## Chapter XX II begin PJ 473

Chapter 8 of this Part VI has a title like a novelist would give it in an effort to suggest a meaning not there. It is "A Black Pullover Sweater with Jagged Holes in it" (pages 708ff.) Here again Mailer reports largely to verbatim excerpts from the testimony about the questioning of Oswald's mother, wife and brother after his arrest. It is a carefully nagled selection made is apper prejudicial to Oswald could to make him appear to be guilty. To that Hailr adds more of his lows distance and yearslater mind reading that seems designed to give the impression that Oswald ups a Com-Maile munist uside his asking John Abt to represent him: to convey the well:

will his Mart II Oswald had resigned!

(If [that most indispensible of all words to Mailer in this book] Oswald had been working for COLUTER COLUTELPRO it would seem he had not yet resigned!

Perhaps [ still another indispensible for nonfiction writing, a la Mailer, anyway] he is being doggedly simple. Aby will know his to give him a political frense and dramat ize his trial. The Communist Party will have to pay by a heavy price for that, but Oswald & balance sheet, the personal plus will have more than compensate for the Party's gaping minus," (page 712).

Fortunately for Mailer, he attempts to give this neither basis nor meaning, neither existing. And in the course of it he manages not to mention that Abt had declined to represent Oswald and thet the police never did tell 'swald that, resulting in his never having a lawyer to defend him. There were of ther lawyers who told the police immediately that they would refpresent him and the police never told Oswald that, either.

"Aby would know how to give him a political defense"? There is no meaning in this at all. Even more dishonest, and it is intendedly dishonest, is the bas cless inference that Oswald not only was guilty but that he had been in cahoots with The Communist Party in the assassination, and thus, because of guilt, the only possible defense was a "political" defense," whetever could be meant by that, no possible other or 1473 meaning bding apparent. That any defense would be of non-guilt is outside Mailer's concept, natural enough for him because for three degades, without contamination of it with the actual evidence that as always available to Mailer, he has merely assume Oswald's guilt. Why an innocent man would want of accept "a political defense" Mailer does hot mailer. Say. Nor does he say how that could or would "dramatize his trial." Nor does he say what a whith he means that, in fact, possibly mean, by "Oswald's balance sheet."

He also assumes that Bet was a lawyor for the Comminist "arty only and that it would automatically be involved and would be wanting to be despote what mailer imagined, that it "will have to pay a heavy price for ix that."

All of this gross and deliberately dishonest writing is rade possible by Mailer's suppression of the fact that Aby immediately refuse to represent Oswald and the fact that the police never told Osw 1d.

And all of this is made possible by "ailer's invention of the impossible that as We have een, his entire book depends upon, Oswald's "employment" by that special FBI Mar of component that never existed, and he even puts that aft er his omnipresent "if", "If Oswald had been working for gave COINTEEPRO."

That in this formulation there was a consprincy appears never to have dawned on Mailer or Random House. It means that Oswald would have been conspiring to kill the President for that special , in in fact non-existing FBI component COINTELPRO!

"Shrewd" isn't it? "Brilliant" and of course, "definitive"," too!

And how much "clearer" an "idea of the character of the events," Mailer's words of eighteen years equiler could be give his feaders into for whom the "knowledge of what happened is so "essential to a democracy"? could Mailer give - than by making it all up, EN J as he does, without even a rational basis for what he makes up for his own "balance UAU sheet"?

In all of this, consistent with the ghastly overtness of his dishonesty, Mailer even undertakes to shelter the police from their failure to tell Oswald that Abt had refused to represent him. Instead he has Ruth Paine trying to reach Abt and failing (page 712).

His deliberate dbshonety in protecting all of public authority, having just protected the police all over again for their failure to tell Oswald that Abt had

refused to be his lawyer, Mailer extends the same favor to the federal government. He says that "Saturday evening, Marina and Marguerite and June and Rachel were moved by Secret Service men from the Hotel Adolphus (where there were too many people around for good security over to the Executive Inn near Love Field" (page 713).

And here Mailer drops all of that.

They were not aken to the Executive Inn for more "security" and they were taken from there, as Mailer does not say, as soon as the Secret Service made other arrangements.

