



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC.4/Circ.33
15 April 2003

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during March 2003

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization and, in addition, to issue, on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing and advising of any new feature or pattern of significance, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 30 September 2002 and 31 October 2002, including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (Annex 1) and attempted attacks (Annex 2). Further and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 75/24, paragraph 18.41), the Secretariat has, since July 2002, started classifying separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery **at sea** (international or territorial waters) *vis-a-vis* acts of armed robbery allegedly committed **in port areas**, as well as **attempted** acts of armed robbery.

2 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 3,041, an increase of 40 since 28 February 2003.

¹ "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

"Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
 - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
 - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in sub-paragraph (a) or (b)."

² "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.922(22), annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of "piracy", directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State's jurisdiction over such offences."

3 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued (on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis) during the previous year being MSC.4/Circ.13, MSC.4/Circ.14, MSC.4/Circ.15, MSC.4/Circ.16, MSC.4/Circ.17, MSC.4/Circ.18, MSC.4/Circ.19, MSC.4/Circ.20, MSC.4/Circ.21, MSC.4/Circ.22, MSC.4/Circ.23, MSC.4/Circ.24, MSC.4/Circ.25, MSC.4/Circ.26, MSC.4/Circ.27, MSC.4/Circ.28, MSC.4/Circ.29, and during the current year being MSC.4/Circ.30, MSC.4/Circ.31 and MSC.4/Circ.32.

ANNEX 1

Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship's name Type of ship Flag Gross tonnage IMO No.	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ. 33 ANNEX 1 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BAMBOLA Yacht	02/03/2003 04:35 UTC	13°30'.80N 048°20'.80E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates boarded the ship while underway and escaped with their loot	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. A United States Naval ship in the vicinity, the French Maritime Defence Forces, Djibouti and Alindien Navy, Paris, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	TRADER Bulk carrier Cyprus 22252 7433555	13/03/2003 13:00 LT	12°00'.00N 051°30'.00E Off Socotra Island (Somalia)	Four pirates armed with high-powered guns in four speed boats chased the ship, while underway and despite evasive measures taken, four robbers boarded the ship at forward, attempting to enter accommodation. A maritime aircraft arrived an hour later to assist and crew members, using fire hoses, rocket flares and iron bars prevented the robbers from entering accommodation and at 1500 UTC, the robbers fled in their boats and the ship resumed her voyage	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coastal authorities, owners and French Maritime Defence Forces, Djibouti, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	A maritime aircraft arrived to assist
3	DEWI MADRIM Chemical tanker Indonesia 737 8613425	26/03/2003 03:00 LT	01°49'.60N 102°14'.50E Malacca Straits	Ten pirates armed with long knives, automatic weapons, crowbars and portable VHF for communication, boarded the ship from a speedboat, while underway. Four of them broke open the port bridge door and took hostage duty officer and A/B. They cut off the ship's communication system, held hostage all crew members who they tied up and took over the navigation of the ship at a reduced speed. After about an hour, they escaped with their loot; no injuries to crew but bridge door was damaged	Ship's cash, property and equipment and crew's personal belongings stolen; bridge door damaged	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Jakarta and several Malaysian authorities informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

1	HYUNDAI HARMONY Container ship Panama 13267 9276406	01/03/2003 00:05 LT	14°36'.10N 120°53'.20E Quarantine Anchorage, MICT, Manila (Philippines)	Ten robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and assaulted the duty bosun, bound his hands and feet and forced him to lie on the deck. When crew mustered, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with their loot	Duty officer and AB injured and ship's property and stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port authorities and Philippines Coast Guard Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	LOVE ME TENDER Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 9973 9173355	01/03/2003 05:30 LT	Berth No. 4, Sandakan (Malaysia)	During cargo operations, robbers boarded the ship while berthed, broke into forepeak store and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port authorities, Sandakan Police and MRCC Port Klang Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	BUNGA ORKID TIGA Bulk carrier Malaysia 25498 9070797	06/03/2003 06:30 LT	Lagos anchorage (Nigeria)	Two robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor. When spotted and crew mustered, they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and sounded ship's whistle	Yes. Port authorities and Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command Headquarters, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	ASSETS VICTORY General cargo ship Singapore 3847 8015532	09/03/2003 09:30 LT	Chittagong Anchorage (Bangladesh)	Ten robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at forecastle, while at anchor. When spotted by alert crew, they escaped with their loot in a motor boat	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	BUNGA ORKID TIGA Bulk carrier Malaysia 25498 9070797	10/03/2003	Lagos (Nigeria)	Robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship, while berthed and when spotted, they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command Headquarters, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	BUNGA ORKID TIGA Bulk carrier Malaysia 25498 9070797	10/03/2003 01:00 UTC	Lagos (Nigeria)	One robber boarded the ship at poop deck, while berthed. When spotted by alert duty crew, he escaped in a wooden boat which had five other accomplices	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command Headquarters, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

