

# ROTC critics: "antithetical to university"

by Ted Price

As academia has reacted to the Vietnamese war, and concurrent social problems at home, segments of it have become increasingly vocal in their criticism of ROTC on college and university campuses. The *New York Times* last Saturday reported that, "each of the eight Ivy League schools some with a splash of publicity, others quietly and behind the scenes—is in one stage or another of abolishing academic credit for the ROTC program."

## Second in a three-part series

The *Times* article later adds that although these institutions provide very few of the officers commissioned by ROTC, their actions have stimulated fear in the Pentagon of widespread discreditation. The way that such loss of credit usually evolves is for the institutions involved to vote to allow the contract with the government to run out, and stipulating that if a new one is negotiated, no provision for academic credit will be made.

This is the situation at Harvard, where the Army's contract expires at the end of the current academic year, and those of the Navy and Air Force in June of 1970.

Here at Notre Dame, there is a movement among the faculty to bring the matter before the Faculty Senate, the only group that can bring about such action. Although many professors' major quarrel with the program is what they judge to be substandard teaching methods, many do object to the content of the courses themselves.

English Professor Peter Michelson charged that ROTC "has a bad educative function."

"It teaches militarism, which kills people," he added. "ROTC is political technology. To me the military is a bad political agent, it is seductive. We fall too easily into a pattern of military resolution of international conflict."

Richard Bizot, also a professor of English, who was one of the key figures in the New Politics Party during the November elections, called ROTC "an apprenticeship, not an academic discipline."

"If it is indeed an academic discipline, why then are there no graduate schools in it, or for that matter, no undergraduate degrees?" he asked.

Bizot said that charges that the program's critics are unfamiliar with its curriculum are begging the question and called for ROTC to demonstrate that it is worthy of academic credit. (cont. on pg. 4)



"Marching is the basic leadership program for every officer."

# THE OBSERVER

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Serving the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College Community

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1969

## THE WORLD TODAY

### Campuses nationwide in turmoil

By United Press International

Student strikes hit the campuses of Columbia and Purdue universities yesterday. A Cornell University dean resigned in the turbulent aftermath of the armed occupation of a campus building by black students.

Negro and Puerto Rican youths locked gates—barring students and professors on a campus of City College of New York. A sit-in plagued Villanova University.

Demonstrations, protests and wild debate echoed off the hallowed walls of ivy at dozens of colleges across the nation.

More than 7,000 students, angered by a proposed tuition increase, boycotted classes at Purdue in Lafayette, Ind.

The students Afro-American Society of Columbia University and white supporters from the radical Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) started what they dubbed a "mass evacuation" from campus.

They asked all students to stay off the Morningside Heights campus in New York City to demonstrate backing for an all-Negro board to control a black educational program and Negro admissions. There was no immediate indication how effective the boycott was. It was to continue until noon Wednesday.

At Cornell, dean of the faculty Robert B. Miller announced he had resigned as an "act of faith" with black students. He said he had put his job "on the line" in negotiations Sunday to end the armed occupation of Willard Straight Hall.

### VC kill at least one in rocket raid

SAIGON (UPI) — Communist gunners last night fired more than 20 rockets into an American camp northwest of Saigon, killing or wounding an undetermined number of U.S. troops and setting afire about 2,000 gallons of petroleum.

The U.S. command in Saigon said a barrage of "less than 25" rockets hit the camp just outside Tay Ninh city near the Cambodian border and 60 miles from Saigon.

Officers at the base said at least one American was killed and 11 wounded, but they added, "there are other casualties."

Informed military sources said the Communists have been moving a record amount of goods down the Ho Chi Minh trail which winds from North Vietnam through Laos and into South Vietnam.

### Israelis bomb Egyptian DEW line

MIDEAST (UPI) — Israeli jet fighter bombers swept across the border into Jordan yesterday and attacked Egypt's early warning radar defense system in the south and Arab guerrilla bases in the north. The strikes coincided with an urgent warning from U.N. Secretary General Thant that a "virtual state of active war now exists" in the Middle East.

An Israeli military spokesman in Jerusalem said the air strikes "completely" destroyed both of Egypt's early warning stations protecting the Suez Canal against Israel. The two posts, at El Mazar and Jebel Guwaissant, are both 28 miles inside Jordan along Israel's southern end below the Dead Sea.

