



The use of mounted police in controlling civil disturbances at major events in the state of Amazonas

The use of mounted policing in the control of civil disturbances at major events in the state of Amazonas

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ABSTRACT: This study demonstrates the ongoing discussion of public security actions in Civil Disturbance Control (CDC). As our population grows, so do problems arising from social ills. Thus, the question arises: how can specialized mounted police act in controlling civil disturbances during major events in Amazonas? The overall objective of this study was to analyze the advantages of deploying mounted riot police in the face of the challenges of major events held in the state of Amazonas. It also aimed to highlight the concepts, techniques, and their methods of action. The research method used was qualitative, bibliographical, and exploratory research. In seeking as much information as possible on the subject, several existing bibliographies on the subject were reviewed and cited throughout the study. Thus, it is divided into three stages: the first focuses on Amazonas as the main state in the North of the country to promote large events, the second aims to address relevant points about the Mounted Police Regiment, such as its history, area of operation, as well as basic concepts, and the third stage aims at the core of the work, which is the performance of the mounted riot police in large events held in the State.

Keywords: Mounted police. Civil disturbances. Major events in the Amazon.

ABSTRACT: The present work shows that nowadays becomes recurrent discussion on the actions of public security in Civil Disturbance Control (CDC), because as our population is growing increasingly also problems arise from social ills. So the question arises: how can the mounted specialized policing act to control civil unrest in major events in the State of Amazonas? In this research the general objective was to analyze the advantages of the use of riot police raised the challenges of the major events held in the state of Amazonas. As well as highlighting concepts and techniques employed and ways of acting. if opting for qualitative, literature and exploratory research and investigation procedures. In search for the largest possible number of different information on the subject we verified existing bibliographies on the subject and cited in the work bowl. Dividing, so in three stages: the first focuses on the Amazon main North state in the country to promote major events, the second aims to address relevant points on the Rules of Policing Assembled, as its historical, area performance as well as basic concepts, and the third stage aims at the heart of the work that is the action of the shock-mounted in the major events held in the state.

Key Words: mounted police. civil unrest. Major Events on Amazon.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Brazil, the Military Police constitute state public security forces whose function is to provide overt policing and maintain public order. This consists of intentionally carrying out visible and visible police activities through daytime patrols of public spaces, whether in vehicles or on foot, accessible to the public, contacting people, passersby, residents, tourists, business owners, and schools.

However, in addition to this primary activity, the Military Police also acts in a specialized capacity regarding the restoration of Public Order in cases where there is a serious disturbance of order, as well as carrying out specialized policing in sporting, religious, cultural events and in missions that require troops trained for this purpose.

1 In this context, it is essential for any military police organization to have specialized units within its ranks to handle certain events that go beyond its normal scope of operations, such as riot police, cavalry, dogs, and explosive device handling, among others. Therefore, it is essential to ensure the best preparation and qualifications for its members to handle various incidents.

Thus, based on the aforementioned propositions, the question was: how can specialized mounted police act to control civil disturbances at major events in the State of Amazonas?

The main objective of this research is to analyze the advantages of using mounted riot police in the face of the challenges of major events held in the state of Amazonas. It also highlights the concepts and techniques





employees and their forms of action.

In this sense, this research is justified by the evident need to understand and value the role of mounted riot police in major events held in Amazonas. The author is personally interested in understanding the role of this type of mounted policing, as a military police officer, and will pursue professional development in this area. The research also extends to the academic and social spheres through research and outreach activities, combined with an institutional and constitutional commitment that ranges from a concept centered on "preservation of public order" (BRASIL, 1988) and confronting civil unrest, to understanding mounted policing as a means of restoring order, including by protecting lives.

To this end, qualitative, bibliographical and exploratory research was chosen as investigation procedures, in which the author, in addition to research in books and periodicals, experienced the environment of the Mounted Police Regiment of the Military Police of Amazonas.

Therefore, this research is divided into three stages: the first focuses on Amazonas as the main state in the North of the country to promote large events, the second aims to address relevant points about the Mounted Police Regiment, such as its history, area of operation, as well as basic concepts, and the third stage aims at the core of the work, which is the performance of the mounted riot police in large events held in the State.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

An event, like any other event, is a type of gathering with a specific purpose, whether institutional, social, or promotional. Its main purpose is to attract the attention of the public, as well as the press, through publicity.