7	FRIENDLY LADY Tanker Liberia 18231 7921980	14/03/2003 03:00 LT	Lagos Anchorage (Nigeria)	Two armed robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and when spotted by the duty A/B, they escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and informed port control	Yes. Commissioner of Police, Delta State Command Headquarters informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	Port authority advised ship to weigh anchor and proceed away from anchorage and remain adrift until berth is notified
8	AZIJA Chemical tanker Cyprus 22607 8504870	17/03/2003 01:45 UTC	06°19'.57N 003°20'.57E Lagos Anchorage (Nigeria)	Four robbers in a boat armed with pistols and knives approached the ship and two of them boarded the ship, while at anchor. They held hostage the watchman and the crew members locked themselves up in the accommodation; the robbers escaped with their loot	Watchman held hostage and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Control, the Nigerian Navy Headquarters and the Commissioner of Police Delta State Command Headquarters, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
9	ALBA Bulk carrier United Kingdom (Isle of Man) 38520 9128221	19/03/2003 01:00 LT	Adang Bay Anchorage (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship while at anchor and preparing for departure and escaped with their loot	Ship's stores stolen	Duty A/B raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes. Agent and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
10	IRAN AZARBAYJAN Bulk carrier Iran (Islamic Republic of) 39424 9193185	20/03/2003 12:20 UTC	04°02'.60S 115°58'.50E Pulau Laut Anchorage (Indonesia)	Two robbers armed with long knives and axes boarded the ship via hawse pipe, while at anchor. When spotted by alert duty crew, they jumped overboard and escaped in their boat	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Local agents and owners and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
11	GREAT HAPPY Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 26094 9136474	21/03/2003 04:00 LT	Kochi Anchorage (India)	Robbers boarded the ship at forecastle, while at anchor and when spotted, they fled	-	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes. Port control, local agent and Coast Guard, Chennai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

