From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed at the United Nations, 10th December, 1948

Article 18
Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in a community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19
Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.
Why Amnesty

The first years after the Second World
War were years of hope. Blueprint
followed blueprint for a grand new
design for universal peace and justice.
The world never realised its dreams
but the quality of those early aspira-
tions has not diminished. They remain
valid, attainable.

The Universal Declaration of
Human Rights was such a blueprint.
It was three years in the making and
it represented a code of conduct of
which all governments are capable and
to which all can aspire. Some govern-
ments have tried to live up to the
spirit if not the letter of the Declara-
tion. Some have paid lip-service to it.
None have been able to ignore its
existence. Until such time as every
government observes every Article of
the Declaration, it will remain a symbol
of our potentialities and an indictment
of our failures.

There are many pressures on a
government to disregard human rights.
If there is to be justice, these pressures
must be countered by others just as
powerful. This is the purpose of
Amnesty International. It remains the
only international movement dedicated
to the protection of free political
opinion and religious belief. It exists to
guarantee just two Articles of the
Declaration—yet those who now suffer
from their abuse are counted in
millions. By constantly reminding
governments and peoples of the
pledges they made on 10 December
1948, and by giving practical help to
the victims of persecution, Amnesty
keeps alive the hope that, one day, the
Declaration will be transformed from
an ideal into a reality.

How Amnesty Works

This is Amnesty's 6th Annual Report
yet already the movement flourishes in
19 countries. This fact alone is proof
of the success of one aspect of our
work: to arouse and mobilise world
public opinion. Through a programme
of public action, the movement has
ensured that infringements of human
rights do not go unnoticed. Through
public meetings, through the press,
radio and television, through the dis-
tribution of leaflets, through Reports
and Bulletins, the spotlight is put on
governments that victimise citizens for
holding unpopular views or religious
beliefs.

However valuable publicity is, it
is nevertheless not enough in itself.
Action must be taken also to help the
victims in an immediate and practical
way. Amnesty does this through a
three-phase programme of detection,
investigation and adoption, undertaken
jointly by the International Secretariat
and over 900 voluntary Groups around
the world.

By monitoring the international
press and by sifting information
received from many sources, the
Central Library is able to detect and
catalogue hundreds of arrests of
prisoners of conscience. There are now
nearly 2,000 such cases on record.
The Investigation Bureau then re-
searches further into individual cases
and prepares carefully documented
case sheets on the prisoner and the
political and social background of the
situation that led to the arrest. Finally,
the case sheets are sent to the
Amnesty Groups. Every Group adopts
three prisoners, usually from each of
the three power blocs, and proceeds to
apply pressure for their release through
various forms of appeal to the govern-
ment concerned. At the same time,
Groups raise money locally to send to
their prisoners' families who are all too
often left destitute by the loss of the
breadwinner.
**A Crucial Year**

We have always stressed that the value of Amnesty's work cannot be judged by the number of adopted prisoners released. Apart from any other consideration, it is not often possible to attribute a release directly to Amnesty's intervention: there are other factors involved, not the least being the changing political situation in the country concerned. Nevertheless, every release represents a victory for humanity, if not for Amnesty alone—and it is therefore worthy of record that 283 of Amnesty's adopted prisoners of conscience have regained their freedom in the year under review.

The year has been a crucial one for Amnesty. It has been marked by a continuing increase in public support and the size and effectiveness of the International Secretariat, by the move of our offices from Crane Court to larger premises, and by the sad resignation of Peter Benenson as President. It has been a year in which political detainees in Aden have been the subject of considerable humanitarian concern. Hundreds of Rhodesians have been restricted and detained and thousands of Greeks banished to prison islands. It has been a year of oppression in varying degree, in Spain and Portugal, in Turkey and Yugoslavia, in Russia, Hungary, Romania and Poland, in South Africa, Guinea, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, in Chile, Cuba, Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil... In all these countries and many more, Amnesty has worked for the restoration of human rights.

