



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HONG KONG DEPENDS ON EFFICIENT SHIPPING SERVICES	1
SIR JACK OPENS TDC OFFICE IN TSUEN WAN	2
CONTRACT SIGNED FOR FINAL SECTION OF TUEN MUN ROAD STAGE II	3
CHECK ON PROGRESS OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS	4
TWENTY MAXICAB ROUTES MADE PERMANENT	5
ENTRIES INVITED FOR 17TH SCHOOLS' DANCE FESTIVAL	5
SHA TAU KOK SITTING-OUT AREA BEING REFURBISHED	6
CLOSURE OF ACCESS ROAD NEAR HUTCHISON HOUSE	7
WATER CUT IN PEAK AREA	7

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 1 -

HONG KONG DEPENDS ON EFFICIENT SHIPPING SERVICES
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THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR PETER TSAO, TODAY UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF SHIPPING SERVICES TO HONG KONG IN AN ADDRESS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF 14 COUNTRIES AT THE UN ESCAP STUDY TOUR OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF NATIONAL SHIPPERS' ORGANISATIONS OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.

THE ADDRESS WAS MADE AT THE OFFICES OF THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION.

CONGRATULATING THE HONG KONG SHIPPERS' COUNCIL ON HONG KONG BEING CHOSEN AS THE VENUE FOR THE STUDY TOUR, MR TSAO SAID: +HONG KONG LIVES BY TRADE BUT IT HAS NO NATURAL RESOURCES. IT HAS TO IMPORT ALL IT NEEDS TO SURVIVE, AND ITS ECONOMY IS HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON ITS ABILITY TO EXPORT.

+THE EXISTENCE OF EFFICIENT, REGULAR AND ECONOMICAL SHIPPING SERVICES TO AND FROM OUR MAJOR MARKETS IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUED VIABILITY AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG.

+AS HONG KONG CONTINUES ITS EFFORTS TO DIVERSIFY ITS PRODUCTS AND MARKETS, THE RANGE OF AIR AND SURFACE FREIGHT SERVICES AVAILABLE TO HONG KONG MUST DEVELOP IN LINE WITH DEMAND CREATED BY THESE EFFORTS.

+IN THIS CONNECTION, THE GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT HONG KONG SHIPPERS' COUNCIL WILL DO WHAT IT CAN TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A REGULAR, EFFICIENT AND REASONABLY STABLE SHIPPING SERVICE COVERING ALL DESTINATION PORTS WITH KNOWN TARIFF OF CHARGES,+ MR TSAO SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN 1979 HONG KONG'S TOTAL TRADE WAS VALUED AT US\$34 000 MILLION.

+THIS REPRESENTS ALMOST 31 MILLION TONS OF CARGO, CARRIED BY NEARLY 10 000 OCEAN-GOING VESSELS AND OVER 2 000 AIRCRAFT. HONG KONG IS 21ST ON THE WORLD TRADE LEAGUE, AND ITS CURRENT FREIGHT BILL IS IN THE REGION OF US\$800 MILLION PER ANNUM,+ HE SAID.

MR TSAO POINTED OUT THAT THE RECENT RE-EMERGENCE OF HONG KONG AS AN ENTREPOT WAS ANOTHER FACTOR DEPENDENT UPON AN EFFECTIVE SHIPPING SERVICE. IN 1979 RE-EXPORTS FROM HONG KONG INCREASED IN VALUE BY 52 PER CENT OVER THE FIGURE FOR 1978. THIS COMPARED VERY WELL WITH THE STATE OF THE RE-EXPORT TRADE 10 YEARS AGO.

+THIS TREND HAS CONTINUED IN 1980. DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, RE-EXPORTS WERE VALUED AT US\$4 200 MILLION, A 47 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR,+ HE SAID.

/THE GOVERNMENT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 2 -

THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTERVENE IN AREAS OF INTEREST COVERED BY THE HONG KONG SHIPPERS' COUNCIL. +IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT A BETTER WAY TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG CAN CONTINUE TO EXPORT ITS PRODUCTS AT COMPETITIVE SHIPPING RATES WOULD BE TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR SHIPPERS' COUNCIL, WHICH HAS BUILT UP CONSIDERABLE EXPERTISE AND HAS A FINE REPUTATION AMONGST SHIPPERS' COUNCILS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, IS STRENGTHENED AND IS GIVEN SUCH ASSISTANCE AS THE GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE.