There was no rational reason for suspecting that anyone would harm any of Oswald's family but there was reason to fear that downtown the media might reach and speak to the family. Moreover, what the Secret Service wanted to do and did was to hold "arina incimmuni cade and with nobody to turn to. That is made the immediate pressures on her possible, befause she is so utterly alone and a de facto captive.

Mailer's etermined ignorance of the factual literative of which, as we have ly/ seen, he knew, is what made this deliberate dihonet writing possible for him. The actual facts were all laid out for him nd for others in my 1966 boo // Whitewash IX:

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The stage is set for us by the report of Secret Service Agent Charles E. Kunkel, Document 533 in File 87, folder 4. This report covers the week beginning just before Oswald's murder. It is dated December 3, 1963, and captioned in reverse, "Activities of the Oswald family from November 24 through November 30, 1963". It recounts the official rather than the Oswald family activities, for Marina's were anything but spontaneous. end,

Note the icy brutality casually reported, the indifference to the feelings of Oswald's wife, mother and brother in this carefully phrased, almost dehumanized language: "...information was received over the two-way radio that Oswald had been shot while being transported (an untruth) from the Dallas Police Department to the Dallas County Sheriff's Office".

What did the Secret Service do?

They told <u>none</u> of the femily. Oswald's brother Robert, who overheard the news, left on his own for the hospital.

Only after Oswald's mother, wife and children were on their way out of Dallas, in the Secret Service's custody and on the way to the Inn of the Six Flags Motel at Arlington, Texas, did Kunkel tell them part of the bed news. His original intention was for them not to go to the hospital, and they did not. One can imagine the phrasings he actually used when a wife and mother did not rush to the bedside:

At approximately 12:00 noon ... departed ... with the intention of taking them to the motel in Arlington. Shortly after departing the Executive Inn, the reporting agent advised the Oswalds that Lee had been shot and was in serious condition. However, they decided to continue on to the motel in Arlington. During the trip information was received over the two-way radio that Lee had died shortly after arriving at Parkland Hospital. Upon hearing this information, Mrs. Lee Oswald and Mrs. Marguerite Oswald <u>insisted</u> on going to the hospital ... (emphasis added).

Was it for their "security " that the Secret Service trief to keep secret from his family the fact the Oswald had been shot? And would not take them to the

hospital until after they "insi sted" on being Taken tehre?

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Through the cloud of self-serving language, through the word-sifting, it is apparent that, even after the husband-fatherson was already dead, the Secret Service discouraged his loved ones from going to him. They "insisted", however.

Whether or not Kunkel gave the bereaved ones to understand just how serious Oswald's injuries were, he knew. Whether or not he discouraged their visit to the hospital before he knew of the death - and by his own admission he did afterward - how subhuman can a federal agent be when on his own he did not immediately tell the women the truth, on his own rush them to the deathbed?

From even a narrow police interest, not speeding his family to Oswald was questionable. If there was any chance of a deathbed

confession, it would most likely have been made to his wife or mother. The inference is that the Secret Service was satisfied to have a suspect whose guilt had already been framed, limned by the outrageous and illegal conduct of the local police, unimpeded by any of the federal authority involved. The Secret Service needed no deathbed confession. It risked no deathbed denial.

How solicitous was the Secret Service of the feelings of the just-widowed stranger in our land, a girl alone and lost, plunged deeper into fear and suffering by the horror of the ghastly crimes with which her husband had been charged, suffering the terrors of loneliness and anxiety, worrying about how she would now care for her two infant girls and herself with no means of support, and what would happen to her because of the awfulness of the crimes laid to her deed husband?

The first thing they did was to compel her to participate in a protracted grilling, styled "interview" in Kunkel's report. This was callous, less than humane, not necessary, and continued even when she finally protested. Kunkel does not here report its length, what he forced the grieving widow to endure. He says only that it began that evening, the day her husband was murdered.

A This represents the "security" concerns of the CIA Secret Service?

This does not represent abominable abuse rather than Vsecurity"?

