

## 2007-10-14 Show Notes

| <u>Offset</u> | <u>Topic</u>  |
|---------------|---|
| 00:17         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Intro</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jesse Brown from Search Engine on Burmese protests<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/searchengine/blog/2007/10/whats_left_to_say_about_burma_1.html#more">http://www.cbc.ca/searchengine/blog/2007/10/whats_left_to_say_about_burma_1.html#more</a></li><li>• Skeptical that even the presence of the internet made a difference</li><li>• Hard to argue, brutality was ultimately employed, again, despite scrutiny</li><li>• I take this as a challenge, a question</li><li>• What more can the internet do?</li><li>• I run up against the sort of machinations that have snarled others before</li><li>• Cannot arm dissidents without making things worse</li><li>• That's not even an option for average citizens</li><li>• Petitioning for sanctions is all that is left, as ineffectual as that is</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>  |
| 03:50         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Listener Feedback</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paul on bandwidth crunch<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speaks to some specifics, in particular cable's complaints</li><li>• Encoding matters, talks about QAM64, similar to WDM for fiber but for coax</li><li>• Points to running 1Gbps, 10Gbps over same fiber as 100Mbps 15 years ago</li><li>• Sometimes fiber needs to be upgrade but anything from 90's onward likely to be capable of running up to 10Gbps with just encoding changes</li><li>• SNR becomes more important with higher encoding density</li><li>• In closed cable system, at least, this is more manageable</li><li>• Observes use is growing more slowing than capacity</li><li>• Cites business, management as problem, specifically with cable cos</li><li>• Traditional cable is low on tech sophistication</li><li>• ISPs are much more tech savvy</li><li>• Old guard resents new ISP engineers</li><li>• Don't like needing to know more tech to roll out new services</li><li>• Old guard has been promoted first into management</li><li>• These are the ones telling stories about crunch</li><li>• Thinks telcos have gone through similar changes</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul> |
| 08:55         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Security Alerts</b></li></ul>  |
| 09:15         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IP surveillance camera hack<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="http://www.schneier.com/blog/archives/2007/10/hacking_securit.html">http://www.schneier.com/blog/archives/2007/10/hacking_securit.html</a></li><li>• Researchers Azam and Pastor discovered vulnerability</li><li>• Applies to web enabled security cameras, specifically an AXIS 2100</li></ul></li></ul>  |

## Offset

## Topic

13:07

- Basically is the old movie conceit of replaying captive video instead of a live stream
- Utilizes an XSS attack against the camera's web stack
- Attack allows attacker to create new account and take control of camera
- Broader ramifications, simply quietly collecting video without altering camera settings
- 2100 has been phased out but doesn't mean they aren't still in use
- Vendor won't patch because of limited ROM, 8MB
- Points to the dangers in combining more and more technologies
- Begs that installers, maintainers have to be more sophisticated than with dumber, arguably more secure device
- Future installation of OnStar to include remote shutdown, for law enforcers
  - <http://lauren.vortex.com/archive/000313.html>
  - OnStar is allowing law enforcement to remote shut down vehicles
  - Done to curb damages from high speed chases
  - Vehicle retains power steering, breaks
  - Supposed limits
    - Must have owner's permission
    - Law enforcer must have vehicle in sight
  - If someone is going to break the law, resulting in chase, why would they give permission?
  - How will OnStar operators confirm law officer can see vehicle?
  - If OnStar can do this legitimately, what about criminals?
  - Despite speeding fatalities, we still have not installed governors in cars
  - So this argument doesn't follow
  - I would bet speeding fatalities are higher than high speed pursuit
  - Difference is an officer is directly involved in the latter
  - Wonder what kind of pressure departments are under to want to see this system in wide use?

