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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

October 1, 1975

MEETING WITH JAPANESE EMPEROR HIROHITO

Thursday, October 2, 1975
10:30 a.m. (Arrival Ceremony, Tea,
Tour of the White House)
8:00 p.m. (State Dinner)
Friday, October 3, 1975
8:00 p.m. (Return Banquet)
Saturday, October 4, 1975
12:00 noon (Farewell at Blair House)

From: Henry A. Kissinger *AK*

I. PURPOSE

- To reflect our high esteem for Japan and Japanese tradition.
- To underscore the importance we attach to our relations with Japan, and the special ties that exist between us.
- And by the above, to nurture broad Japanese support for a close and cooperative bilateral relationship.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

A. Background:

1. The Japanese View: Two years ago the Communists and Socialists in Japan forced postponement of a planned visit by the Emperor and the Empress to the U.S., charging that the government intended to exploit the event for political purposes. During your trip to Japan in November last year, you renewed the invitation to Their Majesties to visit the United States.

The Emperor's arrival represents the culmination of a long transition in U.S. - Japan relations from occupation to close partnership. According to an excellent assessment from our Embassy in Tokyo (Tab A), Japan is approaching

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BY *gp* DATE 12/19/84

the Imperial visit with feelings of pride, deep emotion, and some trepidation. While billed as non-political, the visit in and of itself has highly political implications -- a successful visit would contribute substantially to the US-Japan relationship, while an unfortunate incident would have unpredictable domestic repercussions. Moreover, the opposition and media in Japan are ready to scream if they detect the introduction of a political element. While the Japanese people would certainly welcome an enthusiastic American reception for the Emperor, they do not expect it. They are well aware that Japanese generally, and certainly the Emperor, do not project their personalities strongly among foreigners. From this standpoint a warm official reception and a reasonably friendly American public reaction will make the visit a success.

The Emperor himself considers the visit a symbolic pilgrimage to express his and the Japanese people's deep sense of gratitude for the assistance we rendered Japan following its defeat and for our enlightened occupation policies.

2. Proposed Strategy: The visit is essentially a public affairs event. Conscious of Japan's keen attention and sensitivity, our approach should be to stress the symbolic and the personal while avoiding politics or substance. Your public remarks should be cast in broad and philosophic terms and in private conversation you should also avoid political or even economic subjects.

B. Participants:

-- Following the October 2, 10:30 a.m. arrival ceremony and balcony photographs, you and Mrs. Ford will escort the royal guests from the Blue Room to the Red Room for a private tea and informal conversation for about 15 minutes (only interpreters will be present).

-- The list of official Japanese guests who will attend the state dinner on October 2 as well as the return banquet on October 3 is attached at Tab B. At Tab C are biographies of the members of the official Japanese party as well as of Ambassador Hodgson.

-- You also agreed that on October 4 shortly before the departure of the Emperor and Empress at 12:00 p.m., you and Mrs. Ford would bid the royal couple farewell at Blair House.

- C. Press Arrangements: There will be wide media coverage of all of the events, including live television to Japan of portions of the two banquets. The White House press announcement of the visit was made on September 29. We will make a separate announcement of the gift of the Sandhill Cranes.

III. TALKING POINTS

- i. The Emperor is quite taciturn by nature and is not an easy man to draw out in casual conversation. Some categories of general conversational subjects are as follows. (In addition, Ambassador Hodgson has suggested a number of subjects that he thinks would be of interest to the Emperor [Tab D].)

a. The visit itself:

-- The Emperor's interest in marine biology. He will visit Woods Hole Laboratory in Massachusetts and Scripps Institution in San Diego.

-- Relations with the press and photographers.

-- Other major aspects of the visit: Williamsburg, Arlington Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian, Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller's Japanese-style house at Pocantico, football game in New York, farm visit outside of Chicago, Disneyland, San Diego Zoo, San Francisco, Honolulu, Mauna Kea.

b. Special interests of the Empress:

-- Art: Five works by the Empress are included in the exhibition from the Imperial Collection that will be on display

at the Smithsonian; she will visit the Freer Gallery in Washington and the Art Institute in Chicago.