Its abusive duration can be imagined from the length of the typed transcript. I have a copy. It is 45 pages long. Because questions and answers required both translation and explanation, the time consumed was much greater than is reflected on paper. The intimidating effect on Marina needs no exposition. Any police agency treating her with such undisguised brutality was capable of anything. And, as she knew, she was subject to deportation. In this connection, note that from Kunkel's report the first federal official to see Marina, aside from the FBI and Secret Service, was not a lawyer, not someone to counsel her and offer guidance or advice, not someone to apprise her of her legal rights. It was "Fred Harvey of the Immigration and Naturalization Service", who spent two hours with her.

Threats are abundantly reflected in lengthy excerpts from her September 6 testimony quoted in WHITEWASH (pp.133-6). Before the FBI went to work on her, this man of whom Marina testified, "I was told that he had especially come from New York", advised her, "it would be better for me if I were to help them".

She was equally uninhibited in her commentary on what the FBI did and told her:

... if I didn't want to answer they told me that if I wanted to live in this country, I would have to help in this matter, even though they were often irrelevant. That is the FBI.

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In a later lengthy handwritten memorendum, from the translation of which we quote, she said she was "offended at the FBI agents who have been tormenting me every day ... I think that they should not count on my practically becoming their agent if I desire to stay and live in the United States."

What little of this was presented to the full Commission was made more palatable by General Counsel Rankin, who led Marina to testify before the members that she was not under compulsion before the Commission. Her appearance was "my voluntary wish, and no one forced me to do this," she said in response to his leading question, "And you have come here because you want to tell us what you could about this matter, is that right?" ( $\rho c q \ell \beta \beta - \gamma \ell$ )

If the Secret Service was really worried about "security" for Oswald's surviviors then i t had to be <u>suspeio</u> suspicious of the FBI in this regard because it not only sequestered <sup>H</sup>arina and held her incommunicated it kept where it had her secret even from the FBI. And it was only after the FBI learned that it was able to really put the heat on her, as we saw earlier, threatening her with deportation if she did  $\mathcal{M}$  $\mathcal{VTS}$ 

Which, naturally, well-known as it was, Mailer had no room for when he had only eight hundred and twenty-eight pages and when, as we have Seenry he got in the his abuses and defamations of <sup>M</sup>arina early on in them, long before this point in his book.

The "Black a Pullover Sweater with the Jagged Holes" is the noveilists touch with which he ends this chapter. To gets to Ruby's killing Oswald. His source is Hoffllan, whowsweater weater weater with the secret of what Oswald wore. For the cind of book Mailer had iN mind all along and ultimately did write this trivia is the essence, not what he omitted, not what he lies about. The true "blackness" is in Mailer's personal and professional reflection of what of geo quote what he perpetrates for fame and fortune. That is what impels him to geo quote what he "lilan made up in her support of the official accounts assassing assassing the new profession of Oswald's guilt that she also assumed. Which is not at all inconcistent with her having sought to go to work for the CIA and as the recently disclosed CIA records also reflect, having forved its different whether or not she was ever on its payment oayroll.

She wrote that when Captin Will Frity suggested to Oswald W"that he wear and hat to camoglage his looks", [sic] once again, as he had done on entering the jail two days earlier, Oswald refused. He would let the world see who his was," (page 716).

This is Mailer's notion, too, that all Oswald did reflected g wilt and that

It which be stredforstil denied as the Mailless and mic millions never address. he killed the Presient to become famous.

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The more obvious meching, one that requires no mindpreading and ESP, is that as an innocent man he would not make himself look guilty, as the police sought to talk end 479 him into doing, by hiding his face.

That is consisent with innocence and innocence is the clear meaning of the official evidence. The innochent man has no need to hige his face.

It is the same coassness that impels Mailer to title his next chapter, in quotation marks, "He cry; He Eye Wet." (pages 747 ff). Three pages Later we learn that # this is his quotation of what #arguerite said Marina sad when they overcame Secret Service resistance that began with refusal and were taken to the & hospital to see the dead Lee. The assecref Service zeason for refusing to take them to the hospital is women and betres that their "security" ended where they were and at the hospital they would be under only "police protection" (page 719),

As Mailer continues to trace his particular scrimshaw, double-Puliter scrimshaw that it is, he quotes Robert Oswald as having said that the day in Ruby's (killing Lee and the day before "Hhere were rumors in Dallas that the 'conspiracy' might in-Volvie some government & agency" (pag e 722) of this "obert/added, "I realized that the agency under greatest suspicion was the FBI," (pape 7272). "Realized?"

