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DEPT FOR EUR/CE, BONN FOR JEFF GALLUP

USNATO FOR KORNBLUM

TOKYO FOR GLASS

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: WSB, BQG, GC, GE SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF BERLIN PRESS

. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS THE SUMMARY OF PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENTARY PREPARED EACH DAY BY U.S. MISSION BERLIN. IT INCLUDES REPORTS FROM NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN WEST BERLIN AND FROM THE MAJOR EAST GERMAN NEWSPAPERS. MISSION BERLIN TRANSMITS THIS SUMMARY FOR THE SPECIAL USE OF EMBASSY BONN AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES WHO ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS IN BERLIN ON A DAILY BASIS. IT IS NOT PART OF THE DAILY MEDIA REPORT SERIES WHICH IS PRODUCED BY EMBASSY BONN FOR ALL OF WEST GERMANY, INCLUDING WEST BERLIN.

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CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT REVIEW - WEST PRESS HEADLINES/LEAD STORIES:

. TOP STORIES ARE BONN'S READINESS FOR MORE AGRICULTURAL POLICY CONCESSIONS AT TOMORROW'S SPECIAL EC SUMMIT (TGS), AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT WALDHEIM'S REFUSAL TO RESIGN (DW, BZ), TUESDAY'S RELEASE TO THE FRG OF GDR DISSIDENT VERA WOLLENBERGER (TGS) THE WEST GERMAN PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC CHURCHES' WARNING AGAINST INCREASING WORK ON SUNDAYS (VB) AND THE SEARCH FOR A SECOND FEMALE SUSPECTED OF PLANTING THE BOMB AT BERLIN'S "LA BELLE" DISCO IN 1986 (BMP).

. OTHER MAJOR REPORTS INCLUDE THE DEFEAT OF VICE PRESIDENT BUSH IN THE IOWA CAUCUSES (DW, VB), THE RECOMMENDATION BY U.S. SENATORS IN BONN THAT THE FRG GOVERNMENT ENDORSE THE MODERNIZATION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS (TGS), SPD PROPOSALS FOR RESOLVING THE COAL AND STEEL INDUSTRY CRISIS (TGS) AND CHANCELLOR KOHL'S DISCUSSION WITH SPD POLITICIAN JOHANNES RAU AND DGB LABOR UNION FEDERATION CHAIRMAN ERNST BREIT ON THE COAL AND STEEL CRISIS (BMP).

INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL NEWS:

. A U.S. SENATE DELEGATION INCLUDING U.S. SENATOR NUNN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, AND SENATE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY LEADER BYRD, HELD TALKS IN BONN TUESDAY WITH CHANCELLOR KOHL AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER. THE U.S. SENATORS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR NATO TO MODERNIZE ITS TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO COMPENSATE FOR THE WARSAW PACT'S CONSIDERABLE CONVENTIONAL SUPERIORITY. THEY ALSO EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR BONN'S CALL FOR PREPARING EAST-WEST TALKS ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT (TGS).

BERLIN NEWS:

. TWO YEARS AFTER THE BOMBING OF THE "LA BELLE" DISCO WHICH KILLED THREE PERSONS AND INJURED 230 OTHERS, POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR AN UNIDENTIFIED BLOND FEMALE WHO SAT AT A TABLE WITH CHRISTINE GABRIELE ENDRIGKEIT (27) NEAR WHERE THE BOMB EXPLODED TEN MINUTES AFTER THEY LEFT THE DISCO. ENDRIGKEIT, WHO WAS ARRESTED ON DEC. 30, 1987, FIRST SAID SHE RECOGNIZED AHMAD HASI, AN IMPRISONED SUSPECT, BUT LATER DENIED THAT SHE KNEW HIM. SHE ALSO SAID SHE CANNOT REMEMBER WHETHER SHE WAS AT THE "LA BELLE." POLICE ARE OFFERING A 150,000 D-MARK REWARD FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF THE UNKNOWN WOMAN AND HER CONTACTS WITH ENDRIGKEIT AND HASI (BMP AND MOST OTHERS WITH COMPOSITE PICTURE).

