

European Satellite Press Allegations between 1-14 April 1952 on the
Use of Toxic Chemical Agents by the Western Powers
Daily Newspapers Tirana, Sofia, Prague, Berlin, Budapest,
Warsaw, Bucharest, Belgrade, Helsinki 1-14 April 1952

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CONFIDENTIALEUROPEAN SATELLITE PRESS ALLEGATIONS BETWEEN 1-14 APRIL 1952 ON THE
USE OF TOXIC CHEMICAL AGENTS BY THE WESTERN POWERS

Part I

The information in this report is based on an examination of the two leading dailies in each of the East European countries, exclusive of the USSR. The two newspapers are in the majority of cases the organ of the Communist Party (in certain countries known as the Workers' Party) and of the trade union organizations. In all cases, save that of Poland and Germany, where the Communist Party newspaper appears daily, the newspapers in question are published each day of the week except Monday.

The following compares the column inches devoted to the subject during the period covered by this report, with the previous two-week period:

	<u>March 17-31</u>	<u>April 1-14</u>
Albania	(unavailable)	7 (in issues of one newspaper only)
Bulgaria	(unavailable)	1
Czechoslovakia	48	25½
East Germany	21½	1 (in issues of one newspaper only)
Hungary	15	46
Poland	31	36
Rumania	44	10 (in issues of one newspaper only)
NON-SATELLITE		
Yugoslavia	0	0
Finland	0	2

Due to gaps in newspapers available at the time of this study, an absolutely valid comparison of space coverage for the two periods is not possible. As can be seen; however, ~~there is little difference in~~

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the amount of space coverage is approximately the same for ^{both} ~~the~~ two-week period.

As for sources, Hsin Hua supplied by far the most material, with Tass in second place, staff written articles in third place, and only a negligible amount of material from other sources. For Poland the pattern was quite unique, since of the 36 inches of coverage, 25 were supplied by the PAP (Polish Press Agency), while Hsin Hua accounted for 9 and staff written material for 2 inches.

In Part II, which follows, a summary is given, arranged by country of the content of the allegations. In all instances the following points are included: newspaper and date, source of item, summary of content or literal translation (the latter is always so indicated). The bacteriological warfare theme overshadowed all other propaganda topics, and chemical warfare constituted an incidental issue. In general the approach to the chemical warfare theme did not differ fundamentally from the previous period. Prominence continued to be accorded to protest meetings and declarations of various pro-Communist groups and individuals especially the Oslo World Peace Council.

Allegations made during the previous period were liberally repeated, as were such favorite quotations, cited out of context, as General Ballen's statement before the meeting of the American Chemical Society at Hunter College in 1951. Further distorted quotations are offered, such as the statement attributed to the Correspondent R. S. Allen, in the 13 March New York Post that "the Chiefs of Staff" are seriously considering the use of atomic weapons in Korea" (Rude Pravo, Prague, 2 April). The same issue of Rude Pravo quoted A. Dibble in a United Press dispatch dated 4 March 1952 as asserting that one reason that negotiations are being protracted in Korea is that ~~the~~ ^{the Korean} front is such a fine testing ground for new weapons. Thus references to the use of

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chemical warfare, and bacteriological warfare, are combined with distorted quotations and seem designed to create the impression that BW and CW use ~~are~~^{is} merely a prelude to the employment by the US of atomic and other unnamed and awful mass destruction weapons.

About the most important new element added was the publication in several papers of the complete report of the findings of the Investigating Commission of the International Association of Democratic Jurists, of which a part was devoted to chemical warfare in Korea and North China. Consequently the vagueness noted in the report issued for the first period, as regards the effect of the alleged attacks upon the areas and upon vegetation and upon personnel, has been replaced by "specific" and "indisputable" evidence.

Finally, during the second two-week period East European propagandists attempted to develop more fully than had been the case in the first period, the theme that the US Army in Korea is guilty of genocide, and that those responsible for attempting the mass destruction of the Korean population must eventually be tried as war criminals.

