Legend Model UN Conference Historical General Assembly

Dear Delegates,

Welcome and thank you for attending the Legend High School Model United Nations 2020 Conference! Legend MUN is excited to host the Colorado Model United Nations community!

The purpose of each council is to collaborate on behalf of compromise. Each council will vary in format, ranging from Security Councils, Historic Councils, to General Assembly format. To ensure that each delegate selects the right council for themselves, please read over all of the different background guides and topic overviews to choose an appropriate level of debate as well as an appealing topic. The rules of parliamentary procedure will apply as normal to all councils. If you have any questions or concerns about the conference as a whole, please contact one of the following people: Secretary General Thomas Hasler (haslerts@s.dcsdk12.org), Deputy Secretary General Paige Feeder (feederpc@s.dcsdk12.org), or Legend MUN's Sponsors Mr Jesse Van Divier (jvandivier@dcsdk12.org).

This council is an assembly of all states in the United Nations. This council will discuss the historic threat of Apartheid. The first topic will address if the United Nations should condemn Apartheid. The second topic will contain debate upon managing the adverse effects of the decision made in the previous session as it relates to the society and economy of the region (the human angle). Though this background guide is a resource to use, don't be afraid of finding other research that will improve your holistic knowledge of the topic.

We hope you thoroughly enjoy the topics and conference. On behalf of the Legend United Nation program, we wish you all the best of luck and are looking forward to seeing all of you at Legend High School's Model UN conference!

Best Wishes,

Legend Model United Nations

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Introduction and Committee Overview

- The General Assembly is designed to discuss, debate and make recommendations on subjects pertaining to international peace and security, including development, disarmament, human rights and international law. In this conference, each delegation has one vote (there is NO veto power).
- This General Assembly takes place in **November of 1962**. Any solutions drafted after this time should not be discussed.
- Countries participating in the conference include:
 - The Republic of South Africa, The United States of America, The Republic of India, Republic of Liberia, The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, The Federal Republic of Nigeria, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, People's Republic of China, The Republic of France, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), The Somali Republic, The Federative Republic of Brazil, The Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Israel, New Zealand, The United Republic of Tanzania, The Oriental Republic of Uruguay, The Dominion of Canada, The United Mexican States, The Republic of Colombia, The Swiss Confederation, The Socialist Federalist Republic of Yugoslavia, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- You may participate as either one-person or two-person delegations.
- Good luck in addressing Aparthied and the implications of state-mandated segregation. Be sure to discuss specific issues that affect each nation, keeping in mind the importance of both compromise and advocacy for your country's policy.

Guiding Questions:

- Who first introduced the idea of apartheid and what were their original intentions?
- How has apartheid evolved over the years, and how has it impacted social situations, specifically in South Africa?
- What repeals or advances have already been tried in the country?
- What new social system would the United Nations recommend be implemented to provide the smoothest transition from Apartheid if they speak out against it?

Topic Background

Introduction

Apartheid was the discriminatory system put in place in 1948 when the National Party gained power throughout the South African government. It placed the white minority in power of the native Bantu majority. Directly translating from Afrikaans as "apartness," Aparthied legalized racial segregation of white and non-whites within South Africa. This segregation consisted of many separatist laws, such as separate facilities for whites and nonwhites, forcibly moving many of the native people from their homelands, and banning interracial marriage.



The implementation of Apartheid gave rise to white supremacy within South Africa leading to numerous race riots. As the years under Apartheid enforcement continued, the rights and land of the native people were tested. During the peak of Apartheid, in the 1950s, the white minority possessed more than 80% of the land in South Africa, while



only making up around 15-20% of the national population. The remaining 20% of the land was divided into 10 territories called Bantustans. These territories were supposed to offer a homeland to the native Bantu people, offering residents of Bantustans the opportunity to become citizens of their respective Bantustans, granting them more rights. However, once a Bantustan citizen, they could no longer be a

South African citizen, increasing Afrikaaner power. The exile of the Bantu people to Bantustan led to poverty and destitution.