Thant, in an urgent "special" report to the Security Council, said the U.N. cease-fire "has become almost totally ineffective" in the Suez Canal sector where Israeli and Egyptian forces have fought almost daily for the past two weeks with weapons ranging from small arms to heavy mortars and artillery.

Thant called the situation "grave" but did not request a meeting of the Security Council.

## Three halls consider black concentration proposals

By Bill Holley

Proposed concentrations of black students in Dillon, Alumni and Walsh halls were passed last night by the halls' councils. Under the plan the majority of black students will be divided up among the three halls and given rooms in approximately the same area of the hall.

The new setup was accomplished thru the efforts of Student Body President Phil McKenna, Art McFarland of the Afro American Society, Student Body V P Fred Detrick, and hall presidents Tony Schoaro of Alumni, Bill Picchioni of Dillon, and Hohn Dues of Walsh. McKenna explained "Members of the Afro-American Society

approached me and I talked it over with the presidents of Alumni, Dillon and Walsh." Some blacks indicated in a survey that they will not move into the concentrated areas however most of the black students including incoming freshmen will be located in the areas.

In the votes taken last night Alumni re-approved its plans while Dillon unanimously passed the proposal and Walsh passed it by a wide margin.

In the votes taken last night Alumni re-approved its plans while Dillon unanimously passed the proposal and Walsh passed it by a wide margin. Dillon's plans call for 28 blacks to live on the

first floor. About a dozen freshmen will be added to the present 8 black residents and about 8 more will be brought in from other halls. To make up for the 8 from other halls 8 freshmen will be dropped from Dillon's quota of 109 for next year. The proposal in Walsh, which calls for 17 blacks to be located on the first floor, passed by a margin of 8-4. However, in the hall council, by the request of some Walsh residents late last night, the issue will be put to a hall referendum today to decide the matter.

Alumni passed the proposed plan a hall council meeting on Tuesday night, however reaction in the hall caused the council to reconsider the issue. The plan calls for 25 black students to live on the second floor in Alumni next year. This will include 10 incoming freshmen, 7 black students already living in Alumni, and 8 upperclassmen brought in from outside the hall.

## SMC legislature tables stay senator election

A meeting of the Saint Mary's Student Legislature was called Monday night to elect three stay senators. The Stay Senator bill, introduced by Vice-President-elect Beth Driscoll, was passed last Wednesday by a vote of 14-0-2.

The bill called for the election of three members of the Legislature, by the Legislature members, to sit on the Student Assembly, in addition to the elected Assembly members, for the purpose of providing continuity and availing the Assembly of their previous experience. They would serve the student body in the position of senators-at-large.

Between Wednesday's meeting and last night's, however, some senators seemed to have reconsidered their positions on the bill. The number of stay senators to be elected was questioned as being too large in view of the apportionment of senators on the hall basis. The number of stay senators would equal the number of representatives elected from two of the halls.

The effect of stay senators could amount to intimidation of

less experienced Assembly members who might, therefore, not strongly assert their positions. The question was also raised as to why the present senators could not simply seek re-election by their constituents.

Those who still maintained support of the bill felt that continuity is so necessary that it should be formally established. They felt that stay senators would aid, rather than intimidate, less experienced Assembly members by their knowledge of previous legislation, difficulties and procedures. The question of the number of stay senators in view of hall apportionment was explained on the basis that these senators would function in an at-large capacity. The legislature, in electing stay senators, would use as criteria the effectiveness and effort of these senators on this year's board.

In view of the discussion and because Senators wanted more information on student opinion, the election was tabled until Wednesday night, at which time the bill itself is to be reconsidered.



SBP Phil McKenna

Reasons for the dissatisfaction for the setup in Alumni was that it effects rooms on the coice second floor and that there was some disapproval by section leaders of the way in which the meeting was held. In a letter the Editor in today's OBSERVER Dan Oberst, Alumni Hall council member, states dissatisfaction with the "speedy, superficial treatment of the proposal."