ALBANIA (partial)

April 4

Zeri i Popullit Tass 1 inch

"The American aggressors ~~successfully~~ repeatedly used bombs filled with bacteria and poison gas of various types on the front."

April 6

Zeri i Popullit Tass 1 inch

The International Association of Democratic Jurors asserts that it has proof of the use of chemical warfare by US troops in Korea.

April 12

Zeri i Popullit Tass 5 inches

According to the IADJ (International Association of Democratic

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Jurists) report ~~new~~ on 6 July 1951 two jet planes dropped gas or chemical substances in the Poonpor [sic] region. An area 100 x 200 meters was affected. Bean leaves, in particular, had round white spots spaced about 1 centimeter apart.

BULGARIA

April 13

Rabotnichesko Delo

Tass

1 inch

The American interventionists are using chemical bombs and shells in great quantities. Between 29 Feb and 9 Apr 1952 American forces used poison gas shells 33 times on the western and eastern fronts.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

April 2

Rude Pravo

Hsin Hua

5 inches

American aggressors who are conducting a bacteriological and poison gas war in Korea are planning to use atom bombs. Captured American Army documents and statements made by prisoners of war, confirm the fact that the interventionist forces have been trained in the use of poison gas, bacteria, and radioactivity, as well as defense against such weapons.

On 13 March, the New York Post carried a dispatch from its Washington Correspondent R. S. Allen which stated: "Though this is still in the planning stage, the Chiefs of Staff are seriously considering the advisability of the use of atomic weapons in Korea". In addition, the United Press on 4 March 1952, dateline New York, quoted A. Dibble as saying that one of the reasons that the Americans are protracting the truce negotiations is that Korea is particularly valuable as a testing ground for weapons.

Such statements, combined with the fact that the US had dropped a

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large amount of infected insects in Korea and Northeast China, had made use of poison gas bombs at the Korean fronts, and that the Americans and other Western power troops are well skilled in defense against such weapons, would indicate that after the "serious consideration" of the Chiefs of Staff, it is highly probable that atomic weapons will be "tested" in Korea.

This inhuman, insane, and criminal plan of the American imperilists is arousing the righteous indignation of all decent peoples in the world.

April 4

Prace

Hsin Hua

1 inch

According to a report by the IADJ, poison gas is being used in Korea.

April 6

Rude Pravo

Staff written

1 inch

Asphyxiating, choking, and poison gases are mentioned as having been used by US troops in Korea.

April 10

Rude Pravo

Hsin Hua

18- $\frac{1}{2}$ inches

Report of the special Investigating Commission of the International Association of Democratic Jurists. (For literal translation, see ^{APPENDIX} p. 15)

EAST GERMANY

April 8

Taegliche Rundschau

ADN (Allgemeine Deutsche Nachrichtenagentur, General German News Agency)

1 inch

In an article devoted to BW (Bacteriological warfare) the following

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statement occurs: "By using bombs containing poison gas and other chemical ^b substances for the destruction of the civilian population in North Korea, the fighting forces of the US are guilty of the intentional violation of the provisions of the Hague Convention of 1907 (Article 23a and e). They also violate the Geneva Protocol of 1925".

HUNGARY

April 2

Szabad Nep

Tass

1 inch

At the 29 March meeting of the World Peace Council held in Oslo, the chairman of the Chinese Communist delegation declared that "the government of the USA has violated the resolution of 1950 which expressed the desire of all mankind to prohibit the use of bacteriological, chemical and other weapons of mass destruction".

Nepszava

Tass

1 inch

Identical with item immediately above.

April 3

Szabad Nep

Tass

2 inches

Resolution of the 1 April meeting of the World Peace Council held in Oslo, among other things, stating that "only the US has not ratified the covenant of the 17 June 1925, prohibiting the use of poison gas and bacteriological warfare weapons. We demand that all nations of the world apply pressure on every government to ratify and obey this international agreement."

Nepszava

Tass

2 inches

Identical with item immediately above.

