Subject: Re: [patch 1/1][NETNS][IPV6] protect addrconf from loopback registration Posted by davem on Mon, 12 Nov 2007 22:24:55 GMT

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From: "Denis V. Lunev" <den@sw.ru> Date: Mon, 12 Nov 2007 19:49:03 +0300

- > Unregister for a loopback in !init_net is a _valid_ operation and should
- > be clean, i.e. without kludges in the path. This is the only way to
- > check the ref-counting.

For ipv6 the stack really wants to pin down the loopback device because we need a valid inet6_dev object to reference at all times in order to simplify the per-device SNMP statistic bumping.

When a non-loopback device goes down, we point any existing references to that device's idev to the loopback one instead.

I really consider taking down the loopback device to be an invalid operation at least how things are implemented currently.

There was a suggestion to have a "dummy" device that takes the place of "point dangling idev refs to loopback's one". But some people get upset when statistical events get lost, and rightly so. Such a dummy device would either need to be invisible to the user, or show up and be utterly confusing.

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