That was all Mailer needed to kick himself in the teeth with his fabrication of Lee having worked for that nonexisting FBI component, "Given the covert existence of COINTELPROVisin the earlySisties, there may have been reason for the suspicion ... (page 722).

Form here Mailer slobbers along for a few more pages, ending with Oswald's burial. He ends his "Denouement" Part VI with these words the first of which he says or refer to something he says Oswald said win the USSR:

allet

end 480 WWe can measure the hardening of Oswald's spirit in the journey he has taken from that impassioned outburst to where he presently rest in a grave bought in the name of Røbert Bobo."

For this he hasy an needs, no souvce. Where Oswale is bried is not secret. Years ago his body had been exhumed an examined to ascertain that it really was him buried Athere.

Mailer's taste in this writing is what can be expected of a man whoring his way the through history This is True, of course, of his corruption of fact and of reality, of he dishonestives without number as he fictionalizes history for fame and fortnue, for money at the cost of his and our integrity. It is in this sense that his Part title is appropriate as as he did not intend. As he continues to be his own Harlot's Ghost fue W mailer at a she did not intend. As he continues to be his own Harlot's Ghost fue W mailer at a for an abatement of honesty in his choice of "Denovement" for his fart title. His own publisher's unabridged dictioary gives as its meaning,

"The final resolution of the intqracies of a plot, as of a drama or a novel."

That is what Mailer palms off as an account of four great national tragedy of the ssassination and what ensued, a cheap "to drama", a cheap "novel." How could it be anything else when he labor/Through more than veven hundred for the most boring and belaboted pages of the f effluxia of the childish concept of a

sick mind domained by the sick concept that by preserving his state of pristine subjectand labors through his matter ignorance abd rehashing the most dishonest selections of what was long published, adding only what he makes up and belieing with that indominatible ego that whatever pops into his mind os factual and true the Moment it announces itself to him no matter how obviously untrue, how obviously impossible, it in reality is?

UIN this digrace to any self-response writer the question now is, is it really Mailer's own denouement?  $M^2 48/$ 

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Ess questionzacce szizzthizzerekiy That it is is as it should be for the man who made himself into the real Harlot's "host and who in doing that served, besides his own interests as he saw them, beginning with greed, those wf for whom the Harlot's Ghost of his fiction worked. Anything that is mixrepresents the Known fact of the JFK assassination and its investigations, anyThing that confuses the people more about them does for the spooks what they cannot do for themselves.

Mailes's personal and professional denouement Mailer vs, Tales, pathetic takes, too, Of the JFK Assassination that he corrupts them lf is pethetic into necause for all his indubitable writing skills, for all the prizes for writing, he came up with a childish formula that in concept was worthless at Abest; in execution is worse than a is / boring and warthathan worthless honstraity; is the indulgence of his overweening ego when common eense shoyld have told him he was trashing himself and his reputation-if also ; not the future value of his writing - and because he failed to karn from the spectacle he made of himself in his novel Harlot's Ghost in which he displayed the gelf-characterization of his imagination when he lets it drag him into areas that require factual knowleade, areas is which if he puts on paper the silliness that bubbles up in his mind he is self-ryi ruinous. et This is what he boast boasts he did in his books to make his book, what he should have learned was bombing on the market before he had that excited apearance with Byth Buddy morning had by then let some store that could not seel his book discounting it by a forth of its cover price. <sup>B</sup>y then I had reports that in public libraries people were taking his book out one day and returning it the next day, telling the liprarians that they did not like it and did not read far into it before realizing it. and buy Gur will by get MD 482 Whith all the attention Random loyse got for it, that major part of The NewYorker, the Parade cover stprythat apeared is so many multimultimillion copies is so many In months Sunday papers, all the TV attention, national and local all the interviews and all the reviews (of his fellow literary whore, ordinarily would have bought any book at least a

single bes -seller rating for at least one week. But for all of that, for all Mailer's reputation and following, it did not. Not once.