It comes from the term 'eventual', therefore, it is any event that escapes the routine, with some purpose, previously scheduled to bring together a group of people. It can also be seen as an event created with the specific purpose of changing the history of the organization-public relationship, in light of observed needs (MEIRELES, 1999).

In order for events to be fully successful, they must undergo detailed and organized planning before being held, especially when it comes to public events, in which several bodies are involved, covering all stages of their programming, from their conception to their conclusion.

The event is, therefore, any activity where a given organization interacts with different audiences or specific audiences, with the aim of publicizing, training, educating, promoting or integrating (MATIAS, 2010).

Still according to Matias (2010), events are grouped according to the following criteria: a)

Dimension:

- a. Macro event
- b. Large-scale event (Big Event)
- c. Medium-sized event
- d. Small-sized event

- a. Fixed
- b. Mobile
- c. Sporadic

Participant Profile (or Target Audience):

- c) a. Open (or General)
- b. Closed (Targeted and Specific)
- d) Areas of Interest:
 - a. Artistic
 - b. Scientific

¹ Fragment of Art. 144 of the 1988 Federal Constitution, which clarifies that public security is the duty of the State, the right and responsibility of all, and is exercised to preserve public order and the safety of people and property.



- c. Cultural
- d. Civic
- e. Sports
- f. Folklore
- g. Leisure
- h. Promotional
- i. Religious
- j. Tourist

Hosting major events requires extensive, organized planning. Amazonas has excelled in the large-scale events sector, hosting not only band concerts but also other types of events, including sporting competitions that attract many foreign tourists.

Meanwhile, the state of Amazonas, with the hosting of the 2014 World Cup, entered the major events circuit. The World Cup brought a major investment effort in this area, including in public safety, with the acquisition of equipment and training focused on major events.

And, focusing on large events, it is understood as large when its target audience occupies the entire hotel park of one or more cities, mobilizing thousands of people in its organization and operation, involving public and private entities, as well as requiring international publicity, such as the World Cup and the Olympic Games.

The aforementioned events brought public security in the State of Amazonas to a new level through the actions of integration between police forces, the command and control network and police training.

In this sense, considering that an analysis starts from the specificities that large groups of people evoke, it is shown that, in addition to the safety of the target audience, there is constant concern about terrorist attacks (a topic that is quite evident when it comes to Major Events, due to the imminent risk), popular demonstrations (resulting from the political crisis of the current situation) or even the possibility of fights between rival fans (when it comes to sporting events).

Therefore, the contribution of strategies that use coordination between actions to enhance the effectiveness and efficacy of results in light of the complexity of the demands that confront the promotion of Public Safety at major events stands out.

A traditional specialized unit of the Amazonas Military Police, the Cel Bentes Mounted Police Regiment, originates from the “Provincial Cavalry Squadron”, established by law number 07 of May 8, 1838, in the administration of Brigadier Francisco de Sousa de Andréa (President and Commander of Arms of Grão-Pará, with the objective of maintaining public order during the movement known as Cabanagem).

Soon after, there is news of the implementation of a Cavalry Section in the State Public Force in the new Province of Amazonas in 1884, instituted by law nº 641 of May 16 of that year and Act that regulated it nº 51 of June 9, in its Art.6º “The mounted force will constitute one of the four stations of the body” (Monteiro, Mário Ypiranga/ Historical Summary of the Military Police of Amazonas, only being extinguished in the year 1941 by force of decree nº 744 of December 26).

In 1988, the governor of the State of Amazonas, Amazonino Armando Mendes, using the justification of the search for the social well-being of the Amazonian society, laid the cornerstone of this barracks and, more precisely on March 11, 1988, returning the Mounted Police Squadron, through Decree No. 11,015 of March 24 of the same year, according to general bulletin No. 066 of April 11, 1988, pages 0619-0621. The commander who was appointed at the time was Major PM Wilde de Azevedo Bentes.

