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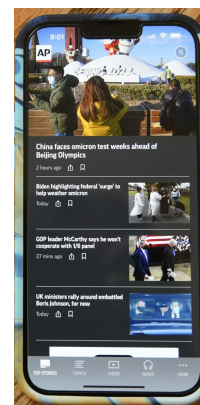
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# Connecting

Oct. 31, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Oct. 31, 2023,

Happy Halloween to all the witches and goblins among us! If you're donning costume to go out trick or treating or to do some partying, send us a photo.

Here's a Small World story that would be hard to top - involving two of our Connecting colleagues: New York photographer **Richard Drew** and AP Stylebook editor **Paula Froke**.

Here's what [Richard](#) - had to say:

Out of the blue Saturday I received a surprise email from the sister of my long-ago, high school girlfriend about a recently discovered photo I shot of her and her prom date (now her husband) in a Los Angeles suburb in 1969.

I graduated from Arcadia High School in 1964.

The second surprise is that it was on her husband's LinkedIn account: Jeffrey B. Froke, PhD.

In my reply I asked him if, by chance, he was related to Paula Froke, AP's Stylebook editor -- he responded:



Paula Froke is my distant cousin, whom I have not met but have indeed known about from her prominent career: our respective grandfathers were brothers, the second generation of the Froke family born in the US, their father Christian Ole Froke was born in Iowa. His father, Ole Christenson Froke was from Norway. My grandfather was Andrew Burton Froke and hers was Peter Marcus Froke. Martha and I visited the Froke — Frok Farm in Norway, BTW, our name originally was Frog.

The Martha he refers to is his wife, sister of my former girlfriend.

He added: FYI, my father, Dr. Leo B. Froke was a physician who practiced in Temple City.

I then lived in Temple City.

Paula responded to the news in my email to her:

Oh my, I don't even have words. That is stunning. What an incredibly small world indeed. And the fact that it involves Frokes makes it even more remarkable. There aren't many of us.

I'm fascinated that he knows so much about the family history, including my grandfather's full name. And that he's even heard of me. AND that he visited the family farm in Norway. I will need to get details. I'd love to visit there.

**BE CAREFUL WITH SNOWBLOWER:** [Ken Smith](#) - I'm from Wisconsin so I know a little bit about winter. I noted Jim Clarke's comment in Monday's Connecting on the paper and the snowblower. I learned through the experience of others that even though a snowblower is off, if it is jammed, the blades can snap forward due to torque once the obstruction is removed. I know of folks who have damaged their hand or worse. So just in case he wasn't aware of the danger I thought it was important to pass along a warning.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live it to your fullest.

Paul

# Associated Press Slammed for Headline Calling Anti-Semitic Lynch Mob in Russia an Anti-Israel 'Protest'

Alex Griffing  
MEDIAite

The Associated Press sparked a backlash on social media Sunday as critics slammed its initial headline reporting on an anti-Semitic mob in Russia that was looking for Jews at an airport after they had heard a flight landed from Tel Aviv.

A conservative commentator, who goes by "AG" online, tweeted out the initial headline from AP which read, "Crowd storms Russian airport to protest flight from Israel." AG added, "WTF kind of description is this, @AP? You have a blood thirsty mob checking for passports and searching for Jews, and you describe it as 'a protest'?"

"A mob in the same exact place flooded a hotel yesterday to check the rooms for Jews. What were they protesting? They are trying to lynch Jews and the absolute imbeciles at the AP are framing it like a sit-in protest. Just despicable," he added.

"If only there was a more accurate word for this type of behavior!" replied data guru Nate Silver with a screenshot of the definition for "riot." CNN's Dana Bash covered the event on Sunday and while not referring to the AP article directly, she noted that some had called the mob a "protest" it was most certainly "not an anti-war protest, it was an antisemitic hunt for Jews."

Read more [here](#).

## Life After AP

**Jim Hood** - As Connecting AP (Oct. 30) notes, the way the news business is going, it's a good time to keep the resume up to date and be psychologically ready to make strategic moves quickly. It may even be necessary to do something other than journalism.

Sure, leaving the news business is scary but I am living proof that it can be done. After I left AP and then UPI, I was convinced my meaningful life was over. But a few short days later, I walked into very spiffy new offices across the street from AP's Broadcast News Center as a full-fledged operative in one of the many skunk works that dot the city.