 $onumber \delta$  So his fart VI title is well and appropriately chosen because it is his personal rather than his & book's "Denoument."

He does nothing to relieve this and doeshis bes $\mathcal T$  to assure it in his unoriginal account of Ruby and his killing of Oswald in his Part VII. It has the title "The

Ed Becker, a symbol FBI informer, told it that Carlos Marcello and Santo whithing Trafficante, (nob bosses for Louisiana and the Tampa area of Folorida, were gro going 48 to have JFK killed. Their alleged Acason was to stop mafia prosecutions by his brother, the attorney general. That to stop Bobby the thing to do was the kill Bobby did not officeur to any of those who saw money in using Becker's fabrication. had his ghost writewhet he believed the FBI would Ragano, in a serious trouble himself, Azziziezköizwhatzkezkeitevedzitzwenktzx

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Ragano, in a serious trouble himself, axaaking karaking believed the int would 2 like, that the mob was behind the ssassination. That what Becker made up had no credibility is minor compared with the clear and upquestionable fact that after his brother as assassination Bodd Bobby did not ease of on prosecuting the mafie and those like Jimmy Hoffa he believed were associated with it of made no difference to Mailer almost three decades after this was the estable fact. Truth and fact were never considerations for him in writing this book.

In the rest of this chapter,

Amateur Hitman<sub>t</sub>" (pages 733ff). Once again his Part and its first chapter have the same title. It in fact is the only chapter of this Part.

published twenty-six volumes.

Right off the bat Mailer uses his most often used source, what he whould like to be wist squirts and slithers into his mind, to decalre that Ruby was, no matter what, mafia:

nident single space

"He is of the mob in the specific values of his code" although "too Macky, too eager, too obsessed with himself, too Jewish veven for the Jewish Mob. All the same he is pure [sic] Mafia in one part of his spitit - he ants to be known as a patriot. ... He is loyal. Select him an you will not make a mistake (page 733). ... Much of the world now believed that "uby was a Mafia hi t man. (page 734).

Mailer loves another of the books of assassination myths, Carlpglesby's (Aug. 130). The Yankee and the Corboy War Oglesby, one of the organizers of those disinformation specialists who called themselves "The Assassination Information Bureau," was one of those who were entranced by the conspilatorial aspects of Ruby's asking the Commission to take him to Washington where he could talk freely, as he said he could not in Dallas.

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(It theorizes the assassination in terms the competing moneyed interests of Wall Street and Texas.)

That nothing at all happened to Ruby when he was deponded in secrecy by the Commission, with only the FBI present in addition to Compission members and staff, does not diminsh the dedication of these many assassination nutries from their belief that there was a reason Ruby dared not mention to the Commission for him to fyear WA well a matter mail of Mar years had cuby that a limp getting killed in Dallas, where was entirely unmolested and where he was every alone in his maximum-security cell baxx

Mailer uses the utterly worthlessSchiller tapes of three decades earlier to reifforce his belief that glesby's book is "brilliant," (page 7340). 3294 here

Although Ruby was alone in his cell Mailer likes the nonsense to which he

Not all that easy when he was under constant guard by rotating shift of Dalls policemen who sat outside his cell around the clock and whenhe was alone in his cell, but Mailer likes it, so what the hell, he say Auty Aut .

As Mailer soks to make a case of nothing so he ends this Part/chapter he uses MrsKaren Bennett <sup>C</sup>arlin, one of Ruby's stripped, heavily. From Posner's book. She is the We one why asked #Ruby to Western Union twenty-five dollars to her so she could get grozeries. Following quotation of her saying that Ruby was always asking here, "Dow you think I look like a queere" in several different formulations (pages 757-8), after Mailer's last rept repetition of This he abruptky has this sentence standing alone: "A man of many sides. He loved animals."

Hailer, with no source for the above quotation but preeding it and following it with Hailer s his source Posner is his source, quotes Posner as saying that Kuby In so love his dachsund Sheba that he "would never have take that dog with him and left it in the car if he was going to shoot Oswald and end up in jail," (page 858) O This Posner quotos from then assistant district fattorney "ill Alexander and

It is more than a reasonable opinion. It is a certainty,

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But in his pa portrayal of Ruby and in his dependence upon other it

assassinatuonl literary whores like Posner, Mailer missed telling his readers just how Ruly much her loved his animals," Sheba at least.