Many of the native majority fought back against and resisted the National Party. One crucial example is the Sharpesville Riot of 1960 where white police officers shot and killed 67 black South Africans after peacefully protesting Apartheid. This led to racial tension within South Africa, as black South Africans



no longer saw peacefully protesting as an effective and viable way to combat the legislation. Many opposing-Apartheid groups quickly became militarized as a means to protect themselves against the Afrikaaner government. The Sharpesville Riot of 1960 also brought South Africa and Apartheid to the forefront of the international community, leading to current convening of United Nations General Assembly.

Colonization

White settlers arrived in South Africa as early as 1652. From the beginning, relations between the two populations were extremely tense. As time passed, these relations digressed, with the original Dutch colony falling to the British Crown in 1806. In 1854, the British proposed to unite the colonies of the native population and gain control of their gold mines. In opposition to this proposal, the native population rebelled. This sparked the Anglo-Boer War. Although a treaty was signed at the end of the war, relations between the Africans and the white government did not improve. Discrimination politices



were quickly put into place to prevent organizations like the South African Native Affairs Comisson from gaining power.

By the year 1900, roughly 90% of Africa was divided into colonies, largely owned by European nations. In South Africa, the South Africa Act of 1909 introduced the policy of formal racial segregation, futher eroding the relations between white settlers and natives. As

World War I approached, countless other segregation-like laws were put into place. Among the most serious was the Native Land Act of 1913. The act barred the Bantu people from working as sharecroppers and forced them to live on reservations, causing an endemic of overcrowding and poverty among the black South Africans.

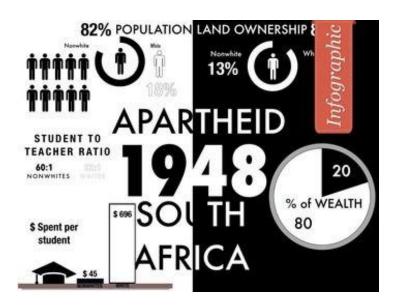
Since 1652, the colonial administration has encroached on Black communities. These actions have led to further tensions in African communities and, ultimately, the passage of Aparthied. For the upcoming General Assembly, it is suggested that delegates keep in mind that Aparthied is directly linked to the colonization of South Africa.

Effects of World War II

After the Great Depression and World War II, South Africa was in economic ruin. The financial costs of the war were met with taxes and loans, resulting in the loss of support for the party in power (the United Party). Concerned that the United Party wasn't doing enough, a group broke away from the National Party and formed the Reunited National Party (or Herenigde Nationale Party). The turmoil throughout the government prompted many political and social resistance campaigns, ultimately leading to the Herenidge Nationale Party to gain power in the 1948 election. This was the beginning of Aparthied.

Shift to Apartheid

Following the 1948 election and the Herenidge Nationale Party's rise in power, an all-white government was put in place. This government's strived to divdie the non-white population from the balck South Africans. Thus, they began to segregate black South Africans by strictly enforcing exisiting policies of racial segregation. These policies forced all non-white Souuth Africans to live in separate areas and use separate public facilities than whites.



By 1950, the government had banned marriages between whites and people of color. The Population Registration Act of 1950 provided the government with the resources to further segregate non-white South Africans. Furthermore, the government implemented a series of "pass laws" that required non-whites to carry documents authorizing their presence in restricted areas. During this time, the government also began to limit the activity of nonwhite labor unions and denied non-white participation in the national government. These laws provided the basic framework for Aparthied.

The Peak of Apartheid

The serverity of Apartheid peaked after the 1958 election, when Hendrik Verwoerd became prime minister. Verwoerd wanted to further refine aparthied policy so it modeled

a system called "separate development". In order to create this system, Verwoerd created the Bantu Self-Government Act in 1959 to resettle the native Black population

Under Verwoerd, the government forcibly removed black South Africans from rural areas designated as white homelands. Under this act, more than 3.5 million people were removed from their homes.



Verwoerd and the government faced much opposition to the policies they put in place. Up until 1959, much of the opposition was non-violent, but when the Pan Africanist



Congress(PAC) was formed, things changed. In addition to non-violent protests, the PAC began to occasionally bomb government facilities. In 1960, at a peaceful protest, the government massacred a group of unarmed demonstrators in Sharpville, South Africa. About 69 black South Africans were killed and 180 were injured. This massacre has prompted the UN to take action.