Instead of seeking out and reporting on corporate skullduggery, I would be creating it. Our firm was not a P.R. house, oh no. We styled it a consulting firm specializing in public affairs strategy. Lobbying, in other words.

I had pictured smoke-filled rooms and straight bourbon on tap but it was much more genteel. I mostly used my research skills to dig into the challenges faced by our clients and figure out how to make their desires mesh with those of interests that might normally be considered competitors or even enemies. (Trust me. It's easier than it sounds).

Our small firm was eventually acquired by an enormous firm, described as a "powerhouse" by the Washington Post. We were part of the largest advertising agency in the world, the name of which faded from view (and from my memory) after the indictments, but that's another story.

Fittingly, being a big firm, we had the world's biggest conference table, referred to as The Aircraft Carrier. It was a major profit center, with seating for up to 30 high-priced consultants (us).

We would meet there daily, talking nonsense at the client's expense. Thirty consultants at \$400 per hour each can get expensive so we mostly met in the morning, then adjourned for costly lunches at client expense.

The rewards of working in such an environment far exceed what you might expect. I wrote speeches, op-eds and so forth for prominent figures who had been recruited at vast expense to read what we handed them. I was never prouder than the day a onetime Cabinet member and former governor returned from delivering one of my masterpieces.

"I gave a hell of a speech yesterday in Milwaukee," he said. "I had a really good joke too," which he then repeated and paused for me to laugh heartily. I could have reminded him that I had written the thing but he never remembered who I was so it would have been a waste of perfectly good breath.

And best of all, you don't have to move to Washington to pursue a career in public service. Every state capital in America has a plethora of log-rolling firms. They all need good writers and story-tellers. The work is usually easy enough, although you must be ready to despise your coworkers.

Fortunately, I was able to use my time in the skunk works to save enough money to return to being an ink-stained wretch, starting a little news company called Zapnews. We had a few rickety tables and four very cheap greasy spoons in a creaky old office building in the wilds of Virginia but we had a good time and everybody pretty much liked everybody else, other than me, of course.

***BEST OF THE WEEK — FIRST WINNER***

**Special Citation: Israel-Hamas War coverage**



Since Oct. 7, Associated Press staff in Gaza and Israel have worked tirelessly to cover the war — and to go beyond the news with deep, impactful coverage.

From live feeds and NR/CR videos to powerful photographs, text stories, audio and interactives, the Associated Press has written the first draft of history by covering the spot news around the clock — and by going deeper with resonant journalism about individuals directly affected by the war. These stories are written by colleagues who themselves have evacuated their homes and struggle to get food and water, by colleagues for whom air raid sirens have become a part of daily life.

Outside of the region, colleagues have written thoughtful analysis and all-formats takeouts on the broader resonance of the Israel-Hamas war. They've edited text, photos and video and worked to ensure that our standards are met throughout the report.

Because of that work across the AP, we this week honor all of those colleagues who've contributed to the urgency, breadth and depth of the report across all formats in our coverage of the Israel-Hamas war with a Special Citation, most especially those in the region.

Read more [here](#).

## ***BEST OF THE WEEK — SECOND WINNER*** **AP team provides up-close look at controversial, remote fishery**





Stockholm video journalist David Keyton and Miami newsperson Josh Goodman spent more than two weeks aboard a ship off the Antarctic Peninsula to produce a rare, up-close look at the world's most remote fishery.

The story centered on krill, a shrimp-like crustacean at the foundation of Antarctica's ecosystem that's food for a rebounding whale population and a critical carbon sink that benefits the entire planet. It's also a valuable commodity, used as feed for farm-raised fish and in omega-3 dietary supplements.

The coverage from the waters off Antarctica, supplemented by reporting on the ground from five countries, chronicled the removal of tons of krill from the ocean and tracked it to farms, supermarkets and drugstores around the world. It told a nuanced story about a controversial fishing practice that's vehemently opposed by some scientists and activists but defended by the industry as responsible and sustainable.

In addition to his video and photos from the trawler, Keyton captured footage of krill being offloaded from a cargo ship in Uruguay and later traveled to Norway to interview the CEO of the company responsible for driving much of the consumer demand for krill.

Marshall Ritzel, working with climate news editor Alyssa Goodman, produced a stunning presentation that captured the breadth and beauty of the reporting. Ritzel also edited a seven-minute video that was voiced by Keyton.