-- Poetry: Her interests include the composition of waka poetry, an ancient 31-syllable form.

-- Red Cross: She is Honorary President of the Japan Red Cross and will visit the American National Red Cross Headquarters' in Washington, and Wyler Childrens Hospital in Chicago.

c. American History:

-- Young US society compared with 2,000 year old Japanese history.

-- Opening to the west and frontier life.

-- Patterns of growth and ethnic mixture.

-- Friendly relations with neighbors.

-- Alaska and Hawaii spurred interest in the Pacific.

-- Common cultural traditions of hard work and respect for heritage.

d. Your private and family life as President.

e. Your travels since your visit to Japan.

f. Your early life.

g. General:

-- Nature and the outdoors.

-- Sports.

-- The beauty of nature.

-- The changing values of different generations.

-- Education.

2. Specific Talking Points:

a. Following the arrival ceremony:

-- Your Majesties' itinerary in the United States should give you a good view of the country and its people. I know that you will be warmly welcomed throughout your visit.

-- Both houses of Congress have passed resolutions welcoming Your Majesties' visit. This is an expression of the special ties that bind our two peoples.

b. Before and during the White House state dinner:

-- (The Bonsai tree will be displayed in the yellow oval room.) I have brought this magnificent Bonsai to the White House as an expression of our deep appreciation to the Japan Bonsai Association and to you personally for having donated this tree from your personal collection.

-- The art of Bonsai is widely appreciated in this country, and we will value this tree as a symbol of Japanese culture as well as a reminder of your visit.

-- I would like to show Your Majesty the Lincoln Bedroom. I understand you have long admired Lincoln. His legacy of wisdom and compassion is fundamental to the democratic values of our two countries.

-- I plan to present to the Japanese people on behalf of the American people a pair of Greater Sandhill Cranes, rare and beautiful birds. It seemed to us that these would be a most appropriate gift not only because of your interest and expertise as a naturalist but because cranes symbolize for the Japanese people felicity, long life, and wisdom. They are given with our deepest respect and affection.

-- I understand that many American television programs are shown in Japan. Some of our better serious work on television is in wilderness and natural life studies. Have these sorts of programs been popular in Japan?

-- I am glad you will get to see a football game during your visit to New York. I understand American football is played in a few colleges in Japan.

-- Baseball, of course, is very popular in both our countries, and I understand you sometimes attend games in Japan.

-- As you know, this country is fortunate to have a large number of citizens of Japanese ancestry. They have made outstanding contributions to our nation in many fields.

c. At the return banquet hosted by Their Majesties:

-- (It is possible that the Congress will have passed the US-Japan Friendship Act by the time of this banquet.) I hope soon to be able to sign into law the US-Japan Friendship Act. This law will make available considerably expanded funds to support cultural and educational exchange programs between our two countries.

-- Critics have acclaimed the exhibition of art from the Imperial Collection now on display at the Smithsonian. It was thoughtful of you to include several paintings by the Empress, who is obviously an accomplished artist.

d. At the farewell on October 4:

-- Your Majesties' stay with us in Washington has been all too short. I hope that it has nonetheless provided a useful introduction to our country, its people, and its institutions.

-- Mrs. Ford and I have been deeply honored to have you as our guests, just as all Americans are honored by your visit.