The main pressure has been brought to bear by Amnesty Groups. There are now 550 of these in 15 countries, that is an increase of 165 Groups since last year. Further pressure has come from members of the Postcards for Prisoners Campaign (formerly known as the Kit Scheme). There are now 600 members of this campaign in 21 countries. Every month, each person sends a postcard on behalf of three prisoners whose cases are particularly critical. Thus, in any one month, a government will receive a flood of cards on the importance of freedom, representing a concerted demonstration of international public opinion.

Many of the prisoners released last year were listed by the Campaign. One release we regretfully cannot report is that of Koumandari Keita, the Guinean schoolmaster who was adopted as Prisoner of the Year. Mr. Keita remains in prison, in spite of repeated efforts to secure his release. These efforts included a visit to Guinea by Danish lawyer Nils Groth, who was himself arrested during the course of his mission and kept in prison for three months before being sentenced to 10 years hard labour for 'committing espionage'. Nils Groth was released 22 hours after sentence, Koumandari Keita is still a prisoner of conscience.

As is so often the case with voluntary movements, the need for money to finance our work has been a continuing source of concern. The contributions from members and Groups that had previously met most of the yearly expenditure, proved no longer sufficient. Money had to be found for new premises, for relief work for an expanding investigation programme, for publicity and education, administrative costs that were leading to a serious depletion of the reserves. It became necessary to ask all members and Groups to make an increased contribution and this, together with a more intensive fund-raising programme, is hoped to lead to a considerable improvement in the financial position, proving that money was misused by official Amnesty representatives in Rhodesia. The Committee concluded that, in view of the extremely difficult conditions created by the illegal declaration of independence, Amnesty funds were needed to provide valuable assistance for the dependents of detainees at a critically important time.

In the light of the situation, the Executive Committee made three major decisions:

1. Amnesty should work with other organisations to establish machinery for the release of the 'Prisoner of the Year'.
2. No one who attended the Annual Assembly at Copenhagen could doubt the international character of the Amnesty movement. Delegates came from 17 National Sections and there were observers from eight international organisations. The delegates met together to review the past, to decide on a number of policy issues and to establish guidelines for the future programmes. The most significant long-term resolutions agreed at the Assembly were:

   1. Amnesty should co-operate with the International Committee of the Red Cross to establish the right to investigate alleged cases of torture. National Sections should give the problem of torture special attention. The United Nations and other international organisations should be asked to include its elimination in their programmes for

   2. Amnesty should co-operate with the International Committee of the Red Cross to establish the right to investigate alleged cases of torture. National Sections should give the problem of torture special attention. The United Nations and other international organisations should be asked to include its elimination in their programmes for

   3. National Sections of Amnesty should continue their efforts to hasten the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

   4. Those who refused to take part in particular wars, as well as those who refused to fight in all wars, should be considered prisoners of conscience.

   5. In countries where a change of government has been brought about by force, no measures should be taken against members of the outgoing government, without full judicial procedures being observed.

   6. All National Sections should establish permanent committees to work for the release of the 'Prisoner of the Year'.

   The new Executive Committee met at Elsinore, Denmark, on 11th and 12th March, 1967. Its main purpose was to try and influence them.

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National Sections

Australia
New South Wales
Mrs. Keith Doig, 42 Hunter Street, Toowoomba.
Number of Groups 1
Queensland
Mrs. Keith Doig, 42 Hunter Street, Toowoomba.
Number of Groups 1
South Australia
Jan Brown
71 Young Street, Parkside.
Number of Groups 1
Victoria
Mrs. Claire Westicky,
352 Dovsey Street, Hobart.
Number of Groups 1
Tasmania
Mrs. Bernie Rolls,
352 Dovsey Street, Hobart.
Number of Groups 1
Canada
Mrs. David Sayan,
Driffield Crescent, Sassafras.
Number of Groups 1

More Groups - New National Initiatives

If the Secretariat is the heart of Amnesty, the National Sections are the lifeblood. The constant pressure they exert, from all over the world, is a critical factor in determining a government's response to our appeals. National Sections are also the points from which the movement grows, informs, influences.