For an exclusive look at what the harvesting of small creatures in remote Antarctic seas could mean for global food chains, Keyton, Goodman and Ritzel share Best of the Week — First Winner.

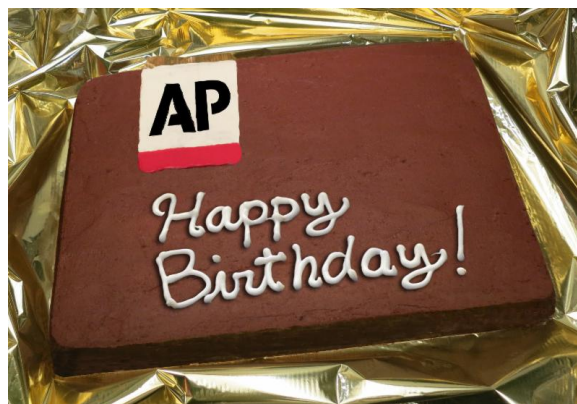
Read more [here](#).

## More from Gibraltar



[Lynne Harris](#) - Malcolm's photos from Bar Harbour reminded me that I took a similar photo of Gibraltar last August as my ship was sailing north...

## Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Gene Blythe](#)

[Betsy Brenner](#)

[Mike Graczyk](#)

# Stories of interest

## ***Online antisemitic threats unnerve Jewish students and spark condemnation at Cornell University*** (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

ITHACA, N.Y. (AP) — Threatening statements about Jews on an internet discussion board have unnerved students at Cornell University and prompted officials to send police to guard a Jewish center and kosher dining hall.

The menacing, anonymous messages, posted over the weekend in an online forum about fraternities and sororities, came amid a torrent of antisemitic and anti-Muslim rhetoric that has flowed on social media during the ongoing Israel-Hamas war.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul pledged during a visit to Cornell's Center for Jewish Living on Monday that state police would work to identify anyone making online threats and hold them accountable.

"No one should be afraid to walk from their dorm or their dining hall to a classroom," she said. "When speech crosses over into hate speech and into hate crimes, that's when we have to make sure that students know that we'll step up and protect them."

Read more [here](#).

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## ***When journalists are killed in Gaza, more lives are at stake*** (Los Angeles Times)

LZ GRANDERSON

CNN anchor Sara Sidner was live on air from the West Bank when she was confronted by an angry pro-Palestine protester. He walked up to her quickly — getting within a couple of inches of her face — before yelling: "You are not welcome here, genocide supporters. ... F— CNN."

While Sidner remained calm during the encounter Friday, watching the scene unfold was quite disturbing. Since Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, at least 23 journalists have been killed covering the recent outbreak of violence. Three other journalists are unaccounted for.

Sidner and her crew were fortunate not to be harmed, but that doesn't mean they are safe.



As images from the war make clear, in Israel and the occupied territories right now, there is no such thing as safe.

Not for children. Not for the elderly. Not even for those already ailing in the hospital.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Adolphe Bernotas.

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## ***Leica Launches World's First Camera with Content Credentials*** (Content Authenticity Initiative)

**By Santiago Lyon, Head of Advocacy and Education, CAI**

We are thrilled to announce that industry-leading camera manufacturer Leica is officially launching the new M11-P camera — the world's first camera with Content Credentials built-in.

This is a significant milestone for the Content Authenticity Initiative (CAI) and the future of photojournalism: It will usher in a powerful new way for photojournalists and creatives to combat misinformation and bring authenticity to their work and consumers, while pioneering widespread adoption of Content Credentials.

With manipulated content and misinformation more on the rise than ever, trust in the digital ecosystem has never been more critical. We are entering a new era of creativity, where generative AI is expanding access to powerful new workflows and unleashing our most imaginative ideas. The Leica M11-P launch will advance the CAI's goal of empowering photographers everywhere to attach Content Credentials to their images at the point of capture, creating a chain of authenticity from camera to cloud and enabling photographers to maintain a degree of control over their art, story and context.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***Fact-checking isn't enough. We need fact-crusading.*** (Stop the Presses)

**MARK JACOB**

As the right wing keeps pushing disinformation, journalists keep fact-checking.

They dissect quotes. They consult experts. They cite statistics.