Timeline of Aparthied

Apartheid in South Africa begins after the National Party defeats the United Party in the general election.

1950 A series of apartheid legislation is passes. The Population Registration Act requires all South African residents to be registered to either the White, Black, or Coloured, Group Areas Act separates white and black resident areas, and the Communist Party is banned.

There is an increase in peaceful protests against the apartheid laws, such as blacks being out past curfew and sitting on benches that are exclusivley for whites.

The Bantu Act is passed which creates a separate education system for blacks and whites in South Africa.

1956 Anti-Apartheid activist Nelson Mandela and other resisters of apartheid are arrested for treason. However, Nelson is found not guilty after a four year trial.

The police kill 69 anti-apartheid protestors who deliberatley did not carry their passbooks, a document that contains personal informaton and blacks were

required to carry. This is known as the Sharpeville Massacre. Also this year, the African National Congress is banned,

South Africa declares itself a Republic and leaves the Commonwealth.

The United Nations is set to discuss Apartheid at the upcoming General Assembly.

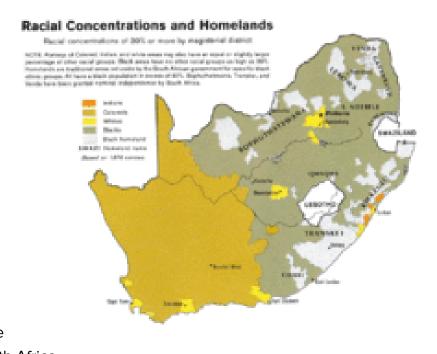


Topic 1: Should the U.N. Condemn Aparthied?

Past U.N. Action

Beginning in 1946, South Africa has been a pressing topic in the U.N., beginning

concerns from India. While the U.N. originally decided that the issue was in the domestic jurisdiction of South Africa. This suggested that the it would not get involved in the issue. This precedent held true until 1952 when the U.N. facilitated discussions between India and South Africa but made no official ruling. Although, on October 17th, 1952, the issue of aparthied was brought to the General Assembly and resolution 616(VII) was adopted, establishing a committee to study the racial situation in South Africa.



After the 1952 resolution, the U.N. became much more active in Aparthied. The action taken by the U.N. was in the form of suggestions and in no way condemned Aparthied. For example, resolution 1248(XIII) in 1958 merely stated that the South African Government "has not yet responded to the appeals of the General Assembly that it reconsider governmental policies which impair the right of all racial groups". However, recent developments in South Africa like the Sharpeville massacre has prompted the U.N. reconvene and discuss the magnitude of action appropriate for Aparthied.

Human Rights Violations

The UN's main concern about apartheid is around the ways in which it violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). Under the declaration, the UN declares that all human beings should be equal in dignity and rights. Furthermore, the declaration discourages torture or cruel punnishment and claims that all people are entitled to

equal protection against discrimination. While many countries have agreed to the Declaration, it is merely a guideline to follow and is not required. Therefore, as you explore the reasons why the UN might condemn Aparthied keep the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in mind.

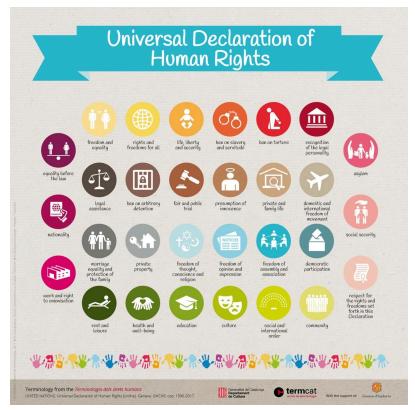
Human rights, defined by the UN in 1948, include "the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more." All of these aspects must be considered when analyzing the aparthied laws as an issue of human rights.