April 4

Szabad Nep

Staff written

1 inch

At a liberation day ceremony Li Chan [sic], representing the North

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Korean government stated that "the Anglo-American imperialists have perpetrated another monstrous crime when they resorted to the employment of poison gas and germs in order to exterminate our soldiers and peaceful civilian population".

Nepszava Staff written 1 inch

Identical with item immediately above.

April 7

Szabad Nep Hsin Hua 2-1/2 inches

A committee of the International Association of Democratic Jurists made public the findings regarding its investigation and stated among other things: "In view of the fact that the armed forces of the US made use of poison gas bombs and other chemical weapons against the civilian population of North Korea, they are guilty of premeditated and intentional violation of the 1907 Hague Covenant and the 1925 Geneva protocol. Since these murderous acts are typical of the attitude of the US armed forces in occupied countries, the committee is of the opinion that the Americans are guilty of genocide as this crime is defined by the 1948 convention".

Nepszava Hsin Hua 2-1/2 inches

Identical with item immediately above.

April 7

Szabad Nep Tass 3-1/2 inches

General Ballen, Chief of the Chemical Warfare Branch of the Department of Defense declared that his branch needs \$38,100,000 for research and development. He emphasized that the Chemical Warfare Branch attaches great importance to waging bacteriological warfare and chemical warfare. He stated: "We have been experimenting for twenty years, and are of the opinion that the time has come for the mass production of these weapons."

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April 8

Szabad Nep

Staff written

2 inches

A front page editorial de states that the IADJ has proof of the use of bacteriological and chemical warfare weapons by the US troops. It demands that the American government be charged with war crimes and dealt with accordingly.

April 12

Szabad Nep

Hsin Hua

9 inches

Report of the findings of the investigating Commission of the IADJ the text of which contains the following relative to the use of chemical warfare:

"Since 6 May 1951, American planes have several times dropped asphyxiating gas and other chemical warfare weapons. The town of Nampho [sic] was several times bombed on 6 May 1951. During the last attack, when the population hid in air raid shelters, 3 B-29s had dropped chemical bombs on four localities. The committee studied the findings of autopsy performed on the victims who had died of asphyxiation."

"In the areas affected by the gas the grass became yellow-brown, copper objects turned blue-green, and silver rings became black. These objects were inspected by the commission."

"On 6 July 1951, after American jets flew over the village of Punpori, [sic] south of Wonsan, gas and other chemical substances were spread over an area 100-200 meters in dimension. The nature of the chemical substance could not be determined. Wherever these substances were spread, round white spots appeared on 10 percent of the crops and especially on leaves of leguminous plants. The spots were one centimeter distance from one another."

"On 1 August 1951, one bomb was dropped on the village of Zsonszugri [sic] and one on the village of Voncscholri [sic] both located in Hvanho [sic] province. The bombs burst in the air accompanied by unusually little noise. After the burst, black fumes developed, which descended on the ground and became yellow-green. Four persons died due to poisoning. The grain crop was damaged, leaves dropped, and copper objects turned to black."

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"On 9 January 1952, two planes bombed Makszen, a small mountain vil-
lage, north of ~~Wonsan~~ ^{Wonsan}. After the bombing, 83 persons became poisoned."

"These facts were established by several witnesses, among them physi-
cians. The findings were also corroborated by the leader of the public
health service of Kanwon province [sic], and by the doctors of the ~~Wonsan~~ ^{Wonsan}
central hospital."

"The foregoing facts prove without any doubt that American troops in
Korea have been using various chemical weapons, which were several times
turned against the civilian population. The chemical weapons caused many
casualties."

Nepszava

Hsin Hua

9 inches

Identical with item immediately above.

April 13

Szabad Nep

Hsin Hua

2 inches

Final installment of the report of the findings of the Investigating
Committee of the IADJ. ^{which states:} ~~The paper comments:~~ "The American Armed Forces,
using chemical bombs and other chemical substances to destroy the civilian
population of North Korea are guilty of predemeditated violation of the
1907 Hague covenant and of the 1925 Geneva protocaol. Employment of bac-
teriological and chemical warfare weapons indicates an attempt to annihilate
a whole nation. In the opinion of the committee, the American armed forces
are guilty of genocide as this was defined in the 1948 agreement."