# Ed. council warns: govern or be governed

In the face of the present campus disorders throughout the country, the leadership of the nation's colleges and universities have urged the nation's, academic communities to "deal promptly and directly with disruptions" while warning that "violations of criminal law must be dealt with through the ordinary processes of the law."

In a four page statement issued by the American Council of Education representing some 1,500 member institutions and associations, the university

spokesmen identify "a vague but widespread discontent with the general quality of life together with "a young cult of irrationality and incivility which severely strains attempts to maintain sensible and direct communication."

Yale President Kingman Brewster, Harvard head Nathan Pusey and Notre Dame President Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, CSC were among those to draft the report.

Although emphasizing that the great majority of American campuses have remained peace-

ful and continue to fulfill their responsibilities to the nation's students, "Universities are having to divert their energies and resources from the central educational tasks in order to deal with student unrest in its various forms."

Affirming their belief that higher education can overcome the present difficulties, these educators said "Social changes have imposed many kinds of demands upon educational institutions, for which their programs, capabilities and their findings are not always inadequate. There must be emphasis on fresh approaches to old and

new problems."

"Recognizing the right and even the necessity for constructive dissent," these spokesmen for higher education said that "the academic community has the responsibility to deal promptly and directly with disruptions. If universities will not govern themselves, they will be governed by others. This elementary reality is increasingly becoming understood."

They realize that in their attempts to restate, reaffirm, and vigorously defend the academic freedom of the university community, there must be greater emphasis on faculty and student involvement.

In response to campus disorders, "violations of criminal laws must be dealt with through the ordinary processes of the law and universities must attempt to

deal with disruptive situations firmly before they reach the stage of police action." Special punitive legislation from any level of government would be "counterproductive."

Student and faculty groups must intensify their efforts to improve disciplinary procedures and formulate clear and realistic codes for dealing with misconduct, violence, and disruption.

The educator's council felt that "Student and faculty whose consciences demand that they express dissent through law violation must be prepared to accept the due process and the penalties of the law. They should not be encouraged to expect amnesty from the law. Nor should they expect amnesty from the academic discipline which is the most effective sanction in disruptive incidents."

## Lord blasts gov't for racism

Rev. Harvey Lord, chairman of the New Politics Party in Indiana, last night discussed racism in government before a small audience at the library auditorium.

He described the subtle racism "brought about when little-examined attitudes and habits of practice continue to keep whites in a superior position."

According to Lord, blacks can "trickle upward" into the higher classes of American society until a certain point. This is the point at which they begin to threaten the established power structure. "The game of politics is to keep power where it is," he said.

As an example, he cited the problem of voter registration. "Where there is a low density of black voters in a community, there will be a high rate of black voter registration and voting participation. Where there is a high density of black voters, there is a low rate of their registration and voting participation."

He also cited the pattern of elected officials as another evidence of institutional racism. "Blacks should be able to control an election with 20 or 30 percent of the population. But

they have not been able to control an election without 50 percent of the population. Indiana, for example, is 24 percent black, but only four of 100 state legislators are black.

"Government is systematically against the blacks in the appointment of patronage offices." He noted that most government appointments were made by whites to white friends.

## Mike Cullen of Milwaukee 14 to speak tonight

Michael Cullen, under indictment by state and federal authorities for taking part in and organizing the "Milwaukee 14" conspiracy, will speak at 11:45 tonight in Dillon Chapel. On September 24, 1968, Cullen and 13 other men removed approximately 10,000 1-A draft files from Milwaukee's Selective Service boards and burned them with home-made napalm in a nearby square. Cullen, 26, came to the United States from Ireland in 1964. He is director of Casa Maria House of Hospitality in Milwaukee and editor of *The Catholic Radical*.

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Eugene A. Campanale  
Associate Director  
Office of Teacher Preparation  
103 Memorial Library (foyer)  
283-7526

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# THE OBSERVER

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NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

## Somewhere a start must be made

Notre Dame, the university with a Christian commitment as a foundation and a civil rights leader as a president, is doing far less than its share to eliminate white racism in its midst and in the United States.

Father Hesburgh probably realizes this as well as anyone, and we do not envy his dual role as president of this university and chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. In the 11 years he has served on the Commission, he says he has devoted 500 days—or almost two years—to finding a cure for white racism, the problem being discussed by this week's conference. At Notre Dame, he has had a major role in what little progress has been made.