The two largest Sections are still those in Great Britain and Sweden, with 177 and 183 Groups respectively. The British Section, which remains also the movement's main source of income, has been particularly concerned during the year with events in Aden and Rhodesia. The Swedish Section, as well as contributing a considerable amount of money to help political prisoners and their families in Southern Africa, sent nearly £2,000 to help finance the Secretariat, apart from normal subscription fees. It has also mounted special campaigns to help prisoners of conscience in Southern Africa, Greece and Czechoslovakia.

Potential Section headquarters are in Australia and Quebec. The latter has increased its number of Groups from four to twenty-six, and is expected to exceed thirty by the end of the year. The Australian Section has increased its activities in all parts of the country, and is now becoming an active centre of Amnesty with Sections not only in Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania but also in South Australia and Queensland. The long-established Victorian Section, comprising 14 Groups (three in Universities), has a particularly valuable contribution to human rights in its own country by publishing a report on the situation of Australian Aborigines. Concerned about reports from countries close to home, the Section has made representations to the Indonesian Government about the human rights of minority groups in that country, following the recent mass slaughter of Communists there. Working closely with the Victorian and other Inter-State Sections is the South Australian Section, which has added to its authority by forming a Group among members of the State Parliament—the first such Group outside Europe and Scandinavia.

Growth of membership, increased co-operation, new initiatives... these are the characteristic developments of Amnesty National Sections in the past year. As they consolidate their positions in their countries, and as new National Sections are formed, Amnesty International ensures its continuous evolution into a world-wide movement of genuine and unique significance.

Amnesty at Work

Amnesty International is working for nearly 2,000 prisoners of conscience in 63 countries. There have been successes and failures, glimmers of hope and seeming disinterest. The reports that follow record only some of our efforts but reflect the range of our concern.

ADEN

Reports of the plight of political detainees in Aden were first received by the Secretariat in 1964, but it was not until the middle of 1966 that the issue assumed major proportions. It was finally brought to public attention by the visit to Aden of Dr. S. Rastgeldi, on behalf of the Swedish Section.

Dr. Rastgeldi's dossier on the treatment of detainees indicated that the allegations of brutality made against a small number of British interrogators were in all probability justified. The Rastgeldi Report suggested that there were, at that time, between 200 and 300 detainees and that specific tortures were inflicted on many of them.

On Dr. Rastgeldi's return, the British Foreign Secretary agreed to send his own investigator to Aden.
LATIN AMERICA

The extent of Amnesty's work in Latin America has been governed by the fact that there are active guerrilla movements in many parts of the continent, and we have had to exercise great care in determining whether those in detention ought to be regarded as prisoners of conscience and adopted by Amnesty Groups. During the year, we have been gradually building up contacts in Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru who are able to advise us on borderline cases.

While the work of Amnesty met with a certain amount of success this year in that a number of prisoners were released, governmental measures of repression took some new forms. Amnesty began the year well. On the 15th and 14th July 1966, Lord Clifford attended a trial for us in Lisbon. Two men, Rui Ribeiro and Pedro Vieira de Almeida stood trial accused of being members of the Portuguese Communist Party. Amnesty and sympathizers were denied access to the trial, and in the end they were found guilty of being members of a banned political party, were sentenced to 30 to 350 years imprisonment and were deported to prison in Rio de Janeiro.

The number of political prisoners in the two political parties of Parque and Caracas. By May 1967 there appeared to be less than 250. Many of the releases were Amnesty adopted cases, and would seem to result from the Portuguese Government's reluctance to renew or to extend its actions to more security measures. By contrast, new legal measures have been taken by the Portuguese Government to further limit the number of political prisoners in the two political parties of Parque and Caracas.

The Report on Prison Conditions in Paraguay was published in October 1966. The Report revealed that while the number of political prisoners in Paraguay is relatively small (probably about 150), the conditions under which they are detained are extremely bad. Some of the prisoners have been detained for as long as five years without trial, and a number of prisoners believe to be suitable Amnesty cases have been adopted.