Liberty: Liberty is the state of being free from restrictions upon one's way of life, behavior, or political views. The Population Registration Act of 1950, providing the basis for aparthied laws, classifies South Africans by race under the categories White, Bantu (black Africans), and Colored (mixed Africans). This legislation intended the restriction of intermingling between races as to maintain homogeneity in all three sections. Furthermore, the Population Registration Act led to the passage of The Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act in 1959 by new Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd. This act created homelands for the Bantu race, similar to the vast stretches of homeland given to whites following the passage of the first aparthied laws. The act created 10 Bantu homelands known as Bantustans, providing the Bantu community in choice in their community. By becoming a citizen of the Bantustans, Bantus were granted full political rights within their homelands. However, the designation of these 10 homelands resulted in the government denying any black majority in the nation. While this fact was untrue, it effectively removed blacks from the nation's political body. Therefore, the Bantus remained full liberty within their individual Bantustans, but lacked the right to hold political views on a national scale. This system of homelands is still actively used in South Africa today, a major debate upon the liberty of black and colored peoples within the nation.

Education: Under Aparthied, education was separated between races, much like most of society. However, funding for schools originated from taxes paid by the communities they served, so white schools had vastly greater amounts of funding than available to Bantus. This is due to the fact that the majority of land in South Africa, and therefore, the largest communities, belonged to white homelands, allowing for more resources for white students. Aparthied did, however, provide specific education for the Bantu population. Under the Bantu Education Act of 1953, the Department of Bantu

Education was created to implement an education system for all black populations. Under this act, all children were required to attend government schools. Education was mandated to be performed in the language of individual cultures and communities, allowing children to learn in a comfortable environment. However, courses spanned the subjects of English, painting, soil conservation, and arithmetic.

The provision of education for all peoples has protected the right to education of



the Bantu people. The liberty provided by education in this instance, however, is contested by the quality of the education received. Under the Bantu Education Act, the formation of non-governmental schools was deemed illegal. Since then, activists have attempted to establish alternative schools called cultural clubs to provide children with a higher quality and more diverse education. The lack of resources in education resulted in the failure of many of these efforts by the late 1950s. Arguments still range on the freedom of Bantu education. Because the national government controls the curriculum, it is therefore able to limit Bantu education to vocational fields it

deems appropriate for the race. Therefore, although the black community has the freedom of education, their education itself is not necessarily free of restrictions.

Individual freedoms: The largest contestment of individual freedoms and opinions in Aparthied legislation is the Immorality Amendment Act of 1950. Because of this act, since 1950, immoral acts between whites and non-whites have been banned. This includes adultery, attempted adultery, or extramarital intercourse between races. Its original form, passed in 1927, banned sex between a white and black person, but the 1950 amendment expanded the legislation to include all non-white people. This amendment came only one year after the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act in 1949, which prohibited marriage between whites and non-whites. Therefore, this succession of

acts essentially banned whites and non-whites from intermingling in an intimate fashion. The punishment for these marriages and relationships range from fines, to arrest, to jail sentence. While human rights do not explicitly include the freedom to choose a spouse for oneself, they include the freedom of opinion and expression. Most consider the to choose a spouse included in freedom of opinion, therefore suggesting human right interference by the government. These laws have been some of the most contested and controversial of the Aparthied laws, and therefore are an important topic of debate in the nation.

Domestic Nature of Aparthied

The U.N. has previously not taken action in South Africa on the topic of Aparthied as it has been deemed a domestic issue. Although Aparthied laws have changed the nature of life within South Africa, up until this point there has been no consequences for other nations. No contrabands or alternative organizations have formed in rebellion, especially none that have impacted surrounding nations. Therefore, one topic of debate extremely relevant to the General Assembly is one of jurisdiction. Is it appropriate for the U.N. to interfere in this situation? Condemnation is of the highest distinction of disapproval in the U.N., therefore the domestic nature of the situation must be taken into consideration.

Under Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations, the rule of law is stiffly outlined. It states that one purpose of the United Nations is to "bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace." Therefore, although the dispute of Aparthied have not crossed state borders, it could technically be considered an activity that "might lead to a breach of the peace." Because of the recent violent demonstrations in Sharpville, the movement can be considered one with violent aspects. A breach of peace can also be considered one of economic or social peace, allowing other nations to take action through U.N. measures. In similar situations, economic embargoes have been placed as a consequence of breaching international social peace. Furthermore, as there are still parts of Africa colonized by the British empire (nations surrounding Africa include Swaziland, Basutoland, Rhodesia, and Bechuanaland), the white dominance in South Africa could be considered a model for other nearby nations that also maintain large European

presences. Because of this, if Aparthied laws are considered a disturbance of domestic peace, they could also be considered a concern of international peace.