But it has been pitifully little. Today, in the 17th year of Father Hesburgh's presidency, there are about 70 black students and 7,700 white students enrolled in the university. There are two black teachers and more than 600 white teachers. There are no black administrators and no black admission counselors. To date, there is no black studies program. The real solution to institutional racism, Father Hesburgh says, is in changing the minds and hearts of people. We agree, but feel we should add that they are changed only by changing the institutions and policies that are regulating those minds and hearts.

A glance at the accompanying chart indicates the extent of our poor showing in black admissions as compared with the Ivy League schools. The administration tells us it's a question of dollars and cents, and indeed it is. Harvard has an endowment of one billion dollars; Yale, \$500 million, and Notre Dame, \$62 million. Our efforts at improving opportunities for non-white and disadvantaged students are in line with our overall financial situation, i.e., limited. Major expenditures this year have been the \$130,000 being given about 65 black students in scholarship aid, and the \$20,000 bill Father Hesburgh picked up for The Black Arts Festival.

The admissions office is currently crippled not so much by lack of scholarship money as it is by lack of interested black applicants. Senior Don Wycliff, a black student from Texarkana, Tex. and a part time admissions counselor, estimates that about 70 of the 79 blacks who applied this year will be accepted. But if this year is anything akin to the past few, no where near the 70 will accept Notre Dame. "Many people seem to have the idea," says counselor John Goldrick, "that we can just sit back and the good students will come to us—but it just isn't the case. What's a kid going to do if Harvard offers him a full ride plus a round trip ticket to visit the campus?"

He is probably not, as Goldrick points out, going to come to Notre Dame. In 1966, only 12 of the 28 black students accepted arrived on campus the next fall. In 1967, it was 29 of 77 and last year, 23 of 48. This university will probably never have enough money to attract black students on the financial basis alone. It could, however, take steps to re create a university which would be attractive in other ways to the blacks. Such

creation, and it will have to be just that, may be financed by a grant from the Ford Foundation, but the decision probably will not be announced until the summer. The black and white Notre Dame community cannot wait that long for an indication of commitment from the university administration. It cannot take the chance that the grant will not be forthcoming (there seems to be considerable such speculation) and that the fall of 1969 will find us still in the fall of 1968. For these reasons, and because we think there is a moral as well as an educational urgency to this problem, we ask the administration to promise a minimum investment of an additional \$500,000 in the black man at Notre Dame for next year. If the Ford grant is given, the \$500,000 will serve to improve that much more what will even then be an intolerable situation. Should the grant fall through, the \$500,000 could start to make a dent in some vital areas; \$100,000 could help establish a black studies program with a black director dedicated to making Notre Dame intellectually and socially relevant to black America; with \$20,000, the admissions office might be able to hire two black recruiters and get them into ghetto high schools by raising the office travel allowance from \$2,000 to \$20,000; another 35 black students could be awarded four year scholarships of \$2,500 each year. And finally, \$10,000 or so could be used to begin admissions work on bringing other minorities, especially Spanish-speaking Americans, to what would be a changing Notre Dame.

All of which is very nice, many a skeptic may say, and ask, but where will all the money come from? In reality, the above suggestion (or its facsimile) is not so nice as it is essential to the future of this university. And for essentials, Notre Dame always finds a financial way. As Father Hesburgh told the Committee for the Study of Nonviolent Resolutions, "If you can come up with a program, I'll get the money somehow." Soon after the committee met with Father Hesburgh, he had come up with \$100,000. The university receives hundreds of sizeable and unrestricted gifts each year which could be tapped for the blacks. But whatever way this is approached, an allocation of this size is apt to raise considerable havoc with the university's priorities. A havoc, we might add, that is long overdue. For too long, intellectual and social justice have been too far down on Notre Dame's list of priorities.

The opportunity to change all that is clearly Father Hesburgh's. As chairman of the Civil Rights Commission and as president of what is often regarded as this country's leading Christian university, he must be well aware of his responsibility of leadership. If his positions and his statements are to mean anything other than reinforcements of the status quo, he must begin now to make Notre Dame a national example of racial sensitivity and corresponding moral and financial commitment to change. For reason, civility and justice at Notre Dame, we ask for a start of \$500,000.