+I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT THIS VIEW HAS, OVER THE YEARS, PROVEN TO BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD AND THE LOCAL SHIPPERS' INTERESTS HAVE BEEN MORE THAN ADEQUATELY PROMOTED AND PROTECTED BY THE WORK OF THE HONG KONG SHIPPERS' COUNCIL,+ HE SAID.

DURING THE THREE-DAY VISIT TO HONG KONG, THE UN ESCAP STUDY TOUR WILL BE EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH THE HONG KONG SHIPPERS' COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL IS ACTIVE IN PROMOTING REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SHIPPERS' ORGANISATIONS, AND MAINTAINS CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE UN ESCAP IN BANGKOK AND WITH OTHER NATIONAL SHIPPERS' ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION.

+IT IS ONLY THROUGH CO-OPERATION THAT EXPERIENCES GAINED BY INDIVIDUAL SHIPPERS' ORGANISATIONS CAN BE SHARED AND A MORE EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION OF THE SHIPPERS' INTEREST ACHIEVED,+ MR TSAO SAID.

DELEGATES WILL ALSO BE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH SHIPOWNERS IN HONG KONG AND WILL BE OBSERVING HONG KONG'S PORT FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS.

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SIR JACK OPENS TDC OFFICE IN TSUEN WAN
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THE VOLUME OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE EMANATING FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES HAS GROWN TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IT BECAME NECESSARY FOR THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO PROVIDE A MORE EFFECTIVE MEANS OF SERVICING THE INCREASING AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY TAKING PLACE THERE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR JACK CATER AT THE OPENING OF THE COUNCIL'S 22ND AS WELL AS ITS FIRST HONG KONG BRANCH OFFICE IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN THIS MORNING.

SIR JACK SAID THE LOCATION OF THE OFFICE ENDORSED HIS OWN VIEW OF THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AS A CENTRE OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

+TUEN MUN, TAI PO AND YUEN LONG ARE ALSO FAST DEVELOPING BUSINESS AREAS.

+THIS OPENING IS THEREFORE MORE THAN SYMBOLIC: THERE ARE INDEED EXTREMELY PRACTICAL REASONS FOR ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT TDC PRESENCE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

/HE NOTED

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 3 -

HE NOTED THAT AN OFFICE THERE WAS A VITAL PART OF THE COUNCIL'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO EXTEND AND IMPROVE ITS SERVICE TO THE HONG KONG BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

THIS IS CLEARLY MANIFEST, SIR JACK SAID, BY THE RAPIDLY INCREASING VOLUME OF OVERSEAS AND LOCAL TRADE ENQUIRIES NOW BEING CHANNELLED TO AND FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES AREA.

+THE EFFICIENT AND ACCURATE HANDLING OF TRADE ENQUIRIES IS THE CORNERSTONE AND ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL,+ HE ADDED.

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CONTRACT SIGNED FOR FINAL SECTION
OF TUEN MUN ROAD STAGE TWO
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A \$78 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FINAL SECTION OF THE SECOND CARRIAGEWAY OF THE \$540 MILLION TUEN MUN ROAD WAS LET BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

MR K.C. YEUNG, CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE CONSULTANTS MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE, SIGNED THE CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE PWD= WHILE MR REODOLFO M. CUENCA SIGNED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE CONTRACT, WHICH TAKES ABOUT 24 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, IS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD BETWEEN SHAM TSENG AND TUEN MUN.

MR YEUNG EXPLAINED THAT THE WORK WOULD COMPRISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY OF ABOUT 9.3 KILOMETRES, TWO BRIDGES AT TSING LUNG TAU AND SO KWUN TAN, EXTENSIVE EARTHWORKS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS.

THE ROADWAY TO BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER THIS CONTRACT IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS BY SIU LAM INTERCHANGE WHERE THE CARRIAGEWAY WAS BUILT TO ITS FULL WIDTH UNDER THE FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT, HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, WORK IS ALSO STARTING ON AN ELEVATED ROAD LINKING CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TUEN MUN ROAD AT CHAI WAN KOK. A \$28.7 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE WORK WAS AWARDED LATE LAST MONTH.