As Mailer manages not to say here, apparently because his second-hand sourfices did not, Ruby referred to Sheba as his "wife."

The fear of the Dallas Society for the Prevention of Cruelity to Animals,

expressed in it letter to DA Henry Wade that I saw mays tells him it feared that Ruby was treating Sheba as his wife.

Mailer's Part VIII is titled "Oswald's Ghost," (pages 762 , ff). From itextex the title of his first chapter this is still more mythology, "The Punishment of Hosty and Owen of Hosty and the Peath of the Handler." As it relates to Mailer's imaging imagined CIA "handler" of Ostald, of which we have seen more than enough, and there is no point in repeating all that Mailer nonsense again. He begins his Hosty fairy tale by quoting not the official records of the FBI's investigation of itself over the destruction of Hosty MAND / threatening note of again quoting McMillan's version of what Hosty says he said.) In his defense of Hosty Mailer still clings to his making up that (CINTELPRO (BI component:

Muite Side from Mailer's ignorance and stupidity in making up for the FBI that (component it & never had and not source event suggested existed, that too oozing from the most commonly used Mailer source, his sick mind, there is an absolute certainty that only the most determined of ignoranuses about the FBI) for which we can safely regard Mailer's ultimately self-confessed ignorance about the "legitilate" Gis CIA as a fair standard for val evaluating anything he says about it, would not know. That absolute certainty is that everything ab out the "legitimate" COINTELERO program, as distinguished from the FBI component Mailer just invested, was a"defined with high clarity" at FBIHQ. (That other than to subject-matter ignoranuses is without any question at akl. What did not come from the proposals made by FBIHQ components came from the field offices, affece an each and every the wequired FBIHQ approval, and all of that was put in writing.

How else could all that came to be known about the "legitimate" COINTELERD, Multiply of the second in response to the FOIA efforts of Carl Stern, who was then the NBC-TV News legal corres- 648 7 pondent in Wasgington? And at the time Mailer's sicker Tales was published Mem was the chief press officer of the "epartment of Justice? It is only in Mailer's transmogrification of the "legitimate" COINTELERO into a non-existing functioning FBI component that its "working boundaries" would "is be defined i with high clarity."

And so Mailer finds Hosty s disciplining to be "ironic."

Without ever telling his readers the reason given for Hosty's disciplining along with almost a dozen and a half others of whom Mailer makes no mention.

It was not, as Mailer says, over that note. If he had known anything at all a about the "legitimate" FBI he would have known that it would never have created any such record, and high ton file,

They were all in fact charged withviolation of FBI standards and procedures that inclued not placing Oswald's name on special FBI indices of ally a curve fuels.

For which, as a matter of "legitimate A fact Oswald did not, from the FBI's own records, qualify.

Wey were disciplined unjustly and That was to cover Hoover and other FBIHQ ass. That was also to explain away the FBI's nei failure to tell the Dallas police about Oswald's presence in their area. But it has no connection with that note at all.

Mailer's fabricating of that nonexisting COINTELFRO operating part of the BI

and in the sense the word means to lie it is also appropriate, of nothing at all, without even a reason for suspecting it, without a single citation to any source on any mention of it, tells us all that need be known of that prime source of Mailer(s, the murk of his mind. This applies not only to his fiction, his being a liar in saying that de hohrenschildt was the CIA's "handler" of Oswald - it's his entire book's claired history 488 of Oswald, of his imagined and invented personality.

This is aMailer's mark of himselfas a fraud, of his we pretended nonfiction as intended fraud, which this book of his is, and it raises the most substanital questions about Bandom House's publication of it.

With that enormous promotional and advertsing fort. In unit fulltanal And withput peer review.

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Especially because Mailer does not hide the fact that he makes much if not most w full shiry of this up is Random House collpable of expecting to make a killing of the palpably fraudulent book.

Which on the assassination in recent years has been a Random House specialty.

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