April 13

Szabad Nep

Hsin Hua

2 inches

Second and final installment of report of findings of IADJ Investigating
Commission. Relative to chemical warfare the following is stated: "The
American armed forces, using chemical bombs and other chemical substances to
destroy the civilian population of North Korea are guilty of the intentional
violation of the 1907 Hague Covenant and of the 1925 Geneva protocol. Em-
ployment of BW and CW weapons indicates an attempt to annihilate a whole
nation."

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In the opinion of the committee^{2.2.2011}, the American armed forces are guilty of genocide as it was defined in the 1948 agreement."

Nepszava Staff written 3 inches

Identical with item immediately above.

Nepszava Staff written 3 inches

A lengthy editorial devoted largely to condemnation of bacteriological warfare refers to the findings of the IADJ investigating commission and demands the punishment of the Americans responsible for the use of bacteriological and chemical warfare weapons.

POLAND

April 2

Trybuna Ludu PAP (Polska Agentura Prasowa; Polish Press Agency) 3 inches

Kuo Mo-jo, [sic] head of the Chinese People's Committee for Defense of Peace in a report to the Bureau of World Peace Council, accuses the US government of violating brutally the international agreements which prohibit the carrying on of bacteriological warfare and violates the resolutions of the Second World Congress of the Defenders of Peace held in Warsaw demanding the outlawing of bacteriological, chemical and other types of weapons of mass destruction.

April 3

Trybuna Ludu PAP 3 inches

The World Peace Council of Oslo passed a resolution to urge the outlawing of weapons of mass destruction. Among other things the resolution stated: "In its appeal to the UN, the Second World Congress of Defenders of Peace, held at Warsaw, demanded immediate outlawing of all types of atomic, bacteriological, chemical weapons, poisonous and radioactive substances and all other types of mass destruction measures, and demanded that the government which uses them first be charged with war crimes."

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Glos Pracy

PAP

2 inches

The World Peace Council recommend that people of world "bring pressure on their governments to sign, ratify and enforce the Geneva convention of 17 June, 1925 which outlaws the use of suffocating as an bacteriological weapons."

Glos Pracy

PAP

3 inches

On 29 March 1952 Li Chi-En [sic], Korean delegate at the meeting of World Peace Council, called on all nations of the world to check the American aggressors. Li Ch-En reminded his listeners of the violations of international law in the war carried on by the Americans. At the end of 1950, when the American Army was retreating from North Korea, it endeavored to cause an epidemic of smallpox among the ranks of the people's army. In August 1951 the American interventionists dropped chemical bombs on various regions of the Korean front."

April 6

Trybunna Ludu

PAP

7 inches

According to an article in the Washington Post "Brig. Gen. Ballen, chief of the Chemical Corps of the US Army addressing the Budget Subcommittee of the House of Representatives on 3 March 1952, stated that "the Chemical Corps has been entrusted with all the research projects on biological warfare, as well as some forms of radiological warfare. In order to conduct this work, the Chemical corps needs 38,100,000, which is 12,300,000 dollars over the 1951 budget allowance and about 6,500,000 dollars more than the sum granted for 1952." The General stated that: "We have been carrying on research for bacteriological and chemical 10 years and the time has now come to produce these weapons in quantity."

Trybuna Ludu

S Hsin Hua

4 inches

According to the IADJ Investigating Commission in a press conference held in Peiping ~~state~~ "By using poison gas bombs and bombs containing other chemicals for the extermination of the civilian population in North

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Korea, the American armed forces deliberately and with premeditation violate the clauses of the Hague Convention of 1907, especially Article 23, and clauses of the Geneva Protocol of 1925. In the belief that mass slaughter is not the result of excesses committed by individual units, but rather that it indicates the general nature of the behavior of American armed forces in all areas occupied by them, and considering the use of bacteriological and chemical warfare on the vast areas of Korea as an attempt to exterminate all or part of the Korean nation, the Commission is of the opinion that the American armed forces are committing criminal genocide according to the definition of genocide found in the convention of 1948."