On November 23, 1988, a commission chaired by Colonel Ferreira Lima traveled to Rio Grande do Sul to find horses of good physical size—that is, with large, resilient physiques. After thorough research and visiting numerous horse farms and stud farms in the surrounding area, the commission gathered the purchased horses and transported them to Manaus. This was a very difficult and time-consuming task due to the distance between the north and south of the country.



With decree nº 22.774, of July 22, 2002, there was a restructuring of the basic organization of the PMAM, subordinating the Cavalry to the Specialized Policing Command and also changing the status of the hypo unit from Mounted Policing Squadron to Mounted Policing Regiment.

Immediately afterwards, with resolution no. 034/AJAI, dated April 29, 2004, it approved, in its art. 1, the current name of "Regimento Coronel Wilde de Azevedo Bentes", in honor of the pioneer.

Therefore, the history of the Cavalry is intertwined with the history of the Military Police of the State of Amazonas, leaving this hypo unit in a prominent position compared to other Military Police OPMs.

General overt policing is one way to deploy police force in response to crimes committed, with both a preventative and repressive nature. It is the type of policing that aims to meet basic public safety needs inherent to the community and/or individual citizens.

The mission of general overt policing is to act systematically and permanently to preserve order, public and private property, and the physical integrity of individuals, in order to comply with the legal provisions that regulate societies.

3. MATERIAL AND METHOD

According to the Basic Manual of Ostensive Policing (1989), general ostensive policing in its entirety is manifested by the use of elementary or constituted fractions in a post, in order to carry out observation, reconnaissance or protection. In essence, the sum of the articulated posts constitutes an area, where the largest constituted fraction will operate.

General overt policing is presented by the following combination of:

1- **Process:**

- a) On Foot;
- b) On Horseback;
- c) By Bicycle;
- d) On a Vessel;
- e) Motorized;
- f) Automobile;
- g) Motorcycle.

2- **Modality:**

- a) Patrolling;
- b) Permanence;
- c) Escort;
- d) Diligence.

3- **Circumstance:**

- a) Ordinary: It is the routine use of operational means in compliance with a systematic plan, containing scale of priorities.
- b) Extraordinary: It is an occasional and temporary use of operational means, in the face of unexpected events. visas that require resource maneuvering.
- c) Special: It is a temporary use of operational means in foreseeable events that require specific effort.

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4- **Place:**

- a) Urban;
- b) Rural.

5- **Duration:**

- a) Shift; b)
- Working day.



6- Effective:

- a) Elementary Fraction;
- b) Constituted Fraction.

7- Supplementation:

- action;
- b) Radio Transceiver;
- c) Peculiar Armament and Equipment;
- d) Others.

8- Performance:

- a) Line activity;
- b) Auxiliary Activity.

General ostensive policing in the mounted process is characterized by the use of horses and police force. preventive and repressive form. It can also be: Ordinary, Extraordinary and Special - In Urban or Rural locations.

In urban areas, it is used in posts located in public spaces of large territorial extensions, in suburban residential areas, horizontal occupation, in areas of difficult vehicle access or in unfavorable locations for policing on foot, also in support of foot policing, in public entertainment and special events.

In rural areas, mounted police are employed in small inland towns, guarding posts of large territorial extensions and on local roads that connect rural properties.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The binomial mounted policing comprised of the man and horse binomial, technically named as a set, has as its elementary fraction 3 military police officers, two to respond to incidents and one to be the horse guard.

The presence of cavalry discourages the commission of infractions, as they are visible from a distance and have intimidating power. tivo because of its great impact. It has a high repressive value by nature. It has the advantage of maneuvering on any terrain.

To move from the barracks to the post, this will be done by its own means, over a considerable distance, that is, more than 6 kilometers, it is advisable that the troops and animals are transported in vehicles, thus avoiding physical wear and tear outside the post.

It is recommended that patrol officers at the station carry out mounted movements for an average of 50 minutes, always alternating with a stay at the base point for 10 minutes, as stated in the program card itinerary.

With a procedure like this, both the rider and the horse benefit, as one will have time to rest their spine, thus maintaining the correct posture and the animal will not suffer excessive overload, that is, spending long hours with weight on its back.

The military police officer employed for rural policing should preferably come from that environment, as will already be accustomed to the uses and customs of country people, contributing to greater efficiency in their actions.