In January 1967, 23 political opponents of the Bolivian Government were deported from La Paz to prison camps in the Amazon jungle. One of them was Dr. Carlos Serrate Reis, Minister of Education before the military coup in 1964, and an advocate in La Paz. Dr. Serrate was placed on the Postcards for Prisoners campaign in March 1967, and on April 23 we received a cable from him informing us that he had been released after 95 days due to the efforts of Amnesty International. Dr. Serrate's release is the most dramatic success we have had in Latin America.

HUNGARY

Hungary is still one of the toughest countries in the field of Group work, and there have been few releases. However, there is a ray of hope for political prisoners of conscience since a Bishop was allowed to visit some of them in prison in early summer 1967. Most Groups have received no replies to their enquiries to government authorities; very few have had replies from other quarters.

The tragic Somali border dispute is Kenya's other main problem. Of the estimated 800,000 Somalis, 600,000 were said to have been released from jail by the beginning of April, but six of the remaining long-term adopted prisoners of conscience had been released. In all, about six of the remaining long-term adopted prisoners were released after personal interviews with the Minister of Justice. All of these are of imprisonment they were detained in the Soviet Union, the newly formed left-wing religious prisoners of conscience since the coup d'etat of April 1964. The Kenyan Government has passed savage emergency laws restricting freedom of movement, and since the coup d'etat of April 1964, and an advocate in La Paz. Dr. Serrate was placed on the Postcards for Prisoners campaign in March 1967, and on April 23 we received a cable from him informing us that he had been released after 95 days due to the efforts of Amnesty International. Dr. Serrate's release is the most dramatic success we have had in Latin America.

PORTUGAL

Amnesty mounted an extensive campaign for him, both through adoption and the Postcard Campaign. He was held for about six months, and then released without trial, for having written a play in which he caricatured the Portuguese army in particular. Prior to the release an order went out to all publishing houses that all copies of his books were to be submitted to the competent authorities before any distribution could take place. This is, in fact, allowed for by Decree Law 24416 of the 24th November, 1944, but had not been taken up before with such rigour.

New measures have also been initiated against political prisoners. Statute Law 4721 promulgated on the 24th September, 1966, has established the principle of deportation for political prisoners by a simple decision of the Minister of Justice for Portugal and the Colonies. This may mean deportation to the notorious concentration camps in which Portugal has in her colonies. While the figure for political prisoners in Metropolitan Portugal is quite small, the figure in the colonies runs into thousands.

Greece

The wave of arrests in Greece following the military coup d'etat of April 21st, 1967, meant that Amnesty's work for Greek prisoners of conscience suddenly and dramatically increased. Just before this, at the beginning of April, all but six of the remaining long-term adopted prisoners of conscience had been released from jail. There seemed, moreover, reasonable expectation that these six and other adopted prisoners sentenced under Emergency Laws 375 and 509 might well be released before the expiry of their sentences.

Mrs. Eleonore Alten, who visited Greece in September 1965, was able to meet and talk with many of the released prisoners. She reported that many of them enjoyed difficulties of rehabilitation and this, together with other similar reports, led to Amnesty continuing its relief programme to families of released prisoners. In December, 1965, Mr. Keith Kyle visited Greece on our behalf, to observe the ASPIDA trial and to investigate the cases of remaining political prisoners. Unfortunately his visit coincided with the fall of the Stephanopoulos government and, as a result, he was not able personally to interview the Minister of Justice. However, he wrote a detailed Memorandum, drawn up as a result of his investigations, to be presented to the new Minister of Justice and this was also drawn to the attention of the Ambassador in London.

Representations were also made to the Greek Ambassador about the position of conscientious objectors in Greece and Groups have been active on individual cases. For example, the names of 42 Jehovah's Witnesses serving prison sentences for their refusal to bear arms, are now known to us.