16:59

### • News

17:14

- Free music, label-less artists reaching a tipping point?
  - <http://techdirt.com/articles/20071008/154529.shtml>
  - Several data points indicate a possible trend
  - Last week Radiohead offered name your own price downloads
  - Stats showed a strong response
  - This has other bands, like Oasis, Jamiraquai considering similar moves
  - Those two are no longer contracted with labels
  - Many artists doing this are using it to promote sales of CD, merchandise, concert tickets

- Many seem to be putting more effort into albums to make them stand out from free downloads
- Very much gives the lie to the label positions that free downloads will hurt album sales
- Radiohead stats showed many visitors to the bands site did not download but pre-ordered the "discbox"
- That's the real story, that artists are proving the theories of the recording industry wrong
- How is this different than radio as we grew up with it?
  - Wasn't perfect but worked
  - Received free songs all day long
  - If you wanted more, you bought it
  - Radio stations also promoted concerts, often giving tickets away to do so
  - Industry mistakenly thinks perfect copies change things, are totally substitutable for whole albums, concert performances, listener loyalty
  - There were also those who record the radio and never paid a cent
  - This will continue but also won't erode music as a whole, an industry
- Reznor escapes labels, goes to direct sales
  - <http://www.deliberatepixel.com/index.php?id=125>
  - Was already experimenting successfully with free downloads
  - Even released GarageBand files for listeners to remix
  - Unfortunately, labels may retain rights to older recordings for some time to come
  - Does mean new works will be totally under his control
  - Expect to see more experiments, more digital and/or free downloads
  - The question is how many more mainstream artists will follow?
  - Partially answered by Radiohead, Oasis, Jamiroquai
- Yahoo! extolling DRM-free music to labels
  - <http://feeds.feedburner.com/~r/boingboing/iBag/~3/167391149/yahoo-music-to-recor.html>
  - Speaks to Amazon's MP3 store launch
  - Fills in his, Ian Rogers, background leading up to working at Yahoo!
  - Will not sign up to distribute music with DRM from here on
  - Left unsaid is existing agreements around music with DRM
  - Cites user inconvenience
  - Sees opportunity for Yahoo to use content around music
  - Thinks this valuable, extra content could help drive music sales
- Criminal charges in UK over possession of Anarchist Cookbook
  - <http://rss.slashdot.org/~r/slashdot/eqWf/~3/166923046/article.pl>

- Under Terrorism Act of 2000
- Similar act, of 2006, bans speech "glorifying terrorism"
- Project by genre writers protesting the act, mentioned by Charlie Stross
- [http://www.antipope.org/charlie/blog-static/2007/02/indignant\\_and\\_illegal\\_fictions.html](http://www.antipope.org/charlie/blog-static/2007/02/indignant_and_illegal_fictions.html)
- Teen has already appeared in court, once, with a second date pending
- Charged with two counts under the act
- Another teen has already appeared in court with similar charges
- Human Rights Act doesn't appear to protect free speech as strongly as First Amendment
- HRA normalizes British law with European Convention on Human Rights
- Specifically, if UK law is incompatible with EC on Human Rights, cannot strike it down
- Can only call out the incompatibility
- Cases can be taken to the Strasbourg court
- Anarchist Cookbook is widely disseminated
- Appeals to teenage boys, whether they use it or not
- Not sure on the accuracy of its contents, though
- As a recognizable document, easy to discover who has acquired
- Cross reference URLs with download sizes
- Has a history of begging the question of whether possession begs intent
- What if the book were on civil disobedience, instead of bombs?
- Book was supposedly first written in protest to the Vietnam War
- Unlikely the average teen grabs it for political reasons
- But should the book be blocked from those who wish to legitimately protest blocks to free speech?
- Running an ISP as a co-op
  - <http://feeds.arstechnica.com/~r/arstechnica/BAaf/~3/168268750/sticking-it-to-lhomme-canadian-co-op-forms-own-isp.ars>
  - Talked about Copowi, a US ISP, in the 8/26/2007 show
  - That ISP values open source, network neutrality
  - Canadian Wireless Nomad is subscriber owned
  - Reminds me more of Cringely's suggestion of fiber coops
  - Volunteer run, open source friendly
  - Also dedicated to neutral connections, no caps and wireless sharing
  - Have been running for two years, unlike Copowi that just launched
  - Apparently very competitive with Bell Canada's DSL offering
  - Made possible by line sharing regulations that were avoided by cable or scrapped for telcos in US
  - Nomad also only serves one urban area, Toronto