Mounted overt policing is the complete knowledge of the mission, originating from prior professional technical preparation, resulting from general and specific qualifications, completed with the individual's interest.

Important issues cannot be ignored when using mounted police:

- a) Knowledge of the place of operation; b) Relationship;
- w) Posture and composure;
- d) Special police practice; and
- e) Behavior in the event.

Military police action must be impersonal and impartial, that is, in a professional manner on the part of the agent in any



whatever the occurrence, being done with civility, energetically, brevity and above all impartially.

The cavalry charge is a form of mounted shock, the troops will act in a cohesive and coordinated manner, not allowing precipitation and isolated actions by one or more men compromising cohesion.

The movement and advance on the crowd must be carried out in formations. The cavalry charge must be swift and safe. The speed of dispersing the crowd is also important, as this will not give the agitators time to regroup. The cavalry troop will launch as many charges as necessary to achieve the mission's objective, that is, to disperse the protesters (CARVALHO, 2002).

For this to happen, what was mentioned above must always be done, Civil Disturbance Control (CDC) training must be carried out with the troops so that the missions always work out, are successful and the occurrences are resolved.

In this sense, there is the united order of the mounted CDC troop, which is nothing more than the training of the troop. Mounted in CDC actions is essential in the faithful fulfillment of the mission.

Therefore, the human-horse pair must always be properly conditioned to these scenarios that may be encountered in civil unrest. Therefore, the scenario that will be encountered by the police officer and his horse during training must be reproduced so that they can already become accustomed to the discomforts and difficulties of the mission (SARTÓRIO, 2005).

Many individuals, movements and noises of cars, flags, explosions, members of the mob going towards the troops are adverse elements that can influence the failure of the mission.

With an unprepared police officer and horse, it shows that the troop was not properly trained, which will be perceived immediately by anyone who is a member of the mob or whoever is in the mob. With this knowledge that the troop is unprepared, there is a great chance of a direct confrontation, thus bringing several negative developments and consequences for the troop and the opposing force (CARVALHO, 2002).

Evolutions: Regular movements that a troop makes from one formation to another. Order and cohesion are fundamental in developments and the execution processes must be as quick and simple as possible.

Development: Change from a column formation to a line formation, with a front larger than the depth.

Break: To change from a line formation to a column formation, with a front smaller than the depth.

Alignment: This maneuver should be performed with the group in battle or in two ranks.

To understand the causes of civil unrest and the legal mission of the military police to control it, it is of fundamental importance to determine the concepts of agglomeration, crowd, mob, demonstration, riot and disturbance of public order, which should be described in their different forms:

Crowd: A large number of people temporarily gathered together, acting and thinking in isolation, resulting from an unprovoked situation and on a temporary basis.

Crowd: A gathering psychologically unified by a common interest, that is, characterized by -used with the pronoun we, whether for protest or solidarity purposes.

Mob: A crowd in disorder or under the stimulus of great agitation or excitement, losing the sense of reason and/or respect for the law.

Demonstration: Demonstrations by people gathered together with hostile or sympathetic feelings towards a certain authority or any situation of a political nature.

Riot: Disrespecting public order, leading several people to common intentions of carrying out a certain activity. Undertaking, through some planned action that opposes it.

Disturbance of public order: All types of actions that compromise, harm or disturb public order. Social organizations, putting public and private activities and assets at risk.

A basic composition of a mounted shock platoon is highlighted here, listing the quantity, subdivisions, rank or graduation of officers and their respective functions. This training varies according to the doctrine of each corporation or the resources available to the military police unit for a given job.



For Carvalho (2002), a mounted riot squad will be formed by 3 groups totaling 36 police officers

military personnel distributed as follows:

1) **Squad:** The basic composition of a group, containing one sergeant or corporal and five soldiers, forms three deep in two ranks, with the distance of a horse's length between the riders. They will maintain an interval of approximately 0.40 m from knee to knee. This value may vary according to the size of the troop's area of operation.

2) **Group:** Formed by two squads, containing a sergeant, a corporal and ten soldiers, totaling 12 police officers military.