Cable from Embassy Tokyo, September 26, 1975

1. Japan is approaching the second visit abroad of a reigning Emperor with feelings of pride, deep emotion and some trepidation. Japanese have recognized for a long time that an Imperial visit to the U. S. was probably inevitable and highly desired by the Emperor himself. With the exception of the JCP and the radical left, opposition political parties do not oppose the visit, and the media, while observing its traditional reserve in matters relating to the Imperial household, quietly supports it. The visit is generally viewed as appropriate to our close relationship, a fitting climax to a reign which has spanned five decades of depression, war, occupation and prosperity, and the realization of a long-held, and understandable, personal desire. If there are reservations about the visit, they stem from concern as to what kind of impression the Emperor will make on the American people, and worries about the Emperor's health and personal safety.
2. The Japanese attitude toward the Imperial institution is complicated and ambivalent. Those Japanese who attended school before the end of the war remember vividly an image of the Emperor as a benevolent figure, institutionally connected with the mythical origins of Japan, for whom one would willingly offer his life. For them, the mystique is gone but they remain deeply moved by the Emperor's presence and careful in references to the Imperial Family. In contrast, those Japanese born since the war pay little attention to the Imperial institution, see little relevance in it to this day and age, and tend to be critical of the Imperial Family and its aging Imperial household agency retainers. But, these younger people also continue to regard the Emperor as a symbol of a new and peaceful Japan -- although fear of sinister use of the Imperial institution probably is closer to the surface among young people. They share a degree of empathy with the present Emperor as a figure who has survived tumultuous times, suffered some of their misfortunes, reigned over Japan's impressive post-war recovery, and through all has retained a sincere concern for the welfare of the people. Whether these feelings will outlive the present Emperor is debatable. Although there have been sporadic suggestions over the years that the Imperial institution should be abolished or the Emperor phased into complete inactivity, even in ceremonials, aside from the Communists and extreme leftist radicals there is no significant movement of popular opinion in this direction.

3. For their own part, the Emperor and Empress appear almost childishly excited and delighted with the prospect of visiting the U.S. They are well informed, receiving regular briefings from government officials. Recently they had a series of lectures on the U.S. by former Ambassador Ushiba and distinguished scholars. Judging from the President's visit last fall, both the Emperor and Empress enjoy lively conversation and will be intensely interested in all aspects of American life. The Empress, especially, makes no attempt to conceal her curiosity and enthusiasm for new adventures or her pleasure in meeting new people.

4. While visit planning has scrupulously emphasized the non-political nature of the Imperial institution and the importance of keeping the visit non-political it is nevertheless a highly political event. It will be symbolic at the highest level of the deep ties that bind the two nations and of the regard the two nations have for each other. It will also serve to remind the Japanese people of the presence of the Imperial family in their midst. At the same time, the media and opposition are prepared to scream if Deputy Prime Minister Fukuda were to involve himself in political activities. With over fifty million Japanese expected to view satellite television coverage, a successful visit will have a long-term favorable effect on the mood of U.S. -Japan relations and general Japanese attitude toward the U.S. Conversely, an awkward or lukewarm atmosphere, would be disappointing; the occurrence of an unfortunate incident would have unpredictable domestic political repercussions possibly including the fall of the government. Thus the unspoken political stakes in the event are very great for the GOJ and the conservative establishment.

5. Media coverage of the visit has been building slowly for the past month. It has tended to emphasize the extensive preparations and the considerable public relations campaign which has been mounted to explain the Imperial institution to Americans. There have been a number of newspaper articles describing the Emperor's everyday life. The Emperor has given exclusive interviews to Newsweek and NBC (which was carried by satellite on NHK-TV September 23) and has held two group press conferences for foreigners in the past few weeks. The questions asked and the Emperor's apparent nervousness have probably heightened GOJ concern over the Emperor's public exposure in the U.S.

6. While the Japanese people would certainly welcome an enthusiastic American reception for the Emperor, they do not expect it. They fear possible hostility and are well aware that Japanese generally -- and certainly the Emperor -- do not project their personalities strongly among foreigners. From this standpoint, a friendly American reaction which exceeds their minimal expectations will make the visit appear a "success."

7. Although no official concern has been expressed, the recent attempts on the President's life have prompted a second and serious concern about the coming visit. While some Japanese officials have privately feared the possibility of a Japanese "Red Army" incident in some third country causing embarrassment to the Emperor and the government, there is now understandable concern over the Emperor's safety while in the U. S. The Emperor, himself, has said he has full confidence in the protective efforts of U. S. authorities, but given the nearly successful attempt on the President's life September 22 in San Francisco, reassurance has become increasingly difficult.