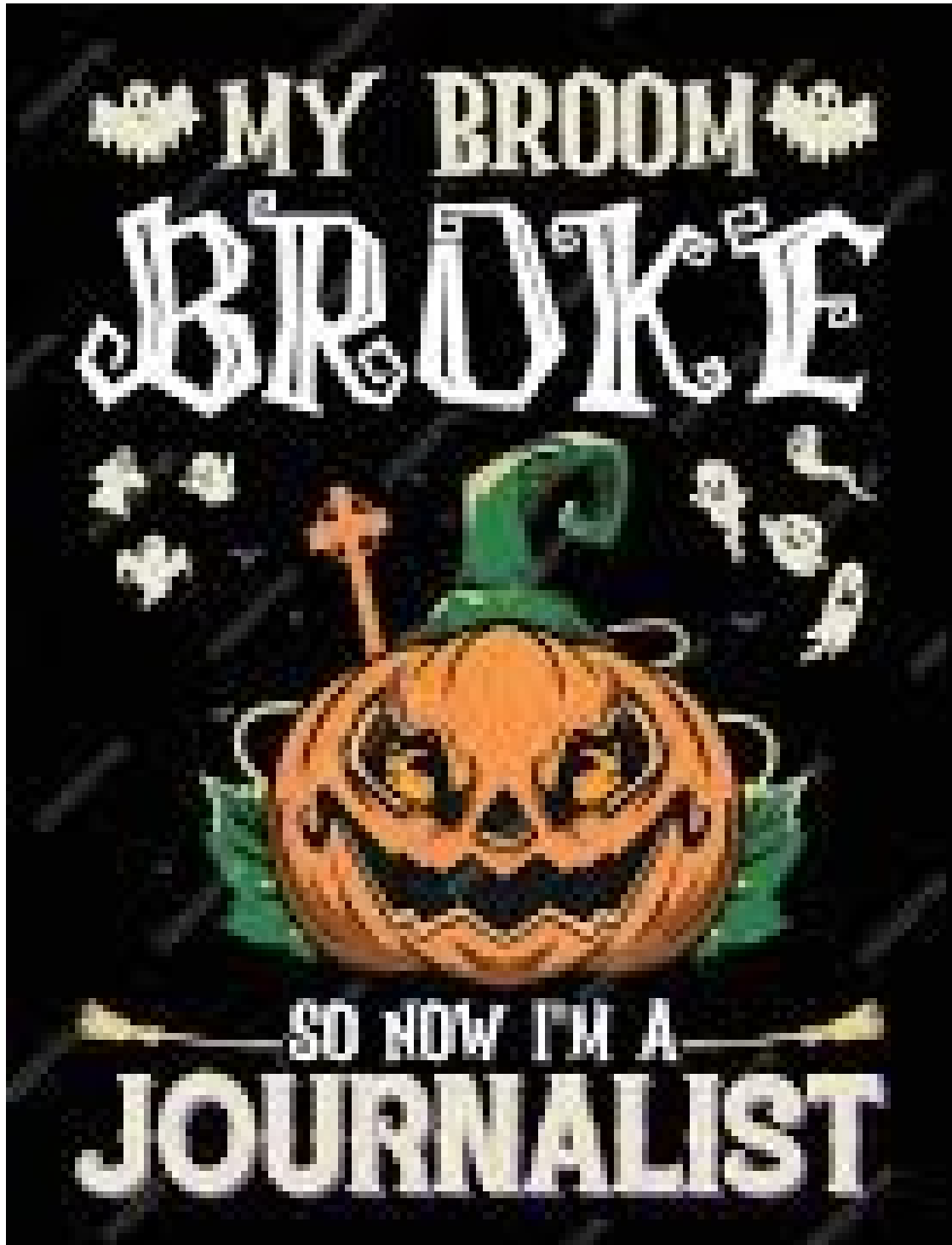
But it's not enough. We need fact-crusading, not just fact-checking. Yes, fact-crusading.

News media must hold the facts in such high regard that the enemies of truth become their adversaries – to be called out and confronted, not just corrected.

Journalists' job is to give people information that helps them navigate their lives. Liars sabotage what journalists do, and journalists ought to be offended. If you were a barista and someone slipped toxic sludge into your coffee drinks, you wouldn't just warn your customers that their drink had sludge in it. You'd try to keep the sludge out of the drink.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Dennis Conrad.