3) **Platoon:** It is formed in 3 groups with an officer in command (1st or 2nd Lieutenant) always following the formations of the previously mentioned squads. This is the minimum grouping for use in mounted shock operations, ensuring safe employment conditions and always observing the proportions of the event.

The officer in charge of the platoon, that is, the platoon commander, will have the effective function of commanding the platoon. mounted shock, responsible for all actions that will be developed by its members.

They will always be in the rear of everyone so that they can monitor all the students and make any necessary determinations and corrections. The sergeants will be responsible for executing the orders issued by the commander, correcting and guiding the squad under their command, maintaining group cohesion, and isolated actions will never be permitted (SARTÓRIO, 2005).

The most senior sergeant is responsible for acting as the officer's substitute in emergency situations and must have the knowledge and training necessary for this mission. Corporals are the deputy commanders of squads, directly assisting sergeants and soldiers as they are primarily responsible for executing all orders from senior officers and enlisted men. They are therefore responsible for ensuring the cohesion of their squad or platoon (TECHNICAL-PROFESSIONAL MANUAL, 2001).

Just because they are executors doesn't exempt them from possessing the technical knowledge relevant to the task. Therefore, they must be instructed on the basic aspects of the job and be aware of the objectives to be achieved.

In recent times, the state of Amazonas has been frequently involved in major events, including events that extend beyond our borders. This scenario has been broadcast worldwide and has also involved people from around the world, making public safety responsibilities even more important.

Due to the large circulation and visitation of people from different parts of the world in our national territory, this increases the population and creates possible additional problems to be administered and managed by the entire State and its structures.

This revealed that factors such as the worsening urban crisis could trigger significant conflicts, which would then demand new forms of government intervention, challenging the state's role as guarantor of public safety. Thus, the development of new strategies began to be considered.

This raises the need to promote public safety in specific contexts, where measures need to become more effective and efficient. For example, controlling civil unrest during a major event, with the use of Mounted Riot Police.

As seen, the State was represented in these cases by public security bodies, both Federal, State and Municipal, and having the same levels of responsibility, as everyone is always responsible for the success or failure of an event.

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And for it to be successful, as it was in recent events in the State, issues related to the application of public security force must be evaluated, among which is the feasibility of applying riot gear at large events in the State of Amazonas.

It is known that the mounted troops of the Mounted Police Regiment - Cel Bentes already carry out mounted riot policing in the State of Amazonas with great competence and, as previously mentioned, already carry out





also this training with his troops, that is, focused on mounted shock, having already participated of records in various events.

The range of action of the mounted riot police is very broad and can be used in invasions, prison riots, demonstrations, reintegrations, cultural and sporting events and many other civil disturbance controls that have already occurred in our State.

Riot police deployed at major events have different characteristics than the situations required. Amazonas has twice hosted major events, namely the 2014 FIFA (International Federation of Football) Men's World Cup and the 2016 Rio Olympics, bringing a huge responsibility to our entire state, that is, to all public authorities, especially public security, which had to perform an excellent job and, indeed, did so.

In Shock Actions, the Mounted Troop is the last available resource that will be used by the operation commander, however, they must be observed if the action is necessary in terms of opportunity and convenience, given that failure to observe these may result in the failure of the mission (SARTÓRIO, 2005).

Therefore, the preventive use of mounted patrols is essential to prevent protesters from gathering. Repression itself is not of interest to the military police, but if necessary, it should be used to disperse the crowd, avoiding confrontations by leveraging the powerful characteristics of mounted policing, such as: conspicuousness; psychological impact; visibility; force of action; mobility; and economy of personnel (CARVALHO, 2002).

Overt policing is a police action that is visible, fundamentally, in the action of presence. It is your The objective is to attract attention, to let the would-be offender or delinquent notice the presence of the military police officer, and to convey a sense of security to law-abiding citizens. The man on horseback, because he is in a higher position than other people, has a greater field of vision, allowing him to see and be seen, even from a distance.

Therefore, when comparing the various processes of overt policing, it is clear that the mounted troop constitutes one of the most effective, since nothing is more ostentatious than a police officer on horseback, both due to the animal's large physical size, the elevated and prominent position in which its rider is situated, and the contrast produced by its presence in the midst of urban life, full of cars and people moving around.