Effects of Condemnation

The condemnation of Aparthied laws in South Africa is an international agreement of disapproval. If all nations decide that previously discussed acts violate human rights agreements within the U.N. as well as disturb international peace, they can formally criticize South Africa's government in a statement of condemnation. However, this statement is not one of action. Condemning the nation's actions may not have any effect on those actions if South Africa chooses not to change. However, condemnation would send a message of an unsupportive international community, which would, ideally, persuade South Africa to change course of action.

The General Assembly, although it has no authority over action, can suggest that individual nations take action in the name of condemnation. This can come in the form of economic, political, and military embargoes on the nation. Physically action to this scale, however, is up to the jurisdiction of sovereign nations.

Topic 2: Managing the Adverse Effects of Aparthied

Economic Implications of Aparthied

Until 1960, Aparthied has had very few effects on the economic state of the world and on South Africa itself. However, it has significantly affected the economy of South Africa. At the moment, the majority of South Africa's revenue comes from their abundance of natural resources. Although, more economic growth could be achieved without the various Aparthied policies that have caused low levels of productivity on the industrial level. In fact, many apartheid policies have led to an insufficient investment in physical and human captial, preventing South Africa from significant economic growth. Another significant economic effect of Aparthied arrived after the Sharpeville massacre of 1960. The massacre gained much international attention and began to make western states uneasy. The uneasiness caused many of these western states to enforce tariffs on South Africa, further stressing their weak economy.

If the UN doesn't condemn Apartheid, South Africa will likely face the economic consequences already present within the country on a larger scale. In coming years, this

will likely mean that South Africa's manufacturing industry will not develop well. Furthermore, South Africa will likely face a shortage in skilled labor as under Aparthied, only white South Africans are allowed to fill those jobs. Contrarily, if the UN condemns Apartheid, South Africa will suffer economically at first but will grow economically over time. Harsh sanctions and tariffs will prevent South Africa from engaging in any trade. This will force South Africa to locally develop or manufacture their goods, strengthening their manufacturing industry. Furthermore, the condemnation of Aparthied will limit the flow of money in and out of South Africa. In time, this will help South Africa develop a strong banking system.

As delegates prepare for the upcoming General Assembly, remember to consider how your country will be economically affected by both scenarios.

Long-term Effects of Aparthied

Most of the long-term effects of Aparthied fall onto South Africa rather than the whole world. The most significant effect of Aparthied was highlighted above: the economic implications. Although, there are many other implications of Aparthied whether a statement of condemnation is mad or not.

If a statement of condemnation does not come from the UN, Aparthied will likely remain in place in South Africa, causing a further socio-economic rift between the colored population and the white population. Furthermore, poverty among the colored population will continue to increase, further separating the distribution of wealth in South Africa. The wealth inequality will cause more tension between South Africa's citizens and their government. This tension can very well lead to more protests ending up like the Sharpeville massacre. On the international spectrum, failure to condemn Aparthied can delegitimize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This would pose a threat to the human rights of many populations around the globe.

Similarly, if a statement of condemnation does come from the UN, Aparthied will still likely stay in place. The only thing that will change is the international disapproval of it. Therefore, the only long-lasting effect that Aparthied will have on South Africa will be the economic ramifications. The socio-economic effects discussed above will still stand, as the colored populations in South Africa will remain in poverty. Although, as South Africa receives more pressure to end Aparthied, hopefully the amount of the colored population in poverty will decrease as segregation of jobs and education will end.

Internationally, the condemnation of Apartheid will reinforce the Universal Decclaration of Human Rights and set a precedent of what is acceptable and what is not globally. The precedent will hopefully prevent any more large-scale violations of a population's human rights.

While the work done in the upcoming General Assembly will have no direct long-term effects on South Africa or the world, it will facilitate the emergence of the negative and positive long-term effects. As delegates continue to prepare, we advise that they take into account how the long-term effects of either condemning Aparthied or not will affect their own state.