Amnesty adopted prisoners in Greece now include those of all political beliefs. Following the coup a number of former Ministers and Deputy Ministers were arrested, together with leading laymen, women and writers, and it is also clear that very many previously adopted prisoners were re-arrested, regardless of their age or state of health.

Kenya

President Kenyatta's Government has been able to arrest dissent under the Security Law, but not act upon it, before granting Kenya independence. The new Government has been very active in rehabilitation and this was also drawn to the attention of the Ambassador in London. The Report of the Ambassador in London was most encouraging, to the Government's knowledge, the number of political prisoners in the new country in Latin America is about 150, the conditions under which they are detained are extremely bad. Some of the prisoners have been detained for as long as five years without trial, and a number of prisoners believed to be suitable Amnesty cases have been adopted.

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SOUTH AFRICA

The past year has seen a most effective consolidation of the work of the Christian Council of Churches in South Africa, with a total of over 280,000 distributed to various kinds of aid: the major part consists in monthly grants to over 500 families. Funds for relief activities came mostly from outside South Africa. The principal contributor in 1966 was the World Council of Churches in Geneva. A total of £32,000 was distributed to various kinds of aid: the major part consisted in monthly grants to over 500 families.

For assessing need and investigating cases evolved a special agency to meet the problems created by U.D.I. developed a more stable structure with an organisation and excellent potential for the future.

At the beginning of 1966 there were various organisations and groups engaged in relief activities. By general agreement the Christian Council then undertook to act as the central agency for the major distribution of aid contributed from within and outside the country. In the early months of 1966, with the establishment of two relief offices, in Salisbury and in Bulawayo, the Christian Council made a concentrated effort to track down all cases eligible for aid, and made a firm allocation of areas. This ensured against wasteful duplication of aid to any single family.

Defence and Aid Fund early in 1966 put into effect a project for the distribution of aid in South Africa. This project was designed to meet the problems created by U.D.I. It was developed on a more stable structure with a well-organised and efficient potential for the future.

At the present time there are about 50 defence and aid groups active in South Africa.

RHODESIA

During the year an observer was sent by a Swedish Group to the trial of political offenders, in Bulawayo. Although the information gained is always passed on, few Africans charged with political activities were tried in the courts. The situation in Rhodesia remains unchanged from that in previous years. The only political prisoners are members of the Zambian Cabinet who escaped from the Island. The numbers included in this figure.

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TANZANIA

Many Groups are in touch with their prisoners or with the families of prisoners, and a German Group Member was even able to visit a prisoner in jail.

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U.S.A. Amnesty International has been watch- ing with considerable concern the in- creasing number of heavy sentences imposed on conscientious objectors in the U.S. The Federal Bureau of Investi- gation reported that 450 persons were convicted of violating military draft laws last year. This is double the number for 1966. The reason for this dramatic increase is undoubtedly opposition to the Vietnam war which has gathered momentum over the last year. Draft resistance groups have mushroomed around the country, especially on the college campuses where young men of draft age have banded together to refuse induction, to offer advice about the draft and to disrupt the local Selective Service boards with demonstra- tions. The Act which governs the cons- ciplinary draft is the Universal Military Training and Service Act and any viola- tion under the Act carries the maximum sentence of five years imprisonment and/or 10,000 dollar fine. To achieve conscientious objector status a person is required to prove that "by reason of religious training and belief he is con- scientiously opposed to participation in war in any form." Once classified as a conscientious objector he must either perform non-combatant duty in the army or be assigned to civilian work "contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety or interest." In a resolution passed by the Amnesty International Assembly in December 1966 it was decided that every "prisoner of conscience" should in- clude any person who refuses, on grounds of conscience, to fight in or train for all wars or any particular war. On the basis of that resolution, out of some 200 cases currently listed, Amnesty Groups have now adopted 16 cases in the U.S. They fall into several categories. There are those who have been rejected for CO status rejected by their draft and appealed against; there are those who are being prosecuted for refusal to register at the required time—within five days of their eighteenth birthday. There are those who refuse to co-operate with the draft because, on grounds of conscience, they are opposed to American policy in Vietnam. There is no provision in the law for selective conscientious objec- tion and many choose to express dissent by civil disobedience. This may take the form of burning draft cards, refus- ing to report for the army physical examination, or refusing to take the necessary step forward at the army induction ceremony. Heavy sentences of up to five years with hard labour have been given by army courts-martial to soldiers who have refused to fight or train for the Vietnam war because they are con- scientiously opposed to it. Amnesty Groups have adopted two such cases: Captain Howard Levy and Private David Somas, one of the "Fort Hood Three". Their legal representatives have raised the issue of the soldier's right to freedom of speech, the Nurem- berg judgements, the illegality of the war and the violation of the Kellog- Briand treaty, U.N. Charter, etc. As a means of protest, the lawyer of one of the accused, Mr. Christensen, was given assistance by the federal German authorities and spoke with the prosecu- tion and the accused. Although he was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, Mr. Berlitz was released on health in- charges after only a short period in prison. We continued to adopt all cases of Communists known actually to be in prison in 1966. It was still hard to get reliable information.