The horse, due to its physical size, commands a certain fear and respect from people. Although it is under the complete control of its rider, as a result of the training it receives, it leaves doubt as to the police officer's perfect control of its reactions, eliminating any possibility of confrontation, and is a factor in the great success of preventive and repressive actions (SILVA, 1998).

Even with the respect it generates, it fosters closer ties between people, especially children, who almost never have contact with large animals, in urban centers of large cities, creating a bond with the police officer, increasing the population's trust in the Organization.

Monitoring is achieved through the large field of vision of mounted police officers. Because the officer is at an elevated position, he or she has great power to monitor various points within the patrol area, and can also be seen by the population in the policed area (TECHNICAL-PROFESSIONAL MANUAL, 2001).

The horse's large size, both in policing and riot control, allows mounted troops to be effective and avoid direct confrontation, which causes the greatest number of casualties. The mob often escapes and is channeled to strategically prepared escape points at the mere approach of mounted troops. Sometimes, their mere presence discourages disagreements and riots, quickly leading the parties to

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mind, to negotiation (SARTÓRIO, 2005).

The police officer on horseback has great mobility, because, even at a walk, he can travel quite quickly over a large police area and, if necessary, he can use the trot or gallop gaits, if necessary. terrain permits, or circumstances require.

The combination of conspicuousness, psychological effect, repressive power, mobility and flexibility gives mounted patrols a very special characteristic that makes them capable of expanding their area of responsibility and security, with a reduced number of patrol officers.



The same happens, analogously, in Civil Disturbance Control actions and in Special Operations.

In other words, the police officer on horseback, due to his extensive field of vision and consequent power of inspection, as well as the possibility of being seen by many people at the same time, in addition to the ease of reaching the necessary location with great speed and ease, will be able to carry out alone the task that, otherwise, would require a greater number of police officers on foot (CARVALHO, 2002).

When mounted troops act to disperse the crowd, it is important to ensure escape routes for protesters to escape and leave the area that will be occupied by the troops on foot, thus reestablishing public order and a sense of security for the entire society.

Therefore, it is vitally important to know the characteristics analyzed above, as they give mounted troops a prominent position in relation to other ostensive policing processes, fully justifying their use today.

When it comes to civil unrest, it's pertinent to discuss situations in which disparate groups gather and end up proliferating disorder. Such situations require more vigorous action from the military police to maintain order, requiring the institution to deploy specialized policing, including the Mounted Police Regiment.

According to the Civil Disturbance Control Manuals in mounted policing, the mounted troop resources, through the PM/Horse sets, due to the physical size of the solipeds, the superior plane in which the professional is situated due to the mobility and massed borrowed strength, act strategically, as a psychological impact, giving rise to levels of inhibition and mainly discouraging direct confrontation.

Therefore, in situations where the use of force against the crowd is required, using their great mobility, speed, shock action and strength, with the aim of dispersing the crowd and establishing order, mounted troops are used to control civil disturbances; the cavalry charge, always observing certain criteria, will allow this to be done safely (TECHNICAL-PROFESSIONAL MANUAL, 2001).

It can be seen, therefore, that the use of mounted riot police in the Amazonas Military Police acts due to the need to guarantee the well-being of the general public in every way, with regard to public safety, and it is the responsibility of the Military Police to provide a prompt and immediate response, without any type of restriction, with a view to reestablishing public order.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

It was possible to conclude through this work that with the intensification of large events in the capital Manaus and the fact that the State of Amazonas has several tourist attractions, including the construction of an Arena, the site of the Men's Football World Cup games and the 2016 Olympics, we became accredited to host events of this nature in our capital.

As discussed in the paper, we must always be prepared for major events, that is, always striving for the best, serving not only society as best we can. In addition to these, we also have our temporary clients: tourists who come to visit us and leave a significant amount of resources in our state.

Enabling the deployment of a riot squad to be present at major events in the State of Amazonas is precisely to safeguard our clients, as this squad is capable of maintaining or, if necessary, reestablishing
maintain public order.

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Specialized troops are expected to undergo training and instruction so that they can act safely.

whenever necessary. The mere presence of the troop is enough to deter any act of civil disturbance or any other incident, as the horse's physical size already has a psychological effect, either of proximity or fear.

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