April 10

Glos Pracy

Staff

2 inches

"American aggressors, having turned Western Germany into tools of American policy, are now making preparations in Germany for bacteriological warfare. According to De Waarheid, numerous bacteriologists, biochemists, and chemists at research institutes in Western Germany are conducting special research under authorization by the US Dept. of Defense, Although the Americans are doing this through the intermediary of the Ministry of Public Health of Western Germany. The Americans provide German bacteriologists with equipment, reagents and money to carry on their criminal activities."

April 12

Trybuna Ludu

PAP

7 inches

Identical with item in March 6, 1952 Trybuna Ludu, which see above.

Glos Pracy

Hsin Hua

5 inches

Excerpts from the report of the investigating Commission of the IADJ which see above (Hungary, Szabad Nep, April 12).

RUMANIA

April 2

Scanteia

Staff written

1 inch

"Brigadier General William Creasy declared that bacteriological, chemical,

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and atomic instruments were the most effective of weapons."

April 3

Scanteia Hsin Hua 1 inch

"The American aggressors have repeatedly used bombs loaded with bacteria and with toxic gases of different types!"

April 12

Scanteia ^{Hand} Hsin Hua 8 inches

Nampho was bombed 4 times between 1705 and 1830 hours on May 6, 1951. The weather was fair, and the temperature 23 degrees centigrade. Thirteen sections of the city were attacked. During the last raid three B-29's dropped [sic] chemical bombs on Samhvauperi, [sic] Iancionri [sic], Ciugdoni [sic], and a section of Tonsuri [sic].

Numerous persons died of asphyxiation. Grass turned yellow-brown. Copper objects became whitish-green, silverware became black.

On July 6, 1951 two American jet planes bombed Pumpori, south of Wonsan.

The planes left a trail of chemicals from height of 100-200 meters. As a result of the gas or other unidentified chemical 10 percent of the seedlings in the bombed area and a large portion of the vegetables crops showed leaves covered with round white spots 1 centimeter apart.

On Aug. 1 1951 two planes at 1600 hours bombed Jensugri [sic], Vonchi-holri [sic], in Hvanhe [sic] Province, dropping two bombs, which made an unusually loud noise while exploding in mid-air. Black smoke issued from the bombs, becoming yellow green as it descended to the earth. On 1 August 1951 at 1600 hours, two planes bombed Haksen, ^[sic] north of Wonsan.

On 9 Jan 1952 at 1600 hours two planes bombed Haksen, north of Wonsan, using gas. The weather was fair, the temperature 50 degrees centigrade. Gas was employed and 83 persons died of asphyxiation. This fact was confirmed by many doctors of Wonsan central hospital who performed the autopsies.

Non Satellite Countries

Yugoslavia

No mention was made in the press of this country ^{of} chemical warfare.

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FINLAND

April 6

Daily Worker, London

2 inches

Ma, Gen. Ballen, chief of Chemical Warfare Division of US Army has re-
quested appropriations of about 53 million dollars for the promotion re-
search in biological ^{and} chemical warfare in US. ^{of}

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Commission of International Association of Democratic Jurists' Report
on Bacteriological and Chemical Warfare in Korea From Rude Pravo, 10 April.

American airplanes used choking gas or chemical weapons on several occasions beginning on 5 May 1951. According to the Health Department of the People's Commission, the city of Nampho [sic] was attacked four separate times on this date, between the hours of 1705 and 1830. The weather was good and temperature was 23 degrees (C). Thirteen hsien (districts) were attacked. In the last attack of the day three B-29's took part in attacking Sam-hva-hupo [sic], Yon Shien [sic], Tsuikden [sic], and part of Yonsuhsien [sic]. Poison gas bombs were used and the territory covered was about .3 kilometers square. There were 1,379 victims, of whom 480 died at once and 647 were poisoned [sic]. During the attack other weapons also were used which resulted in the murder of 76 people and the wounding of 176 additional.