12	PROSPECTS General cargo ship India 14441 7724277	24/03/2003 19:00 LT	22°13'.00N 091°45'.00E Chittagong Anchorage 'B' (Bangladesh)	Six crew members on anti-piracy watch on deck noticed a boat approaching the ship at aft and a robber, using a grapnel hook, boarded the ship and started lowering a mooring rope, while at anchor. When spotted by the watch keepers who secured the rope around the bollard, the robber jumped overboard and escaped, cutting a portion of the rope	Ship's stores and mooring rope stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
13	TIGER SPEED Container ship Singapore 8592 9151034	26/03/2003 03:45 LT	Kochi anchorage (India)	Robbers boarded the ship via hawse pipe and began lowering a mooring rope, while at anchor and escaped when spotted by alert duty A/B	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Chennai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
14	PANAM CELESTE Chemical tanker Singapore 5994 9207857	26/03/2003 04:40 LT	Rio Haina Dominican Republic	Four robbers armed with machetes in a wooden boat boarded the ship, while at berth and attempted to remove OBM from a lifeboat. When spotted by alert crew, they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Dominican Republic Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	No response to call from Master by the port authorities
15	RIZCUN TRADER General cargo ship Hong Kong, China 9073 7627912	27/03/2003 06:35 LT	Berth No. 3, Douala Port Cameroon	Five armed robbers boarded the ship from the gangway, while berthed. Duty officer was held at knife point and the A/B was assaulted and the robbers escaped with their loot	Duty officer and A/B assaulted; ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Authority and Douala Port Police informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
16	CHADI I General cargo ship Bolivia 1895 7432173	27/03/2003 07:10 UTC	Pier Recodo Oriental, Rio Haina Dominican Republic	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the ship, while at berth and escaped with their loot when spotted by alert duty crew	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. Port Authority and Dominican Republic Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
17	M.FARUK Bulk carrier Turkey 36022 8028890	29/03/2003 04:30 UTC	Inner Anchorage No. 6, Paranagua (Brazil)	Five robbers boarded the ship at forecastle, while at anchor and attempted to open the paint store. When spotted by the duty watchman and crew mustered, they jumped overboard and escaped	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Authority, local agent and MRCC, Brazil, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
18	NORGAS VICTORY Gas carrier-LPG Liberia 8592 8017061	30/03/2003 22:25 LT	Rio Haina Port Dominican Republic	Two robbers boarded the ship, while berthed and escaped with their loot when spotted by anti-piracy crew	Ship's property stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Police and Navy informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	LEVIATHAN Bulk carrier Philippines 85504 8319328	26/03/2003 02:30 LT	03°02'.80S 107°18'.50E (Indonesia)	Five robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while underway. They seriously assaulted the Master and Chief Mate who were taken from the bridge and forced to lie down on the main deck and escaped with their loot after about 30 minutes	Crew personal belongings, cash and ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	AKROPOLIS Bulk carrier Panama 35911 8028149	28/03/2003 03:00 LT	Tanjung Priok Roads (Indonesia)	Robbers boarded the ship and attempted to remove engine spares, while at anchor and escaped when spotted by alert duty crew	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port Police and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	KUCHING Tanker Singapore 33114 7400027	31/03/2003 22:00 LT	02°56'.00S 107°17'.40E Gaspar Straits (Indonesia)	Five robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while underway. They went to the bridge, took hostage the quartermaster and forced him to knock on Master's door. As Master opened his door, he was assaulted and bound with nylon rope and the pirates took Master and quartermaster to the bridge where two other pirates held the duty officer captive. When the Chief Officer returned to the bridge from his rounds, he was also held and bound and they were all taken to the main deck where another pirate with a long knife was sighted. At 22:30, pirates left in a small boat with ship's cash, personal belongings and ship's equipment including a GPS receiver	Ship's cash and equipment including a GPS receiver and crew's personal belongings stolen	Raised alarm and maintained anti-piracy watch	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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ANNEX 2

Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly attempted against ships reported by Member States or international organizations in consultative status

Nº	Ship's name Type of ship Flag Gross tonnage IMO No.	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ. 33 ANNEX 2 Page 1
									Action by the coastal State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	SEA DOVE Yacht	09/03/2003 05:23 UTC	13°10'.00N 048°39'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates in three fishing boats approached and fired at the yacht and four other yachts, while underway. Yacht sent distress signals and took evasive measures	-	Raised alarm and sent distress signals	Yes. French Military Forces, Djibouti, Alinden and MRCC, Aden, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	A United States warship acknowledged alarm and MV Royal Pescadores arrived at location to provide assistance
2	IMANI Yacht United States	09/03/2003 08:00 LT	13°11'.00N 048°40'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates in three fishing boats approached the yacht and fired at it attempting to board, while underway. Yacht sent distress signal and took evasive action and they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes.	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	NARENA Yacht Australia	09/03/2003 08:00 LT	13°11'.00N 048°40'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates in three fishing boats approached the yacht and fired at it attempting to board, while underway. Yacht sent distress signal and took evasive action and they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes. French Military Forces, Djibouti, Alinden and MRCC, Aden, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	GYPSY DAYS Yacht Australia	09/03/2003 08:00 LT	13°11'.00N 048°40'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates in three fishing boats approached the yacht and fired at it attempting to board, while underway. Yacht sent distress signal and took evasive action and they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive measures	Yes. French Military Forces, Djibouti, Alinden and MRCC, Aden, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	A United States warship acknowledged alarm and MV Royal Pescadores arrived at location to provide assistance