. THE YOUNG AMERICAN COUPLE WHO DISAPPEARED FROM A HOTEL IN THE WEDDING DISTRICT OVER THE WEEKEND

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APPARENTLY TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE. THIS, HOWEVER, HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED. ACCORDING TO A U.S. MISSION SPOKESWOMAN INACCURACY IN ORIGINAL TEXT - SHOULD READ "ARMY SPOKESWOMAN", THE TWO ARE IN A HOSPITAL WITH CUTS ON THEIR ARMS AND ARE NO LONGER IN CRITICAL CONDITION. THE 17-YEAR-OLD SON OF A SERGEANT STATIONED IN BERLIN IS BEING TREATED AT A UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 USBERLIN 00410

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GERMAN HOSPITAL. THE 16-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER OF A CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE U.S. ARMY IS AT THE U.S. MILITARY HOSPITAL. THE CASE IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE MP (TGS P.13).

. THE SPD OPPOSITION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS URGED GOVERNING MAYOR DIEPGEN TO REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON HIS DISCUSSION WITH SED CHIEF HONECKER IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM EAST BERLIN, BEFORE HIS PRESS CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY. SPD DEPUTY CAUCUS LEADER DIETMAR STAFFELT SAID HIS PARTY WILL, IF NECESSARY, FORCE DIEPGEN TO DO SO WITH A PARLIAMENTARY MOVE (BMP).

. DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES SAY THAT THE SED LEADERSHIP PRESENTED A LONG-TERM POLICY PAPER IN MOSCOW IN LATE DECEMBER, WHICH CALLS FOR GDR RELATIONS WITH WEST BERLIN EQUIVALENT TO THE CITY'S TIES TO THE FRG. THIS AIMS AT THE RECOGNITION OF WEST BERLIN AS AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ENTITY" IN GERMANY, THE SOURCES SAY. DIPLOMATS REGARD THE SED PAPER AS A REACTION TO THE WESTERN ALLIES' AIDE MEMOIRE ON POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS FOR BERLIN (DW).

. VERA WOLLENBERGER, CO-FOUNDER OF AN EAST BERLIN CHURCH-LINKED CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP ("KIRCHE VON UNTEN") AND THE LAST DISSIDENT BEING HELD IN CONNECTION WITH A JAN. 17 DEMONSTRATION, WAS RELEASED TO THE FRG TUESDAY. SHE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HER HUSBAND AND TWO OF HER CHILDREN. WOLLENBERGER RETAINED HER GDR PASSPORT AND IS SAID TO BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THE GDR IN ONE YEAR. AT A BIELEFELD PRESS CONFERENCE SHE REPORTED HAVING ACCEPTED THE OFFER TO STUDY ONE YEAR IN GREAT BRITAIN AFTER SHE LEARNED THAT HER SIX-MONTH PRISON TERM WOULD NOT BE SUSPENDED (TGS ET AL.).

. TO COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NOV.

9, 1938 JEWISH POGROMS, A SILENT DEMONSTRATION IS BEING ORGANIZED BY THE SENAT, THE PARTIES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY. SPEAKERS WILL BE JEWISH COMMUNITY CHAIRMAN GALINSKI, SPD HONORARY CHAIRMAN BRANDT AND GOVERNING MAYOR DIEPGEN. IT IS TO TAKE PLACE NOV. 8, THE EVE OF A NATIONAL RALLY IN FRANKFURT (TGS). . THE BONN GOVERNMENT HAS SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH THE BERLIN FAIR AND CONVENTION COMPANY AMK FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD BANK AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND CONFERENCE IN BERLIN SEPT. 27-29. FINANCE SENATOR REXRODT, WHO EXPECTS APPROXIMATELY 10,000 GUESTS, SAID THAT AIRLINES AND HOTELS HAVE AGREED TO COOPERATE (TGS).

. FINANCE SENATOR REXRODT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF TEN COMPANIES WILL DEPART FRIDAY FOR A WEEK OF TALKS WITH ECONOMIC LEADERS IN KUWAIT, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AND OMAN (TGS).

. A GROUP OF FREE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, THE "ANTI-OSIS," PRESENTED ITSELF TO THE PRESS TUESDAY. THE GROUP OPPOSES SENAT PLANS TO ESTABLISH A "BERLIN INSTITUTE FOR GERMAN AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY" INDEPENDENT OF THE OTTO SUHR INSTITUTE (OSI). THE GROUP CONTENDS THAT THE NEW INSTITUTION WOULD DETRACT FROM THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AT OSI BECAUSE OF A LACK OF FUNDS (TGS, VB).