THE NEW ELEVATED STRUCTURE, IN THE FORM OF A TEN-SPAN PRESTRESSED CONCRETE BRIDGE, WILL PROVIDE A TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.

THERE WILL ALSO BE OTHER ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS FOR THE WIDENING AND MODIFICATION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

ON COMPLETION, THIS CONTRACT WILL PROVIDE FREE-FLOW CONNECTIONS FOR TRAFFIC BETWEEN TUEN MUN ROAD AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO THE EAST OF CHAI WAN KOK. BY THEN, THE EXISTING TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNAL CONTROL AT CHAI WAN KOK WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED.

/MR YEUNG

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 4 -

MR YEUNG ADDED THAT BY THE END OF 1982, THE 15.3-KILOMETRE TUEN MUN ROAD WOULD BE IN FULL OPERATION WITH A DUAL THREE-LANE CARRIAGEWAY, PROVIDING A HIGH CAPACITY ROUTE BETWEEN TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN AND TUEN MUN NEW TOWN.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY SCOTT WILSON KIRKPATRICK AND PARTNERS, CONSULTING ENGINEERS, FOR THE PWD HIGHWAYS OFFICE.

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CHECK ON PROGRESS OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS
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MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE TOOK A FIRST HAND LOOK THIS MORNING AT SOME OF THE MAJOR GOVERNMENT PROJECTS BEING BUILT THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

EACH YEAR THE SUB-COMMITTEE HOLDS TWO MEETINGS TO REVIEW PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME, AND TO CONSIDER NEW ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAMME.

THE TOUR TODAY, LED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, WAS ARRANGED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. ALSO IN THE PARTY WERE SEVERAL UMELCO MEMBERS.

THE VISITORS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR DAVID MCDONALD AND OTHER DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE PWD.

THE PARTY BEGAN WITH A VISIT TO THE AIRPORT TUNNEL ROAD, SAN SHAN INTERCHANGE AND EAST KOWLOON WAY WHICH FORM PART OF A MAJOR ROAD PROJECT KNOWN AS ROUTE 3, LINKING KWUN TONG AND THE SOUTHERN PART OF KOWLOON PENINSULA.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS IMPORTANT ROAD LINK WOULD BE PARTIALLY OPENED TO TRAFFIC IN THE SECOND HALF OF NEXT YEAR AND THE WHOLE SYSTEM BROUGHT INTO OPERATION IN 1982.

THE PARTY THEN PROCEEDED TO THE CHAI WAN COMPOSTING PLANT WHICH HAS BEEN IN OPERATION FOR ABOUT ONE AND A HALF YEARS. THE PLANT IS TREATING ABOUT 280 TONNES OF REFUSE EACH DAY.

ANOTHER PROJECT VISITED WAS THE WONG CHUK HANG INTERCHANGE, AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL PROJECT. ON COMPLETION, THE INTERCHANGE WILL LINK THE SOUTHERN APPROACHES OF THE TUNNEL TO WONG CHUK HANG ROAD.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 5 -

TWENTY MAXICAB ROUTES MADE PERMANENT

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ON THE ADVICE OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS OFFERED FRANCHISES TO EIGHT PUBLIC LIGHT BUS MAXICAB OPERATORS WHO HAVE BEEN RUNNING 20 TRIAL ROUTES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR.

FRANCHISE DOCUMENTS WHICH MAKE THE ROUTES PERMANENT WERE SIGNED TODAY AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER, MR R.T. MEAKIN EXPLAINED THAT SINCE PLB MAXICAB SERVICES WERE INTRODUCED IN MAY 1972, THREE OPERATORS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY RUN 11 ROUTES ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

+NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME, FRANCHISES ARE ALSO OFFERED TO OPERATORS IN KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES. THIS IS A CONSIDERABLE EXPANSION IN THE PLB MAXICAB PROGRAMME,+ HE SAID.

THERE ARE NOW 51 MAXICAB ROUTES IN DAILY OPERATION AND AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, 22 OPERATORS WERE RUNNING 317 MAXICABS. IN THAT MONTH MAXICABS CARRIED A COMBINED TOTAL OF 119 300 PASSENGERS A DAY ON AVERAGE.

+IT IS EVIDENT THAT MAXICAB SERVICES ARE NOW PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN COMPLEMENTING FRANCHISED BUSES AND TRAMS TO MEET THE EVER-GROWING PUBLIC TRANSPORT DEMAND,+ MR MEAKIN SAID.