### Letters to the editor

#### Moral Bankruptcy

Editor:

In the debate on more substantial matters of university policy and direction one minor Notre Dame outrage has, unfortunately, gone almost unnoticed. As you may recall this university did not cancel classes on the day of Dr. Martin Luther King's funeral a little more than a year ago. Life went on around here just like normal even as the nation paused to mourn the slain civil rights leader. Only the Student Senate really proposed any sort of tribute, passing a resolution calling on the Administration to name one of the two new high-rise dorms after Dr. King.

Two weeks ago the first anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King was observed throughout the nation by services of commemoration and pledges by everyone up to but not including Richard Nixon that every effort would be made to eradicate racism from our society. Notre Dame's commemoration took on something of a different nature. It was announced that the new dorm would be named after J. Peter Grace.

Now I do not wish to get into a comparison of Martin Luther King and J. Peter Grace. Let it suffice to say that one man gave his life in the cause of liberating an oppressed people while the other has devoted his life to raking in profits off Bolivian tin miners who earn the equivalent of two dollars a day. However, in what is undoubtedly the equalizing factor in the minds of the moral men who administer this university, the latter individual has given thousands of dollars to Notre Dame.

Naming the dorm after Grace is, in my opinion, outrageous. There are many more important things to bitch about around here, but a certain degree of moral bankruptcy is revealed by such a comparatively inconsequential matter as naming a building after a rich alumnus as opposed to a slain civil rights leader. If this be the trend I expect Fr. Hesburgh to commemorate the first anniversary of Los Angeles by announcing that the second dorm will be

named in honor of Oliver C. Carmichael, Jr.

Most sincerely,

Joel Connelly  
216 Farley

#### Black Reflection

Editor:

The Alumni Hall Council recently approved a limited concentration of Blacks next year, in two adjoining sections of the hall. Although I and all but one of my colleagues voted for the resolution, its presentation left much to be desired.

First, although this proposal had been made known to the hall president several days previous, most of the council members were not informed of the motion until the meeting. Our votes were thus based on the rather brief discussion presented at the meeting.

Secondly, to say that the presence of the Student Body President, and several members of the Afro-American Society, during the roll-call vote was an influential factor in the voting, would be an understatement. A vote on so important an issue should have been based on reflective consideration and not subject to momental pressure.

Thirdly, because of the importance of this resolution for the members of the hall, it should have been publicly presented. As it was, section leaders were not told about the proposal in time to solicit views from their constituents. Since this plan involved bringing in of non-hall residents, in a special procedure; since it could involve the displacement of some hall members, it should have been open to general opinion.

This is not to be understood as a wholesale rejection of the idea, but rather the manner in which it came about. That these reflections come now, indicates the speedy, superficial treatment of this proposal. I think a thorough, inclusive discussion of this relevant issue, with its import on the hall and university community, would have been highly beneficial to those communities, rather than light treatment given the bill last Monday.

Respectfully,

Daniel J. Oberst  
327 Alumni

#### 1969 ADMISSION STATISTICS

	Accepted	Freshman Places	Applications	Black Acceptance	% Increase
Average of Eight Ivy League Schools	1,615	1,010	6,741	142	89 %
Notre Dame	2,800	1,600	4,400	70	46 %

Ivy League statistics from N. Y. Times April 20, 1969

# Rev. Fry blasts 'deliberate white depression'

"When the blue-eyed tourists visit my parish and see the dirt and decay and all those other evils which they heard about in Sociology 301, they don't consider the ghetto a community; it is simply a place where unfortunate people have to live."

Rev. Johy Fry, noted white clergyman from the South Side of Chicago and defender of his

Blackstone Ranger parishioners, used this theme of the black community as the focal point for his lecture on "Black Ghettos" yesterday. Dr. Fry's lecture, one of a series of presentations offered this week by the White Racism Conference, stressed the fact that the black community has been "depressed" by the concerted effort of

white agencies, political, social and religious, to dominate the black man's affairs. Fry noted that "the whole spectrum of white professional people, lawyers, social workers, politicians, all represent to the mind of the Negro the same thing police." Fry added that the black community "never forgets that it is dealing with the enemy" and characterized the resulting attitude between the ghetto dweller and the white ghetto worker as one of resentment; a "get-off-our-backs" attitude.