. AT A RALLY AT THE DOWNTOWN BREITSCHEID PLATZ TUESDAY, THE STUDY GROUP FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION ON VIDEO (APB- ARBEITSKREIS FUER POLITISCHE BILDUNG AUF VIDEO) PROTESTED "CATASTROPHIC PRODUCTION CONDITIONS" AND SUBSTANTIAL RESTRICTIONS ON THE SO-CALLED "OPEN CHANNELS." THE CHANNELS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE OPEN TO ALL CITIZENS INTERESTED IN PRODUCING INDEPENDENT RADIO AND TV SHOWS (TGS). UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 USBERLIN 00410

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. A NEW SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GERMAN AND AMERICAN SCHOOLS WAS INTRODUCED AT BERLIN-WILMERSDORF'S MARIE CURIE GYMNASIUM. THE BERLIN SCHOOL AND PARTNER CLASSES IN NEW YORK, INDIANAPOLIS, CALIFORNIA AND CANADA PLAN TO EDIT A STUDENT PUBLICATION CALLED "TODAY" (TGS, BMP,

B).

. THE SENAT HAS ESTABLISHED A HOT LINE FOR INFORMATION ON THE HEALTH RISKS CAUSED BY THE USE OF ASBESTOS IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. ONE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN WILMERSDORF AND ONE IN MARIENFELDE HAVE BEEN CLOSED FOR SEVERAL DAYS DUE TO THE DETECTION OF ASBESTOS DUST. SEVERAL MEETINGS AND PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS ARE PLANNED (MOST PAPERS).

REVIEW - EAST PRESS

. LEAD STORIES ARE GDR CHIEF HONECKER'S INTERVIEW WITH THE YUGOSLAV NEWSPAPER "KOMUNIST" YESTERDAY IN EAST BERLIN ON GENERAL ASPECTS OF SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENT (ALL PAPERS) AND THE ONGOING PREPARATIONS FOR THE LEIPZIG TRADE FAIR WHICH BEGINS MARCH 13 (ALL PAPERS).

. OTHER PROMINENT NEWS INCLUDES THE FIRST SUPREME SOVIET DEBATE ON THE INF AGREEMENT YESTERDAY IN MOSCOW (ALL PAPERS), CHINESE STATE COMMISSION ON EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE HE DONGCHANG'S ONE-WEEK VISIT TO THE GDR (ND, BRL), THE DEPORTATION OF 375,000 MEXICANS FROM THE U.S. IN THE LAST EIGHT MONTHS (ND), NEW CLASHES BETWEEN ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES AND YOUNG PALESTINIANS YESTERDAY ON THE WESTBANK IN WHICH A 16-YEAR-OLD PALESTINIAN WAS KILLED (ND, BRL) AND YESTERDAY'S OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL BRECHT CELEBRATION IN EAST BERLIN (ND ET AL.).

NEWS BRIEFS:

. IN A FULL-PAGE ARTICLE ON THE U.S.-USSR MILITARY BALANCE, USSR FOREIGN MINISTER DIMITRI JASOW GIVES DETAILED FIGURES AND EXPLAINS THE SOVIET POSITION ON THE ISSUE (ND, BRL).

. FRG GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN FRIEDHELM OST YESTERDAY IN BONN SAID IN REFERENCE TO U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY CARLUCCI'S CALL FOR A MODERNIZATION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR MISSILES STATIONED IN EUROPE THAT THERE WAS CURRENTLY NO NEED FOR A DECISION ON THIS ISSUE. CDU/CSU CAUCUS LEADER ALFRED DREGGER ADDED THAT REPLACING THE OLD TACTICAL NUCLEAR MISSILES WITH NEW ONES WAS PRECISELY WHAT WAS NOT WANTED (ND, ET AL.).