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ENTRIES INVITED FOR 17TH SCHOOLS' DANCE FESTIVAL

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SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE 17TH SCHOOLS' DANCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD FROM FEBRUARY 17 TO MARCH 4 NEXT YEAR.

THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE SECTION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

THE FESTIVAL IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEW TERRITORIES SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

ITEMS WILL INCLUDE WESTERN FOLK OR NATIONAL DANCE, ORIENTAL DANCE AND CREATIVE DANCE.

ENTRIES ARE CLASSIFIED INTO A LOWER PRIMARY SECTION FOR THOSE IN PRIMARY 1 TO 3= AN UPPER SECTION FOR THOSE IN HIGHER CLASSES= A SECONDARY SECTION= AND A SECTION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

THE FESTIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AT CLEMENTI MIDDLE SCHOOL IN FORTRESS HILL ROAD, NORTH POINT.

/IN KOWLOON

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 6 -

IN KOWLOON, IT WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG SZE YAP COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION WONG TAI SHAN MEMORIAL COLLEGE IN NAM CHEONG STREET= AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES THE VENUE IS TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL, 70 HOI PA STREET.

EACH SCHOOL WILL HAVE TO PAY A FEE OF \$25 FOR TAKING PART IN ONE OR MORE EVENTS.

PRIZES WILL BE IN THE FORM OF HONOURS AWARDS, HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARDS, AND COMMENDED AWARD CERTIFICATES, WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO MARKS GAINED IN THE PERFORMANCES.

AN AWARD CERTIFICATE WILL BE GIVEN TO ANY PIECE OF CHOREOGRAPHY REACHING A HIGH STANDARD IN EACH DANCE ITEM FOR EACH SECTION= AND A CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED TO EACH PERFORMING STUDENT OF A SCHOOL WHICH ACHIEVES A COMMENDED STANDARD.

EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL WILL BE GIVEN A SOUVENIR PENNANT.

ENTRY FORMS AND FEES MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (PHYSICAL EDUCATION) (ATTENTION: MISS MABLE MAK), PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 6TH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON BY DECEMBER 15.

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SHA TAU KOK SITTING-OUT AREA BEING REFURBISHED
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A SITTING-OUT AREA AT SHA TAU KOK, WHICH HAD DETERIORATED THROUGH MISUSE, IS BEING REFURBISHED.

THE AREA WAS CONSTRUCTED 15 YEARS AGO TO SERVE THE BORDER TOWN'S 2 000 INHABITANTS, BUT FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS HAD BEEN USED AS A RUBBISH DUMP.

NOW, \$38 000 IS BEING SPENT ON MAKING IT ATTRACTIVE ONCE AGAIN AS A RESULT OF AN APPROACH TO NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE BY THE SHA TAU KOK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

THE WORK INVOLVES RESURFACING THE PAVEMENT, PROVIDING TREES AND PLANTS AS WELL AS BENCHES.

POSTS WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE ENTRANCE TO PREVENT ACCESS BY HANDCARTS.

THE WORK, WHICH STARTED LAST MONTH, IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1980

- 7 -

CLOSURE OF ACCESS ROAD NEAR HUTCHISON HOUSE
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THE WESTBOUND GROUND LEVEL LANE OF HARCOURT ROAD IN FRONT OF HUTCHISON HOUSE LEADING TO CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 9.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 12) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS.

VEHICULAR ACCESS TO CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL WESTBOUND FROM MURRAY ROAD WILL HAVE TO BE VIA ARSENAL STREET AND HARCOURT ROAD FLYOVER.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY TO PEAK AREA
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN THE PEAK AREA WILL BE INTERRUPTED FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 13) TO 6 PM THE SAME DAY FOR WORK ON THE PEAK TANK.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE ON POLLOCK'S PATH, PLUNKETT'S ROAD, FINDLAY ROAD, PLANTATION ROAD, AND MT KELLETT ROAD.

ALSO TO BE AFFECTED ARE NOS. 60-66, 100-124 PEAK ROAD, NOS. 1-14 MT AUSTIN ROAD, NO. 35 LUGARD ROAD, AND NOS. 4, 19 AND 22-44 SEVERN ROAD.

SUPPLY TO MATILDA AND WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WILL NOT BE INTERRUPTED.

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