This was originally sent to comp.sgi.admin/bugs.
I post it here as well - maybe some other
IDL users have experienced similar things.

"Frank J. ï¿½ynes" <frank@spacetec.no> wrote:
> I have a strange behav. on my Indigo 2 running IRIX 5.3
> (192 MB RAM)
>
> I run an IDL session which accesses a shared library written in C
> pluss two other small processes doing data input from external devices.
>
> After some time, typically a few hours, the IDL application terminates
> while doing a SPAWN command (i.e. a fork/exec combination),
> and the syslog claims : Out of logical swap space.
>
> The strange thing is as follows:
> The error happens even if we exit the application at regular intervals to
> free memory.
>
> By monitoring the swap space manager we can see that the amount
> of memory reserved by user applications is increased after every
> session of our application. The only way to get it back (?)
> is to reboot the Indigo.
>
> What is happening?
> Where in the world is the memory going?
> Who is reserving it when we are not running ANY user applications?
> except the swap space manager?
>
> Please help me out here, I'm out of ideas!
>

Additional info: The IDL session uses a moving window display,
(compound widget by me) wher I store images of up to
500x20000 rgb pixels. (~ 30 MB). But still, when the
IDL session dies, X should free this memory - right ?

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/* Frank J. ï¿½ynes -------------------- (frank@spacetec.no) */
/*   Spacetec a.s   */
/*   Prestvannveien 38, N-9005 Tromsï¿½, Norway   */
/* Telephone : +47 77 68 45 00   Telefax: +47 77 65 58 59 */
/*   (...with the bravery of being out of range!)   */