8. In short, barring a cool reception or threat to the Emperor's safety -- both of which seem unlikely -- it looks from here as if the visit will be a resounding success. We believe that both the Imperial couple and America and the Americans will come across far better than expected to mass audiences in Japan. Along with the very successful Presidential visit, it will markedly contribute to broad-based and favorable popular perceptions both here and at home which are at once essential for a true alliance and so difficult for governments, however skilled and well-intentioned, to achieve.

STATE DINNER FOR THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF JAPAN

October 2, 1975

Japanese Guests

His Majesty the Emperor

Her Majesty the Empress

His Excellency Takeo Fukuda Deputy Prime Minister

His Excellency Takeshi Yasukawa Ambassador of Japan

Mrs. Takeshi Yasukawa

His Excellency Takeshi Usami Grand Steward, IHA

His Excellency Sukemasa Irie Grand Chamberlain to
His Majesty the Emperor

His Excellency Morio Yukawa Grand Master of Ceremonies
to His Majesty the Emperor

His Excellency Naraichi Fujiyama Ambassador, Press Secretary
to His Majesty the Emperor

The Honorable Yoshihiro Tokugawa Vice-Grand Chamberlain to
His Majesty the Emperor

Mrs. Sachiko Kitashirakawa Chief Lady-in-Waiting to
Her Majesty the Empress

His Excellency Hiroshi Uchida Ambassador, Chief of Protocol,
MFA

The Honorable Seiya Nishida Minister, Embassy of Japan

Mrs. Seiya Nishida

Interpreters (not seated)

His Excellency Hideki Masaki Interpreter to His Majesty
the Emperor

Mr. Ryuichiro Yamazaki Second Secretary, Embassy of
Japan

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2/27/14

American Embassy,
Tokyo, Japan
September 12, 1975

Dear Brent:

If there is anyone in this world I know who is "at home" in talking with anyone anywhere about anything it is our President. Yet ringing in my ears is a comment he made when we talked about the upcoming Emperor's visit, "the Emperor is a pleasant fellow" he said, "but a little hard to talk to." Many who have attempted such a conversation would agree with the President.

There will be two dinners and one morning meeting where the President and the Emperor will be together. So I've done some sleuthing and put together a rough stab at some suitable conversation fodder, should the President wish to use it.

Because I sense these are things of interest to the Emperor, I suggest the President talk to him about the following:

1. The Visit Itself

What the Emperor looks forward to most--whether Woods Hole in Massachusetts and Scripps in California have anything of special marine biological interest to him--what special interests the Empress has for the trip--any early impressions of the reactions of Americans--any special problems with the press or photographers.

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft,
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs,
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Express hope that the demands of his schedule won't prove fatiguing--Express pleasure that he is visiting so many places and undertaking so many activities--Note the high interest in the trip shown by Japanese Americans, particularly on the West Coast and in Hawaii--Comment on the logistical and planning problems of trips such as this one--Note the wide variety of things he will see across the U.S. from the air.

2. American History

Contrast the "young" U.S. society with the 2,000-year Japan history--describe the drama of the opening of the West and frontier life--note patterns of growth and ethnic mixtures, the way new states of Alaska and Hawaii have spurred interest in the Pacific area--the comfortable relations we have with next-door neighbors Canada and Mexico.

Ask what aspects of American history most interest him and the Japanese people--Ask his impressions of Williamsburg--Note the historic "Sleepy Hollow" character of the Tarrytown region where he will visit the Rockefeller--Note the residual Spanish influence still evident in California--Comment on the American Indian and the special emphasis now given to bringing the Indian into mainstream American life.

3. Your Private and Family Life as President

Variety of your activities--the life style in the White House, particularly as contrasted with formerly--way Presidential responsibilities affect family and personal life--Your problems of sleep, exercise, meeting--vs.--thinking time.

Note time you spend in Vail, at Camp David or elsewhere out of Washington, and your leisure activities there--Ask about his alternate homes and how much time he and the Empress spend there--

4. Your Major Activities Since Your Visit to Japan, Especially Those Involving Travel

Your impressions from your recent European trip--How Eastern Europeans live and how they responded to your visit--Personal characteristics of leaders you met--The economic and technological levels and patterns of visited countries--the evident aspirations, fears, educational level and opportunity of the young people.