According to the testimony of one witness, evidence collected by the commission, including various ^{types of} material, documents and eyewitness reports, the following occurred:

Immediately after the bomb explosion, the gas spread very widely. At first the color of the smoke was black but it turned greenish-yellow and yellow and finally became colorless. The smoke had a very unpleasant odor somewhat like the odor of chlorine and it exercised its poisonous effect for about two hours until it evaporated. A great many people who were in shelters, mostly children, were affected severely.

Symptoms were described as follows: Difficulty in breathing, fainting, coughing, tears, increased activity of all nasal passages, headache, extreme fatigue, feeling of heat, retching, spitting of phlegm and blood, fever, cyanosis, imperceptible pulse, symptoms of acute bronchitis, and photophobia. Blood tests showed an increase in the number of both white and red corpuscles and hemoglobin from 100 to 115 percent.

Autopsy showed a marked increase in size and weight of the lungs; the imprint of the ribs on their surface was plain; and lung tissue was flooded with a dark red liquid. The surface of the bronchial tubes became a light gray and was easily removable. The heart and liver showed effects of loss

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of blood and in some places the capillary structure had become enlarged. The spinal cord also showed signs of ecchymosis in the white matter.

In those sections of the city affected by the blasts, the grass turned yellow and brown; any article containing a high brass content turned blue-green, while silver rings turned black. These various articles as identified by witnesses were shown to the Commission.

On 6 July 1951 at 8 o'clock in the morning two American jet planes flew over the village of Pumpo [sic] south of Wonsan from the northeast towards the southwest. The temperature was about 27 degrees and there was a light breeze from the northwest, humidity slightly above normal. Either gas or some unidentified chemical product ^{was released} spread above the region at a height of some 100-200 meters and about 200 meters east of the village. A farmer, An Yunhva [sic], and his wife Yan Choun-ok, who were on their way to their fields, suffered skin burns, had trouble breathing; their eyes watered and they could not keep them open. The local investigating commission certified that both people had been in good health until ^{that} date. Shortly afterward the part of the body exposed (not covered by clothing) to the chemical began to show brown spots. Blisters containing pus appeared, about the size of a pea, These could not possibly have been caused by illness. Finally the spots reached the stage of a second degree burn, but with worse effects and requiring more time to heal. The ^{man} couple mentioned above remained in the hospital from 15 July to 15 August; while his wife remained there until the 21 of August. The blisters which contained pus or liquid, burst and the dead skin peeled off following the application of ointment, but the scars remained.

In the area where the gas had been spread about 10 percent of farm crops showed some effect. For instance, peas had white spots on their leaves almost the same size as the brown spots observed on the couple mentioned above. The witnesses stated they had heard neither the explosion of a bomb, nor artillery shell fire nor any other sound.

On 1 August 1951 at about 1500 hours two bombs were dropped on the Ri Yen Se [sic] and Ri Von Chol [sic] (province of Hvan he). These bombs burst in the air almost soundlessly and a black smoke appeared which later changed

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to a yellowish green cloud covering the ground. Four civilians were killed and about 40 became ill with almost the same symptoms and results as those following the bombarding of Nampho on 6 May [sic]. Grain showed ill effects, leaves fell off trees, and all brass articles blackened.

On 9 January 1952 at about 1600 hours on a clear day and with the temperature about 5 degrees, two planes bombed the small mountain village of Haksen [sic] north of Wonsan. This bombardment resulted in the poisoning of 83 persons, with much the same symptoms as were evidenced by the people at Nampho, with the addition of itching in the throat and a sweet taste in the mouth. All these statements were verified by witnesses, some of them doctors of medicine. There was an immediate investigation and further evidence was furnished by the director of the provincial Health Department at Kan Hvon [sic]. Statements were also made by several doctors at the central hospital in Wonsan.

The facts stated above prove beyond a doubt that the American forces in Korea have chemical weapons of various kinds and that these were repeatedly used against the civilian population with severe loss of life.

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