COMMENTARY - WEST PRESS

. PAPERS COMMENT ON THE IOWA CAUCUSES (DER TAGESSPIEGEL), MOSCOW'S PLANS TO WITHDRAW SOVIET TROOPS FROM AFGHANISTAN (DER TAGESSPIEGEL, BZ), AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT WALDHEIM'S REFUSAL TO RESIGN (DER TAGESSPIEGEL, BERLINER MORGENPOST), THE RIOTS IN THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES (BERLINER MORGENPOST)

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AND BONN'S READINESS FOR COMPROMISE AT THE SPECIAL EC SUMMIT (VOLKSBLATT). IN DETAIL:

U.S. PRIMARIES

. IN THE INDEPENDENT DER TAGESSPIEGEL HEADLINED "IN THE BACK COUNTRY PATRIOTIC VIRTUES ARE CALLED FOR" MARLENE MANTHEY SAYS: "AS EXPECTED, REPUBLICAN SENATE LEADER DOLE FROM KANSAS PLACED FIRST WITH ONE THIRD OF THE VOTES. ROBERTSON RECEIVED A QUARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT BUSH HAD TO BE SATISFIED WITH A MEAGER 19.

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. "THIS DOES NOT SAY MUCH ABOUT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRIMARIES, SINCE NEXT WEEK THE FIRST REAL, GENERAL, FREE AND SECRET PRIMARIES WILL BE HELD IN NEW HAMPSHIRE... AND THERE, ALL BALLOTS SHOW BUSH WITH A CLEAR LEAD. STILL, THE IOWA SET-BACK WILL LEAVE SOME BRUISES.

. "PAT ROBERTSON IS NOT EXPECTED TO DO WELL IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, BUT IN THE FUNDAMENTALIST PROSTESTANT SOUTH..., WHERE HE HAS STRONG SUPPORT. HIS VICTORY IN IOWA REFLECTS THE MOOD OF MANY IN THE SO-CALLED BACK COUNTRY WHO FIND IN HIM CONSERVATIVE, PATRIOTIC VIRTUES, SIMILAR TO THOSE OF RONALD REAGAN AND JIMMY CARTER.

. "WASHINGTON EXPERTS HAD SO FAR PREDICTED THAT GEORGE BUSH WOULD BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT, BUT THERE ARE SOME DOUBTS.

. "THE SITUATION WITH THE DEMOCRATS IS STILL UNCLEAR. ALTHOUGH MISSOURI CONGRESSMAN RICHARD GEPHARDT RECEIVED ONE THIRD OF THE VOTES, ILLINOIS SENATOR PAUL SIMON FOLLOWED BY ONLY A SMALL MARGIN. THE TWO ARE FROM NEIGHBORING STATES WITH SIMILAR ECONOMIES AND SIMILAR PROBLEMS. ON THE OTHER HAND, MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR DUKAKIS... COLLECTED A FIFTH OF THE VOTES, WHICH IS QUITE A GOOD RESULT. IN NEW HAMPSHIRE... HE WILL TAKE THE LEAD."

SOVIET TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

IN THE INDEPENDENT DER TAGESSPIEGEL, JOACHIM BOELKE SAYS UNDER THE HEADLINE "THE REASONABLE "ONE CAN'T FAIL TO NOTICE THAT RESPONSE": GORBACHEV'S STATEMENT ON A SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWAL BEGINNING MAY 15 AIMS TO PRESSURE THE UN-MEDIATED TALKS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND THE KABUL GOVERNMENT ON A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT. PARALLEL TO THESE TALKS THERE IS ALSO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW ABOUT THE NATURE OF FUTURE NON-INTERFERENCE GUARANTEES IN AFGHANISTAN. HERE THERE ARE A NUMBER OF UNCLARIFIED QUESTIONS SUCH AS WHETHER THE SOVIET UNION WILL DISCONTINUE ITS MILITARY AID TO THE AFGHAN COMMUNIST FORCES, AS IS DEMANDED FROM THE U.S. WITH REGARD TO THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE FIGHTERS, WHO RECEIVED AMERICAN AID AT A LATER STAGE AND ON THE CONDITION OF PAKISTAN'S APPROVAL.