Your impression of the Middle East*, with the cross-currents of historic, ethnic, religious, political and other influences there; the status and prospects of continued peace in the area; the U.S. reaction to developments in that area.

Attitudes and influences bearing on contemporary Western Europe and its leaders as you saw them--Spirit of the people there.

Any evidence of markedly parallel or markedly contrasting attitudes, values or trends noted in different parts of the world you've visited; the effect of your travels on your own outlook.

5. Your Earlier Life

Characteristics of Michigan where you grew up--effect of Midwest on people there--kind of sports you engaged in--nature and kinds of jobs you worked at--influences on your life in formative years--how you happened to go east to school--how you spent war years--motivation for public office campaigning.

Ask some questions about his life before becoming Emperor, especially any trips abroad.

In general the Emperor seems to like to talk about these things:

1. Nature and the Outdoors - especially its beauty; its effect on man's spirit; wisdom of preserving and conserving, etc.

*seems to interest him greatly

4.

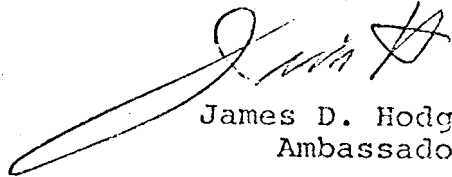
2. Future and Change - discernible directions of life styles, values, scientific discoveries, regions of emerging emphasis. Man's reaction to change and speed of change. Role of tradition in future years, expectations of upcoming generation.

3. History - in the broadest sense as well as specific incidents, periods and influences.

4. Education - mainly its objectives.

That's about it--hope it's helpful.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James D. Hodgson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

James D. Hodgson,
Ambassador

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR THEIR MAJESTIES
THE EMPEROR AND THE EMPRESS OF JAPAN

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 2, 1975

The South Grounds

10:30 A.M.

From: Terry O'Donnell

SEQUENCE:

10:28 a.m.

You depart Oval Office and proceed to Diplomatic Reception Room where you will join Mrs. Ford.

Following announcement and "Ruffles and Flourishes" (Marine Band only - no trumpets), you and Mrs. Ford proceed out the Diplomatic Reception Room entrance, cross the driveway, and take your positions facing the entrance to the Diplomatic Reception Room.

10:31 a.m.

Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress arrive and are introduced to you and Mrs. Ford by the Chief of Protocol. You then introduce Secretary of State and Mrs. Kissinger, and the Acting Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Mrs. Frederick C. Weyand.

You and the Emperor move to your positions on the platform facing south. The Emperor stands to your right. Mrs. Ford and Her Majesty move to right of platform.

10:33 a.m.

National Anthems and 21-gun salute.

Inspection of troops - you and His Majesty guided by Commander of Troops.

NOTE: Your cue for escorting His Majesty down to the Commander of Troops to inspect the troops will be the Commander's report, "Sir, the Honor Guard is formed."

Return to your positions on the platform facing south.
U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps passes in Review.

10:40 a. m.

After the Commander of Troops reports, "Sir, this concludes the Honors", you usher His Majesty to your right to stand next to you adjacent to the podium while you deliver welcoming remarks.

LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE VIA
SATELLITE TO JAPAN
FULL PRESS COVERAGE

NOTE: The Emperor will receive a simultaneous "whisper" translation of your remarks.

10:45 a. m.

His Majesty responds.

NOTE: His Majesty's remarks will be interpreted into English in their entirety following delivery.

10:45 a. m.

You and Mrs. Ford and Their Majesties ascend the right outside staircase to the South Portico balcony.

You will pause at the center of the South Portico balcony for a photograph and then enter the Blue Room where you will be joined by Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger and General and Mrs. Weyand, Members of the Official Party (list attached at TAB A), and members of the welcoming committee.

11:00 a. m.