## Offset

## Topic

36:46

- Apparently part of a thriving reseller market of 100+ participants
- Nomad's story also shows a thriving reseller market, key to their survival with only around 100 subscribers
- Could shop for better deal to server smaller interest
- Even with competition enabled by regulation, business for ISPs is not without friction
- Still beholden to line owners for activation which may rely on arbitrary rules, bureaucracy
- Object lesson in challenges of a coop model
- Also a counter-example to anti-regulation advocates
- Outfits like Copowi have to go large or not at all
- Has anyone heard of an ISP with only 100 subscribers in the US, especially in an urban area?
- Guide to bypassing censorware
  - <http://feeds.feedburner.com/~r/boingboing/iBag/~3/168460937/everyones-guide-to-b.html>
  - Link to a 31+ page PDF by Citizen Lab
  - Citizen Lab is part of Munk Centre for International Studies at University of Toronto, Canada
  - Guide targeted at non-technical users
  - The explanation of the problem indicates one of the points of Lessig's Code
  - The internet is not, by its nature, as free of regulation as activists like to think
  - Does set the issues up clearly and accessibly
  - Assumes access to knowledge is a basic human right
  - I am inclined to agree
  - Does a pretty good job of laying out the additional risks
  - Risks of defying a censoring regime are assumed
  - Does speak to national security risks and of belonging to high profile human rights or activist groups
  - After a long setup, was surprised to see specific listings of circumvention services, sites
  - Fully have the guide is listing of sites, services and software
  - This is incredibly brave and risky
  - Wonder how widely this is circulated?
  - As a PDF, easy to print and pass on in low tech, less discoverable fashion
  - Lab is also working on translations

39:35

### • `tail -f`

39:55

- Aftermath of Capital v. Thomas case
  - Chances of RIAA repeat victory probably slim
    - <http://feeds.arstechnica.com/~r/arstechnica/BAaf/~3/166793820/riaa-first-judgement.ars>

## Offset

## Topic

- Basically examines the strength of the industry's case
- Suggests this is why it went to court, they knew ahead of time they could win
- Interesting to note making available jury instruction originally read the opposite, that transfer had to take place
- Hints that strength of this case may set unusually high bar for subsequent cases
- Thomas to appeal RIAA verdict
  - <http://feeds.arstechnica.com/~r/arstechnica/BAaf/~3/167003366/20071008-thomas-to-appeal-riaas-222000-file-sharing-verdict.html>
  - Basis of appeal will be jury instruction 15, making available issue
  - Even if overturned, would have to be re-tried, may result in settlement
  - Article speculates neither part would want another trial
  - Not so sure about RIAA though having to prove transfer could seriously undermine case
- Juror from Thomas trial
  - <http://rss.slashdot.org/~r/slashdot/eqWf/~3/167712736/article.pl>
  - Award amount took up most of the verdict deliberation time
  - Only other really interesting statement is that he believes even if proof of transfer was required, verdict would have been the same
- Capitol v. Thomas appeal to hinge on making available argument
  - <http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2007/10/capitol-v-thomas-key-appeal-issue>
  - More details on making available
  - Pointers to past briefs by EFF on the issue
  - Argument goes that Copyright act requires physical object change hands
  - Also requires copyright owner prove distribution took place

45:05

## • Outro

- Contact me
  - Email to [feedback@thecommandline.net](mailto:feedback@thecommandline.net)
  - Web site at <http://thecommandline.net/>
  - IM to [command.line@skype](mailto:command.line@skype)
  - Listener comment line is 360-252-7284
  - [del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us) tag is "for:cmdln"
  - <http://twitter.com/cmdln>
- I'd like to thank [libsyn.com](http://libsyn.com) for AAC hosting and Wouter de Bie for MP3 hosting
- These notes and the show audio and music are covered by a Creative Commons license
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  - Attribution, non-commercial, share alike