## The (Scary) Final Word



Today in History - Oct. 31, 2023



### By The Associated Press

**Today is Tuesday, Oct. 31, the 304th day of 2023. There are 61 days left in the year. This is Halloween.**

#### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On Oct. 31, 1984, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh security guards.

#### **On this date:**

In 1864, Nevada became the 36th state as President Abraham Lincoln signed a proclamation.

In 1941, work was completed on the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota, begun in 1927.

In 1961, the body of Josef Stalin was removed from Lenin's Tomb as part of the Soviet Union's "de-Stalinization" drive.

In 1964, Theodore C. Freeman, 34, became the first member of NASA's astronaut corps to die when his T-38 jet crashed while approaching Ellington Air Force Base in Houston.

In 1967, Nguyen Van Thieu (nwen van too) took the oath of office as the first president of South Vietnam's second republic.

In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered a halt to all U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, saying he hoped for fruitful peace negotiations.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II formally proclaimed that the Roman Catholic Church had erred in condemning the astronomer Galileo for holding that the Earth was not the center of the universe.

In 1999, EgyptAir Flight 990, bound from New York to Cairo, crashed off the Massachusetts coast, killing all 217 people aboard.

In 2005, President George W. Bush nominated Judge Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court.

In 2015, a Russian passenger airliner crashed in a remote part of Egypt's Sinai Peninsula 23 minutes after taking off from a popular Red Sea resort, killing all 224 people on board.

In 2018, notorious gangster James "Whitey" Bulger was found beaten to death at a federal prison in West Virginia; the 89-year-old former Boston crime boss and longtime FBI informant had been transferred there hours earlier.

In 2019, President Donald Trump announced that he would be making Palm Beach, Florida, his permanent residence after leaving the White House rather than returning to Trump Tower in New York.

In 2020, actor Sean Connery, who rose to international stardom as the suave secret agent James Bond and then carved out an Oscar-winning career in other rugged roles, died at his home in the Bahamas at the age of 90.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Lee Grant is 98. Former CBS anchorman Dan Rather is 92. Folk singer Tom Paxton is 86. Actor Ron Rifkin is 85. Actor Sally Kirkland is 82. Actor Brian Doyle-Murray is 78. Actor Stephen Rea is 77. Olympic gold medal long-distance runner Frank Shorter is 76. Actor Deidre Hall is 76. TV show host Jane Pauley is 73. Actor Brian Stokes Mitchell is 66. Movie director Peter Jackson is 62. Rock musician Larry Mullen Jr. is 62. Actor Dermot Mulroney is 60. Rock musician Mikkey Dee is 60. Rock singer-musician Johnny Marr is 60. Actor Rob Schneider is 60. Country singer Darryl Worley is 59. Actor-comedian Mike O'Malley is 58. Rap musician Ad-Rock (The Beastie Boys) is 57. Rapper Vanilla Ice is 56. Rock musician Rogers Stevens (Blind Melon) is 54. Rock singer Linn Berggren (Ace of Base) is 53. Reality TV host Troy Hartman is 52. Gospel singer Smokie Norful is 50. Actor Piper Perabo (PEER'-uh-boh) is 47. Actor Brian Hallisay is 45. Actor Samaire (SAH'-mee-rah) Armstrong is 43. Actor Eddie Kaye Thomas is 43. Rock musician Frank Iero (My Chemical Romance) is 42. Actor Justin Chatwin is 41. Actor Scott Clifton is 39. Actor Vanessa Marano is 31. Actor Holly Taylor is 26. Actor Danielle Rose Russell is 24. Actor-singer Willow Smith is 23.

## Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. Past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Central Region vice president based in Kansas City.

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:



- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"**- a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

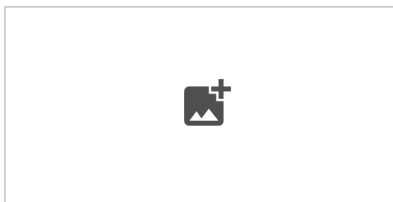
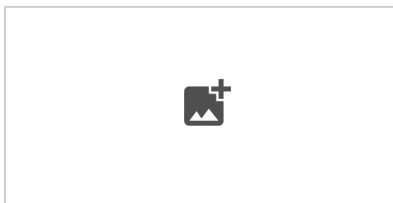
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.

- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Most unusual place a story assignment took you.**



**Paul Stevens**  
Editor, Connecting newsletter  
paulstevens46@gmail.com



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