

Re: Delta V – Launch Vehicles for Rationalists and Adventurers

Source: <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2008–01/msg00255.html>

- *From:* simberg.interglobal@xxxxxxxxxx (Rand Simberg)
 - *Date:* Fri, 11 Jan 2008 13:45:28 GMT
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On Fri, 11 Jan 2008 05:19:44 –0800, in a place far, far away, Dale Carlson <drc@xxxxxx> made the phosphor on my monitor glow in such a way as to indicate that:

Once again, you have to back up your deranged fantasies with actual quotes and citations if you want **anyone** (except those as insane as you) to believe you. The only reason that you're not in my killfile (since you never, ever write anything of value or worth reading) is to defend myself against your almost–constant lies and delusions about me.

Rand, as much as I usually disagree with you, I don't consider you to necessarily be mentally unbalanced. But the fact that you never cease to engage in debate with nutters makes me wonder if I'm being too generous in my assessment of you.

I often cease to do so. If I "never" ceased to do so, I'd have nothing else to do in life, considering how many nutters there are in this newsgroup. For instance, Guth and Elifritz have been in my killfile for years.

You probably wouldn't need to "defend (yourself) against (his) almost–constant lies and delusions about (you)" if you didn't feel some compulsive desire to debate "idiots"...

I have no such compulsion. I rarely "debate" Ian, though I (as did others) used to attempt to do so. It's not in fact possible to debate Ian, because he is (as you say) a nutter.

When I respond to him it all, it is almost always in response to some new fantasy that he's spun about me, usually not even in response to anything that I wrote in that particular thread—simply dredging it up

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out of his past fantasies, or based on some deranged delusion of what I wrote elsewhere, and dragging my name in for no reason.

I will say, though, that I've almost reached the point at which his nuttiness should be sufficiently obvious to most that it doesn't really matter what new fantasies he comes up with, and I will simply killfile him. I don't killfile Eric (except in this newsgroup, per our agreement) because I find his unremitting stupidity so entertaining (and he occasionally makes a fool of himself by mindlessly and ignorantly attacking me as well, as occurred the other day at s.s.p over units of energy and power).

In fact, overall, I've been thinking more and more that I may simply abandon the newsgroups, as so many others have. The S/N ratio here continues to decline, and most of the interesting space discussion is now taking place on the web, at Hobbyspace, Arocket, Space Politics, and the space blogs (including occasionally mine).

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