

## Boing! Going! GONE! Logic Problem

Billy Kornfeld, the publisher of Boing! and its sole forum moderator, went on a banning spree for five days, ending his reign of terror on Friday so he could catch a train to a WordPress convention to deliver a talk on “building community by fostering open communication.” Billy banned a Boing! forum user (one was Leon Trotsky) each day from Monday to Friday, giving a different reason for each, only two of which were reasons mentioned in the Community Guidelines and Code of Conduct. Each user also received a unique suspension term length, in ascending order of severity: 3 months, 2 years, 5 years, 8 years, and 10 years.

From the clues provided, can you work out which user received a ban (suspension and time-out are synonyms of ban here) on what day, and for what transgression?

It helps to not rely on any factual history or any sense of proportion of ban severity. This is fictitious, and the appropriateness of the ban rests undisturbed in Billy Kornfeld’s noggin. A solving grid is provided. Use a dot to signify “Yes” and an X to signify “No.” It may be necessary to make a logical guess based on facts you’ve established. When you do, always look for facts or clues that disprove it. If you find your guess is incorrect, eliminate it as a possibility.

1. Benedict Arnold received his ban sometime before Leon Trotsky did, but after Edward Snowden, who was not banned either for doxing nor for being away from the keyboard when Billy Kornfeld messaged him.
2. The user suspended the day immediately after Billy banned the doxer was scheduled to return before Arnold and after Thursday’s banned user.
3. The recipient of the 5-year ban did not post a joke about the snowglobe, as Billy already had banned that user by the time the joke was posted.
4. The doxer received no more than half the ban length than that of the miscreant who was away from the keyboard, but a longer sentence than the Tuesday ban recipient’s.
5. The five who received bans and suspensions are, in some order, the 10-year ban recipient; the one banned on Thursday; Marlene Dietrich; the snowglobe joker, and the one who dared ask Billy why the bans were happening.
6. Charlie Chaplin waddled into the sunset, not for doxing, and not for two years, and not before giving someone’s snowglobe joke a “like.”
7. Snowden missed some fine trolling, as did the 5-year ban recipient, who was not Arnold.
8. Trotsky’s transgression was in reaction to the severity of at least two other bans, one of which was Wednesday’s. Ironically, Monday’s ban victim had a time-out of shorter duration than Trotsky did.

Boing! Going! GONE! Solving Grid

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Away from Keyboard	Doxing	Questioning Mod	Snowglobe joke	Trolling	3 months	2 years	5 years	8 years	10 years
Arnold															
Chaplin															
Dietrich															
Snowden															
Trotsky															
3 months															
2 years															
5 years															
8 years															
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Away from keyboard															
Doxing															
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