. "IN ADDITION, THE TALKS ON A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE AFGHANISTAN CONFLICT HAVE SO FAR SUFFERED FROM THE EXCLUSION OF THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE FIGHTERS. IN THIS CONTEXT, GORBACHEV'S STATEMENT THAT AFTER A SOVIET TROOP WITHDRAWAL, IT WOULD BE A 'MATTER OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE' TO APPOINT A GOVERNMENT, MUST BE SEEN RATHER NEGATIVELY. HE APPARENTLY HOPES THAT AFTER AN INTERNATIONALLY-AGREED SOLUTION WHICH WOULD IMMEDIATELY DEPRIVE THE RESISTANCE FIGHTERS OF ALL SUPPORT, THE FORCES OF THE PRESENT AFGHAN REGIME WOULD BE STRONG ENOUGH TO RESIST GRADUALLY DECREASING RESISTANCE. THE ACCURACY OF THIS ASSESSMENT IS A RISK FOR GORBACHEV. SHOULD IT PROVE CORRECT, THE WEST WILL HAVE OFFENDED THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE.

. "UNDER THESE CONDITIONS IT IS ENLIGHTENING TO READ YESTERDAY'S STATEMENT BY THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THE SOVIET INITIATIVE MAKES SENSE ONLY IF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT IS FORMED WHICH INCLUDES ALL PARTIES INVOLVED."

. TABLOID BZ SAYS UNDER THE HEADLINE "BIG RIDDLE, SMALL CATCH": "IT IS CLEAR THAT THE COMMUNIST PUPPET REGIME WOULD NOT SURVIVE FREE ELECTIONS. IT IS UNCLEAR, HOWEVER, HOW THE DIVERGENT INTERESTS CAN BE HARMONIZED." UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 USBERLIN 00410

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WALDHEIM

. THE INDEPENDENT-CONSERVATIVE BERLINER MORGENPOST SAYS IN AN ARTICLE HEADLINED "KURT WALDHEIM SHOWS NO UNDERSTANDING": "WALDHEIM MAY CONTINUE TO DENY HIS INVOLVEMENT IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, BUT HE HAS NOW ADMITTED TO COGNIZANCE. THIS PROVES THAT HE CONCEALED AND WITHHELD KNOWLEDGE FROM THE PUBLIC FOR YEARS..., WHICH WILL BE DETRIMENTAL TO AUSTRIA'S REPUTATION."

. THE INDEPENDENT DER TAGESSPIEGEL SAYS UNDER THE HEADLINE "WALDHEIM AND NO END": "IN EFFECT, WALDHEIM IS LEADING AUSTRIA INTO A PAINFUL ISOLATION, WHICH WILL NOT CHANGE AS LONG AS HE KEEPS CLINGING TO HIS SEAT. HE CANNOT BE FORCED TO RESIGN, BUT HE WOULD DO HIS COUNTRY A SERVICE IF HE FINALLY SHOWED A QUALITY WHICH HAS SO FAR BEEN SHAMEFULLY MISSING: PERSONAL DIGNITY."

ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

. THE INDEPENDENT-CONSERVATIVE BERLINER MORGENPOST COMMENTS UNDER THE HEADLINE "ISRAEL'S DISTRESS": "IT IS ESSENTIALLY A CONSEQUENCE OF ARAB POLICY THAT YOUNG PALESTINIANS TODAY REGARD THEIR SITUATION AS SO HELPLESS THAT THEY JOIN THE PERILOUS AND PROVOCATIVE CRUSADE AGAINST THE OCCUPYING POWER. EXCEPT FOR PRESIDENT SADAT WHO WAS MURDERED FOR IT, THE ARABS HAVE REJECTED ANY EFFECTIVE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL. IN THEIR RIVALRIES, THE ARAB COUNTRIES WERE MORE INTERESTED IN ARAFAT'S PLO AS A BARGAINING CHIP THAN IN THE PLO ITSELF. THUS IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT MANY PALESTINIANS FOLLOW A NEW FORCE: ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM, WHICH COMBINES RELIGIOUS FANATISM WITH AN ENORMOUS SENSE FOR USING WESTERN MEDIA AS A POLITICAL WEAPON AGAINST ISRAEL.

. "NO DEMOCRATIC STATE CAN BEAR SOLDIERS SHOOTING AT STONE-THROWING YOUTHS IN THE LONG RUN. UNFORTUNATELY, THE CONSTANT STRUGGLE WITHIN ISRAEL'S GOVERNING COALITION IS BLOCKING A NEW INITIATIVE FOR AN OLD-FASHIONED DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. AND AMERICA, WHICH SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT A BALANCE IS REACHED, IS LIMITED IN ITS ABILITY TO ACT BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION." GILMORE

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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