Rev. Fry acknowledged the fact that, although the attitude of the white ghetto worker is sincerely motivated, his end effect is often detrimental to the black community.

Rev. Fry, a minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago, located in the Woodlawn ghetto section of South Chicago, testified before a Senate subcommittee headed by Sen. John McClellan (D, Ark.) on behalf of the Blackstone Rangers.

When asked in a briefly heated question-and-answer session, what could a middle-class white do to improve the ghetto situation and black-white relations Fry replied that the white person should concern himself with working within the white controlling agencies to destroy the ingrained racism that undoubtedly exists there. But the ghettos themselves, Fry stressed, should be left up to the black community.

## Girls to pick 14 reps

Nominations for positions on the Student Assembly and for Hall Presidents opened Monday at Saint Mary's and will continue until Thursday midnight. Students may apply for positions open to them in their next year's residence hall.

The apportionment of Student Assembly representatives will be five from Le Mans, three each from Holy Cross and McCandless, two from Regina and one off-campus representative. This is on the basis of one representative per hundred members of each constituent group.

The Student Assembly will exercise the power to make formal statements and recom-

mendations on legislation and policy in all areas affecting students to all three College Councils and their committees. It will settle all matters of jurisdiction in Student Government and hold final check on all its functions by approving all budgets and student appointments and by its power to initiate recall proceedings.

Hall Presidents will manage all hall functions, regulations and problems. They will appoint hall councils to aid in hall affairs and will work with the hall representatives to the Student Assembly in formulating hall regulation.

All candidates must submit platforms to Sally Strobel by Friday noon and participate in an open forum with their constituents on election day, May 2.

## ROTC critics claim political poison

*continued from page 1*

"The university is providing this service to the military at the expense of the students," he added. But he conceded that "I think it's a good thing that military officers (if we must have them) not be mindless boobs."

Rev. Ernest Bartell, chairman of the economics department said that although he was a pacifist, his objection to the program was strictly on a professional level.

Bartell claimed that "the system supporting ROTC is not the academic community."

"This institutionally compromises the spirit of liberal inquiry," he said. "This is not a reflection on any of the individuals involved in the program, since I know that some of them have done their best to overcome this. However, they are working in this compromised system, which can always overrule them."

"We teach a three-hour Spanish course in CILA," he explained. "We decided not to

ask for University credit, since we want to control the course and not submit to outside review. I think ROTC could do the same and still attract students, just as we do."

In an editorial which ran last week in 28 college newspapers across the country, ROTC is charged with being "not only antithetical to the ultimate purposes of higher education, but contrary to basic pedagogical principles as well." The editorial continues, claiming that the program's teaching methods are based on a doctrinaire approach.

But perhaps the most damning part of the editorial is the paragraph which cites an officer at the University of Minnesota:

"In a frighteningly serious echo of *Catch 22*, he declared, "Marching is the basic leadership program for every officer."

Although it might be interesting to learn exactly what the context of this statement was, it is an understatement to say that such quotes do not attract those who may be trying to make up

their minds on the issue. Many students, as a matter of fact object to ROTC, or find themselves unwilling to join precisely for the emphasis placed on marching and the "Marine-Corps-builds-men" genre of recruitment.

Senior Pete McInerney recalled seeing signs in the washrooms on campus at the beginning of the year which depicted several military weapons and bore the caption "See the display of these weapons and the men who know how to use them this afternoon at the ROTC building."

"I really couldn't believe it," he recalled. "I wonder if they realize that such advertising probably turned off more students than it attracted."

Junior Tim McCarry also spoke in this vein when he said, "There have been studies of the authoritarian personality and its affinity for military-type discipline and the military environment."

"There is this unquestioned political content which underlies ROTC training on all levels," he said. "The really distasteful word in that sentence is 'unquestioned'."

Mist critics would agree with McCarry and cite the use of certain training films which serve to reinforce this belief. They perceive the program as one of subtle political indoctrination, in addition to the merely military phase which many disagree with as well.

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