If the UN Doesn't Condemn Aparthied

Up until this point, Aparthied has had minimal negative international effects. If the UN does not condemn Aparthied, therefore, it is likely that there will be no drastic global change. This is because Aparthied is largely a domestic issue, therefore a condemnation or lack thereof will likely only impact domestic relations. However, a lack of condemnation may encourage the South African government in its pursuits of racial separation.



Although the international community may not approve of Aparthied, failure to condemn it may appear as supportive of the government's actions. A statement of condemnation, as stated in Topic 1, does not have any physical impact except for international disapproval. Therefore, if the body does not condemn Aparthied, the circumstances for discriminating against people may not be any different than if the nation were condemned. However, if taken as supportive action, policies towards colored people in the nation may become more restricting and uprise more common.

If the UN Condemns Aparthied

In the past, Apartheid has recieved little opposition. If the UN condemns Aparthied, there may be more international action taken towards South Africa. Although this action is the jurisdiction of each sovereign nation, a harsher approach may unfold in terms of relations with South Africa. Condemnation often is accompanied by suggestions for international sanctions or embargoes economically and politically from individual

nations. Therefore, these implications of condemnation may incentivize South Africa to reconsider some Aparthied policies. However, physical action cannot be enforced and, if other nations do not choose to act, may not occur as a result of a statement of condemnation. Furthermore, if individual nations do choose to limit relations with South Africa, there may be adverse impacts to not only South Africa, but the limiting nations as well. The U.N. can only hope that by condemning South Africa, its government chooses to evaluate its policies towards interracial relationships. As delegates prepare to represent their countries in the upcoming General Assembly, it is suggested that they keep in mind the ways their countries will be affected by the UN condemning aparthied.

Key Country Positions

India

India and South Africa have had a tense relationship due to South Africa's Apartheid policies. Alongside other African and Asian states, India has long been a vocal opposer to Apartheid due to the large population of Indians residing in South Africa. Since they are not white, they are still affected by Apartheid, albeit being considered a different class under "Coloreds" compared to the native Bantu people (under "Blacks"). For example, after the enactment of the Group Areas Act of 1950, Indians were also forced to relocate into designated Indian towns. The treatment of Indians in South Africa is what led India to bring Apartheid to the attention of the United Nations. India pushes for South Africa to end its discriminatory Apartheid policies in order to protect the well-being of its native people residing in South Africa

South Africa

The South African government has always had Apartheid as one of their top priorities. The government has gone to extreme lengths to keep and maintain Apartheid as the status quo, going as far as leaving the Commonwealth due to a large amount of opposition. The Commonwealth is not the only transnational group or alliance that has condemned South Africa's action as the United Nations had warned South Africa in 1946 about their discriminatory policies. However, this was seen as more of a slap-on-the-wrist as Apartheid in South Africa continued and the government faced virtually no major international backlash. While many member states of the United Nations did not approve of South Africa's racist policies, they believed that Apartheid was no within United

Nations jurisdiction as it was perceived as an international issue. This has been the main argument that the South African government has made in order to defend Apartheid and prevent international action.

United Kingdom

United Kingdom is one of the most opposing states to South Africa's Apartheid policies. This can be largely credited to have spawned after South Africa left the Commonwealth. In response, the United Kingdom advocated for punishment against South Africa for their racist policies by imposing trade sanctions and bringing attention to Apartheid, internationally. On February 3rd of 1960, British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan delivered his famous "Wind of Change" to the South Africa Parliament, encouraging the government to end its discriminatory Apartheid policies. However, the United Kingdom has also been very weary of not being too harsh on South Africa as they are still a vital trade partner for the state and a strategic ally with their southernmost geographical position in Africa.

Ethiopia

Along with many other independent African states, Ethiopia has been highly critical of South Africa's Apartheid policies due to the government's treatment of the native people. In 1961, Ethiopia and fellow African state, Liberia, brought the South Africa's Apartheid policies to the International Court of Justice, arguing that the South African government had breached its power. In 1962, the ruling from the International Court of Justice case stated that South Africa did not violate any international atrocities, as the country was acting within its jurisdiction. This decision by the court strengthened Apartheid portrayal as an individualized and specfic member state issue, not warranting of international United States action.

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