
Subject: Re: Ripley Davenport

From: Todd Carmichael (todd@lacolombe.net)

To: rett139@yahoo.com;

Cc: mail@ripleydavenport.com;

Date: Saturday, April 7, 2012 10:10 AM

I follow treks, all sorts and offered, mid trek, a financial incentive based on my own excitement of what he was doing to reach what I believe to be two huge distances. I am a trekker, hold a world first and a world record and I am a benefactor, to many people, including Rip.

I also have a very large staff, and I assure you, our research is exhaustive. We have researched, in detail, Rip, and many others, and are satisfied that he, and the others, are authentic. Certainly, everyone over glamorizes, just as most all do as this is the nature of the marketing beast, but at the core Rip is real enough to sponsor.

No I will not share my files with you, as frankly, you have abandoned the American principle our people hold dearly - the basic notion that a man is innocent until proven guilty, including competitors and NOT he is guilty because you have a FEELING. The burden of proof is on you, not me or not Rip or anyone else you or people like you decide to accuse.

No I am not writing you because I have a close chummy relationship with Rip or anyone else in the trekking world, but because the problem with sharing on the Internet isn't with those that embellish, but with those that attack, lay guilt, and destroy what I believe to be the tenant of civilized society - Innocence unless PROVEN guilt.

this the problem with the Internet. That is the article you should be researching and writing.

In conclusion. I have trekked in Namibia, to name just one, and any conversation you have with Rip about it, even if just a casual one, will satisfy you that he two, has trekked Namibia, contingent that you are not guilt bias - basics you can not know unless you too were there.

You should be ashamed.

Todd Carmichael

On Apr 6, 2012, at 7:04 PM, Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thanks and I appreciate your sentiments. Not trying to be a bad guy, just trying to get the facts straight. Can I ask: Have you actually met him and how did you first

hear about Ripley's need for money to return to Mongolia?

If you can shed light on why you are certain Ripley isn't a fake, I would honestly welcome hearing it.

Kent

From: Todd Carmichael <todd@lacolombe.net>
To: Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2012 4:08 PM
Subject: Re: Ripley Davenport

Hmmm

You're cutting into the bone on this one I'm afraid - an unfortunate witch hunt. There are real fakes out there, so I here you, but I'm afraid Rip isn't one of them. Careful, you may be turning yourself into the bad guy, and I'm not you mean to do that.

Peace man.

Founder, Coffee Sourcer - La Colombe
Sent via BlackBerry

From: Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com>
Date: Tue, 3 Apr 2012 11:07:48 -0700 (PDT)
To: Todd carmichael<todd@lacolombe.net>
ReplyTo: Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Ripley Davenport

Thanks for your quick reply. I'm not going to ambush you. Ripley and I are long distance non-friends. I've never met him, just followed his schemes and trips and communicated by email and social networks. If you mention me to him, he'll tell you I'm a cyberstalker business rival obsessed for some unfathomable reason with harassing him and his family. The other side of the story is that he would make a lousy spider. The web of claims to fame and expertise he has woven doesn't stand minimum scrutiny. And, in my opinion, he used it to make money he didn't earn and left behind a trail of debts.

The story would be about how the internet (free of fact checker) abetted by adventure blogs (eager for content), gear manufacturers (keen for product placement and notoriety) and the adventure public (eager to find their great adventure) conspire unwittingly to aid and abet someone with too much Walter Mitty and too little ethics.

The world of exploration has long had its scandals, it's frauds, it's hopelessly starry-eyed and incompetent players. The story would be about modern versions of that classic story, not Ripley alone.

I have repeatedly asked Ripley for any form of corroboration that he actually walked the Namib and Karakum deserts; photos, logs, travel documents, to no avail. Others who know him personally concur that they have seen nothing to support the claims. When asked directly about those long, arduous signature events reticence overtakes him. He has erased the websites for his most recent expeditions, the solo crossing in 2010 and the commercial tour in 2011. All that remains of his exploration legacy are his own website and various interviews found on the web. Those interviews are rife with too many inconsistencies and contradictions to detail here.

From my perspective, the evidence suggests that Ripley Davenport, desert explorer, is more mirage than "pioneering figure". That is what I am trying to get to the bottom of and I am not alone in that.

If you prefer not to talk with me after that introduction I understand.

If, on the other hand, you'd still be willing to chat, let me know. I am only interested in documenting the process that has carried Ripley this far, not making judgements on the people or businesses along that path.

Kent Madin

From: Todd carmichael <todd@lacolombe.net>
To: Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 31, 2012 7:30 PM
Subject: Re: Ripley Davenport

Rip and I are long distance friends, and I helped him over a financial hump in Mongolia. He had more in him but was out of cash, so I pushed him on and boom - he pushed it all the way to the edge.

Best way to chat is ring me at my offices. 215 426 2011

Cheers

Todd

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 31, 2012, at 6:24 PM, Kent Madin <rett139@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Todd,
Nothing to do with coffee. Did you assist Ripley Davenport to return to Mongolia and attempt the completion of his solo walk? I followed both the 2010 and 2011 walks closely, I have a strong background in Mongolia. Doing preliminary work for an article about Ripley's exploits. I would love to chat with you about your experience with him. Thanks. Kent Madin
www.boojum.com/newsletter.html