You and Mrs. Ford escort Their Majesties to the Red Room for an informal visit.

NOTE: Four chairs will be located in front of the fireplace in the Red Room. Mrs. Ford will be seated on your left, the Emperor on your right, and the Empress on the Emperor's right.

PRESS PHOTO COVERAGE

11:15 a.m. You and Mrs. Ford escort Their Majesties down the elevator to the ground floor where you will walk Their Majesties through the Rose Garden, pausing briefly for a Press Photo therein.

11:20 a.m. You and Mrs. Ford escort Their Majesties from the Rose Garden up the Garden's west steps and along the colonnade to the Oval Office, entering through the West door.

Inside, you and Mrs. Ford briefly show Their Majesties your office.

11:25 a.m. You and Mrs. Ford escort Their Majesties down the sidewalk to their waiting limousine, and bid them farewell. A 30-man cordon and the U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps will render Honors as they depart.

You and Mrs. Ford remain on the driveway as Their Majesties depart.

11:30 a.m. You return to the Oval Office.

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MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL JAPANESE
PARTY

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan

Her Majesty the Empress of Japan

His Excellency Takeo Fukuda
Deputy Prime Minister

His Excellency Takeshi Yasukawa
Ambassador of Japan to the United States

Mrs. Yasukawa

His Excellency Takeshi Usami
Grand Steward, Imperial Household Agency

His Excellency Sukemasa Irie
Grand Chamberlain to His Majesty the Emperor

His Excellency Morio Yukawa
Grand Master of Ceremonies to His Majesty
the Emperor

His Excellency Naraichi Fujiyama
Ambassador, Press Secretary to His Majesty
the Emperor

The Honorable Yoshihiro Tokugawa
Vice-Grand Chamberlain to His Majesty
the Emperor

Mrs. Sachiko Kitashirakawa
Chief Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty the Empress

His Excellency Hiroshi Uchida
Ambassador, Chief of Protocol, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

The Honorable Shigetaka Nishino
Chief Physician to His Majesty the Emperor

His Excellency Hideki Masaki
Interpreter to His Majesty the Emperor

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NEWS RELEASE

75-47

October 2, 1975

WHAT: Armed Forces Full Honor Arrival Ceremony for Their Majesties, The Emperor and Empress of Japan

WHEN: 10:30 a.m., Thursday, October 2, 1975

WHERE: South Lawn, White House

HOST: The Honorable Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States

PARTICIPATING TROOPS:

- Army - 3d United States Infantry (The Old Guard), Fort Myer, Virginia
- Marines - USMC Ceremonial and Guard Company, Marine Barracks, Washington, DC
- Navy - USN Ceremonial Guard, Naval District of Washington, Washington, DC
- Air Force - USAF Honor Guard, Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, DC
- Coast Guard - USCG Ceremonial Honor Guard, Washington Radio Station, Alexandria, Virginia

COMMANDER OF TROOPS: Colonel Robert H. Clark, Commander, 3d United States Infantry (The Old Guard) Hometown: Griffin, Georgia

MUSIC: The United States Army Band (Pershing's Own)
The United States Army Herald Trumpets
The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

1. As President and Mrs. Ford move toward the reviewing stand, The United States Army Band (Pershing's Own) will sound four ruffles and flourishes and then play "Hail to the Chief."
2. Their Majesties, The Emperor and Empress of Japan will arrive by limousine. The Herald Trumpets will sound a fanfare.

-more-

October 2, 1975

3. President Ford will escort His Majesty to the reviewing stand.
4. The Herald Trumpets will play four ruffles and flourishes. The United States Army Band (Pershing's Own) will play the National Anthem of Japan while a 21-gun salute is fired, followed by the National Anthem of the United States.
5. President Ford and His Majesty will then inspect the troops.
6. After the reviewing party has returned to the reviewing stand, the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps will "Troop in Review," marching across the formation, counter-marching to their original position, and depart.
7. President Ford will officially welcome his Majesty. His Majesty will make responding remarks.
8. President Ford will then escort His Majesty into the White House.
9. This concludes the ceremony.

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