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IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	PENYLLAN Yacht Australia	09/03/2003 08:00 LT	13°11'.00N 048°40'.00E Gulf of Aden (Yemen)	Pirates in three fishing boats approached the yacht and fired at it attempting to board, while underway. Yacht sent distress signal and took evasive action and they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and took evasive action	Yes. French Military Forces, Djibouti, Alinden and MRCC, Aden, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	A United States warship acknowledged alarm and a MV Royal Pescadores arrived at location to provide assistance
6	ORIENTAL SALVIA Chemical tanker Panama 3723 9258832	18/03/2003 15:00 LT	04°15'.20N 098°53'.40E Off Indonesia	Six pirates armed with automatic rifles in a speed boat approached the ship and attempted to board, while underway and waiting for the pilot to board. They fired shots at the bridge and when crew mustered, they abandoned attempt and fled	Gunshots left bullet marks on the wheelhouse	Raised alarm, increased speed and mustered crew	Yes. All stations and SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	CSAV CHICAGO Container ship Cyprus 25608 9149316	01/03/2003 03:26 LT	Buenaventura (Colombia)	Nine robbers attempted to board the ship using a wooden ladder, while at anchor. When spotted by alert crew who switched on deck lights, they escaped	-	Raised alarm, sounded whistle and switched on lights	Yes. Pilot and Coast Guard and MRCC, Buenaventura, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ANA Container ship Cyprus 9974 8602749	05/03/2003 19:15 UTC	Outer Anchorage Chittagong (Bangladesh)	Robbers in two small boats attempted to board the ship, while at anchor. When spotted by alert duty crew, they abandoned attempt and escaped in their boat	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Local authorities and Coast Guard, Bangladesh informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
3	PATRIARCH Bulk carrier Malta 19795 9261011	12/03/2003 17:00 LT	Chittagong Port (Bangladesh)	Robbers removed zinc anodes attached to rudder post and propeller of ship, while berthed. Theft was noticed by Chief Officer during draft survey	Zinc anodes stolen	-	Yes. Coast Guard, Bangladesh, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

4	GREAT HAPPY Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 26094 9136474	21/03/2003 05:00 LT	Kochi Anchorage (India)	Robbers attempted to board the ship, while at anchor and when spotted by alert crew, they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes. Port control, local agent and Coast Guard, Chennai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
5	JOHANNA OLDENDORFF General cargo ship Liberia 17101 8503046	28/03/2003 04:15 LT	Quarantine Anchorage, Outside Breakwater, Manila Port (Philippines)	Three robbers armed with long knives attempted to board the ship via the anchor chain, while at anchor. When spotted by Chief Officer and duty A/B, they jumped overboard and escaped in their boat	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Manila Pilot Station informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
6	ETERNAL HOPE Bulk carrier Panama 34695 7905780	29/03/2003 01:00 LT	Chennai Anchorage (India)	Robbers armed with long knives attempted to board the ship via anchor chain, while at anchor and when spotted by alert duty crew, they abandoned attempt	-	Alarm raised	Yes. Coast Guard, Chennai, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	MARATHA MESSENGER Bulk carrier India 38269 9086980	25/03/2003 15:15 UTC	03°01'.00S 107°18'.00E Selat Baur (Indonesia)	Robbers in an orange coloured speed boat attempted to board the ship at stern, while underway. When spotted by alert duty crew and the ship took evasive action, they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew; ship took evasive action	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
2	RESOLUTION Container ship Bahamas 9141 9202780	27/03/2003 12:30 UTC	02°58'.00S 106°59'.00E Leplia Straits (Indonesia)	A speed boat with six persons onboard chased the ship, attempting to board, while underway. When spotted by alert crew, the ship sounded whistle and flashed lights towards them and they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm, sounded whistle and flashed lights	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	SINAR SUNDA Container ship Panama 16705 9194490	28/03/2003 21:25 LT	02°55'.00S 107°17'.40E Vicinity of Selat Gelasa (Indonesia)	Robbers attempted to board the ship from port quarter, while underway and when spotted by alert crew who initiated anti-piracy measures, they abandoned attempt	-	Raised alarm, threw twistlocks at the pirates and activated fire hoses	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-
4	FAS SEMARANG Container ship Cyprus 11731 8100662	31/03/2003 05:10 LT	03°00'.00S 107°19'.00E Gaspar Straits (Indonesia)	Four robbers in a fast wooden boat attempted to board the ship, while underway. When alert crew spotted one of the robbers ready to throw a line attached to a hook and crew mustered, they abandoned attempt	-	Alarm raised	Yes. SAR, Jakarta, informed	ICC-IMB PRC Kuala Lumpur	-

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