey to post them in many forums in his guise as a 'researcher'. Imagine my surprise when none of them had heard of him (sarcasm alert Mikey). They were however very interested in the contents of his album and several got in touch with Photobucket to lodge complaints. The upshot was that they pulled his entire album, which is why all of his posts for the last seven years across all forums now have little 'copyright thief' squares on them.

Now as Mikey is painfully aware from past run-ins with myself, I keep all documentation. So if there is any dispute as the events listed above I will be more than happy to post all correspondence between myself and the legal dept. of Photobucket in this matter. (And do bear in mind Mikey this would include the rebuttal you wrote).

Secondly I would like to address the following statement made by Mikey: *As for me pursuing a 'vendetta' against The Panther Squad I suggest you check this blog out Warning: extremely graphic language used throughout. <http://theflame4.blogspot.com/2010/0...fc277980b92542> and tell me who exactly is stalking who.*

My blog was started some two years AFTER Ole Mikey Instigated an attack on one of our products – before this initial event I had never heard of the odious little creep. For the real story on Mikey go here. If you want to see his real motives, see what he posts when he thought no one outside of a private forum was going to see it.

Finally – my blog. This was set up to expose some of the more unsavoury practices and characters in the modelling hobby. If you want to read the short succinct version of Ole Mikey and the rest of the lowlifes he calls 'leading figures in the hobby' look here.

<http://theflame4.blogspot.com/2010/03/can-you-stand-back-and-be-neutral.html>

And yes, my blog contains strong language and strong accusations. What Ole Mikey (always) fails to mention is that all of them are backed up with documentation. And all of them have proven to be accurate, and all of them subsequently admitted to IN PRINT by the accused.

Now, as is my usual practice, I will not drag a public forum into a dispute with Michael Kenny. As many others have discovered on forums where he is now banned, arguing with him is like trying to remove **** from a wool blanket – you never feel clean and everything ends up smelling of ****.

I will be more than happy to discuss the trollmeister Michael Kenny in depth on my blog, all are welcome, and with few exceptions, all replies are published.

Brian Balkwill