WEST GERMANY
In September 1965, Mr. Anne Christen- sen of the Norwegian Section attended the illegal German Communist Party, Mr. Christensen was given assistance by the federal German authorities and spoke with the prosecu- tion and the accused. Although he was sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Mr. Berlitz was released on health in- charges after only a short period in prison. We continued to adopt all cases of Communists known actually to be in prison in 1966. It was still hard to get reliable information.

YUGOSLAVIA
For some years, Amnesty has been concerned with the position of Nazarene conscientious objectors imprisoned for their refusal to handle lethal weapons during their military service. Until the early 1960s it was a regular practice for individual Nazarenes to be given 10 year sentences for this offence, with a risk that, on release, they would be re-conscripted, re-charged and re- sentenced for a second and even third 10 year period. More recently, this re-conscription has stopped and Nazarenes have gone free after release. In 1965, the authorities went even further and reduced the sentences of those in prison to a maximum of five years; at the same time, considerable improvements were made in the con- ditions in which they live on the island of Got Otok. This may have been due—least in part—to the sustained work of Amnesty groups in cooperation with War Resisters International and other pacifist organisations. In July 1966, President Tito announced the reform and liberalization of the security forces and the dismissal of its chief, Rankovic. This was a signal that he was reaching a turning point in the climb towards democracy—though it is difficult to see how the security forces will be changed in the near future. Tito also admitted certain past abuses.
Amnesty asked the Yugoslav authori-
ties to confirm that the cases of
several adopted Albanians have been
re-opened in the light of the com-
mittee's findings. But, by the end of
the year, neither the groups nor the
international Secretariat received a
reply.

The best news of the year was
the release on New Year's Eve of
Milovan Djilas, the eminent Yugoslav
writer. In marked contrast to this, the
young lecturer, Mihajlo Mihajlov, who
was adopted by Amnesty, was
sentenced to one year's imprisonment
in November 1966, and to a further
four years in March, 1967.

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a Covenant. It enables Amnesty to
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for every £1 you give.

Please complete this form and return
it to the Appeals Department, Amnesty
International, Turnagain Lane, Farring-

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
TURNAIGN LANE, FARRINGDON STREET, LONDON E.C.4

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TRUST that I will during the period of seven years from the date
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the first payment to be made on
and subsequent payments annually on the anniversary of the above date,
such sums to be paid from my general fund of taxed income, so that I
shall receive no personal or private benefit therefrom.

*The date of the first payment should be 4 days later than the date of
the covenant to allow time for stamping, etc.

**The same date should be inserted
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stars on the Deed of Covenant.

Please complete the following Banker's Order form as well, as this considerably reduces admini-
strative costs.

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To

(Hoare's Bank)

Please pay to Hoare's Bank, 37 Fleet Street, London E.C.4, for the
credit of "The Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund" on the
day of and on
the same day in each of the next 6 years (7 payments)

**The same date should be inserted
here as where marked with two
stars on the Deed of Covenant.
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